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Meet Your Facilitators

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About Us

Vision

We exist to help create safe and equitable work and educational environments. Mission

Bring systemic change to how school districts and institutions of higher education address their Clery Act & Title IX obligations.

Core Values

- Responsive Partnership
- Innovation
- Accountability
- Transformation
- Integrity



Let's Take a Moment. Title IX Coordinator to Title IX Coordinator.



Agenda



2

The Ever-Evolving Jurisprudence of Title IX



3 Compliance
 4 Education and Training

Receipt of Reports Actual Knowledge, Report Response, Initial Assessments, & Supportive Measures Complainant Intake & Supportive Measures

5

6

Report Resolution

Remedies Based, Informal, or Formal





The Ever-Evolving Jurisprudence of Title IX

"If nothing else, Title IX Coordinators are experts at adapting."

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Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972

"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

20 U.S.C. § 1681 (1972).

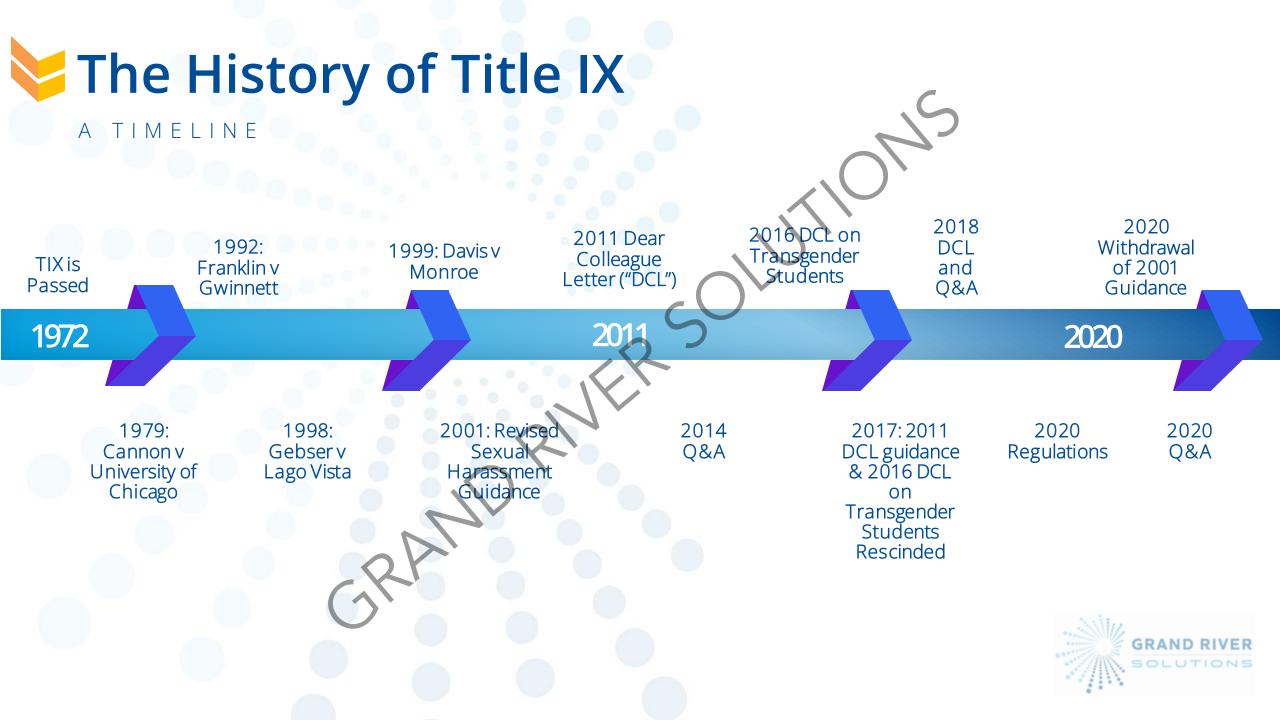


Title IX Applies to All Forms of Sex Discrimination

- Sexual Harassment
- Achievement Awards
- Athletics
- o Benefits
- Financial Aid
- Leaves of absence and re-entry policies
- Opportunities to join groups
- Pay rates
- Recruitment

- Retention Rates
- Screening Exams
- Sign-on Bonuses
- Student and Employee Benefits
- Thesis Approvals
- Vocational or College Counseling
- Research opportunities







The Title IX Regulations

Sexual Harassment Only

- Narrows the definition of sexual harassment;
- 2. Narrows the scope of the institution's educational program or activity;
 - Narrows eligibility to file a complaint;
 - Develops procedural requirements for the investigation and adjudication of sexual harassment complaints, only.



Sexual Harassment: *Defined in 1996, 2001, & 2011 Guidance*

Sexual harassment means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

(1) Conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the recipient on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;

(2) Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, OR objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the recipient's education program or activity; or

(3) Sexual assault is a form of sexual harassment

*Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Stalking not included pre 2020 regulations

Sexual Harassment: Section 106.30

Sexual harassment means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

(1) An **employee** of the recipient conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the recipient on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;

(2) Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the recipient's education program or activity; or

(3) "Sexual assault" as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)(A)(v), "dating violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(10), "domestic violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(8), or "stalking" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30).

Covered Geography



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Includes locations, events, or circumstances over which the recipient exercised **substantial control** over both the respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment occurs, and also includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by a postsecondary institution.

On campus or in a building owned or controlled

 Off-campus incident that occurs as part of the institution's operations

Institution exercised substantial control over the respondent and the context of alleged sexual harassment that occurred off campus pursuant to § 106.44(a); or

the incident of sexual harassment occurs at an off-campus building owned or controlled by a student organization officially recognized by a postsecondary institution

Not Covered

Off campus conduct, even if it has an impact on the educational program or activity;

Conduct that occurs outside of the United States.





"At the time of filing a formal complaint, a complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in the education program or activity of the recipient with which the formal complaint is filed." 34 C.F.R. § 106.30

Applicant Accepted/Hired Enrolled/Employed



Title IX Application Post May 2020 Regulations

Type of Conduct

- Hostile Environment Sexual Harassment
- Quid Pro Quo
- Sexual Assault
- Dating/Domestic
 Violence
- Stalking

Ed Program or Activity

On campus Campus Program, Activity, Building, and In the United States

Required Identity

Complainant is participating or attempting to participate in the Ed Program or activity

Apply 106.45 Procedures

Required Response:

Section 106.45 Procedures

Conduct Falling Outside the Scope of Title IX

- > Apply other institutional policies and procedures
- Ensure that those policies and procedures are complaint with VAWA/Clery, other intersecting federal and state laws



Actual Notice

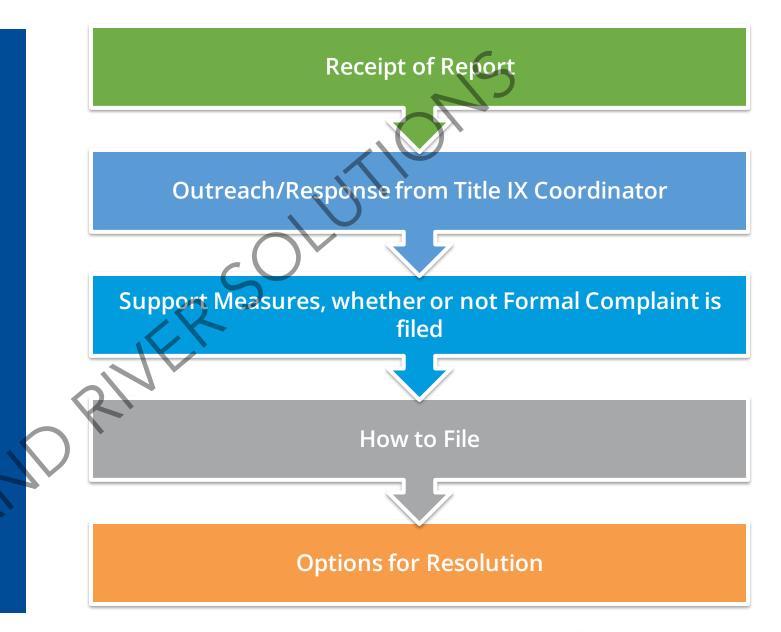
A Narrowed Scope of Institutional Responsibility

Institution must respond when it has:	"Actual knowledge"	When "an official of the recipient <u>who has authority to institute corrective</u> <u>measures</u> " has notice, e.g., Title IX Coordinator
	of "sexual harassment" (as newly defined)	IFR
	that occurred within the school's "education program or activity"	"includes locations, events, or circumstances over which the recipient exercised substantial control" over the respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment occurred Fact specific inquiry focused on control, sponsorship, applicable rules, etc.
	against a "person in the United States" (so, not in study abroad context)	GRAND RIVE

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Initial Response Requirements



Procedural Requirements for Investigations



Procedural Requirements for Hearings

Must be live, but can be conducted remotely

Cannot compel participation of parties or witnesses

Standard of proof used may be preponderance of the evidence or clear and convincing; standard must be the same for student and employee matters

Cross examination must be permitted and must be conducted by advisor of choice or provided by the institution

Decision maker determines relevancy of questions and evidence offered

Written decision must be issued that includes finding and sanction

Final Rule § 106.45(b)(8)

[l]institutions must offer both parties an appeal from a determination regarding responsibility, and from a recipient's dismissal of a formal complaint or any allegations therein.



Appeals: Mandatory Grounds

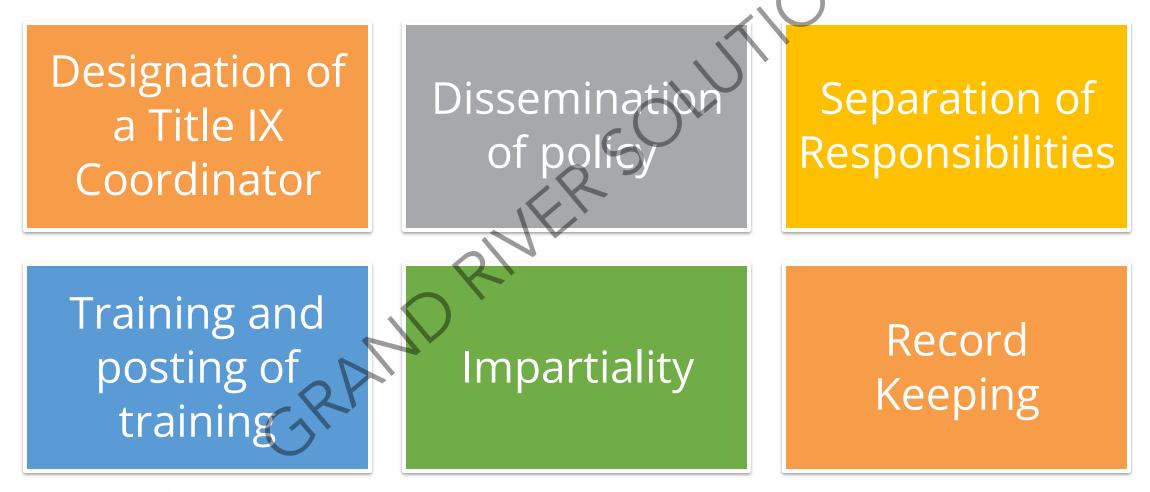
(A) Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;

(B) New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter; and/or

(C) The Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s), or decision-maker(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or the individual complainant or respondent that affected the outcome of the matter.



Other Requirements of the Regulations





Building a Foundation of Success

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Final Rule, Section 106.8(a

The institution must notify applicants and all members of the community of the Title IX Coordinators

- 1. Name or Title
- 2. Office address
- 3. Email address
 - Phone number

Any person may report , at any time, sex discrimination, including sexual harassment in person, by mail, by telephone, by email, or any other means using the contact information listed

"Responsibilities Required Under Title IX and the Regulations"

- Serve as the primary pathway for receipt of reports of sex discrimination and sexual harassment;
- Upon receipt of a report, promptly contact the complainant to discuss the availability of supportive measures and to explain the process of filing a formal complaint;
- Coordinate the effective implementation of supportive measures;
- Where a report is made, but a formal complaint is not filed by the complainant, determine whether a formal complaint should be filed and sign that formal complaint;
- Effective implementation of any remedies imposed by a decision maker at the conclusion of a grievance process.

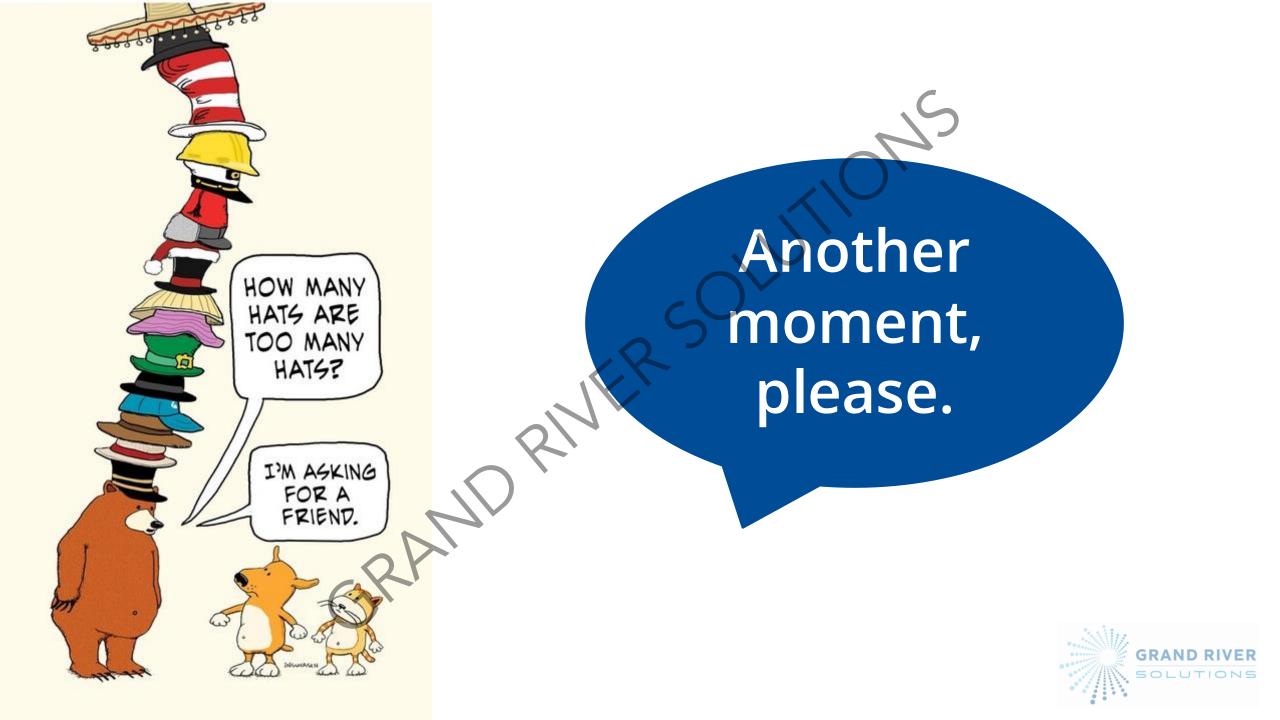


Responsibilities Often Delegated to the Title IX Coordinator

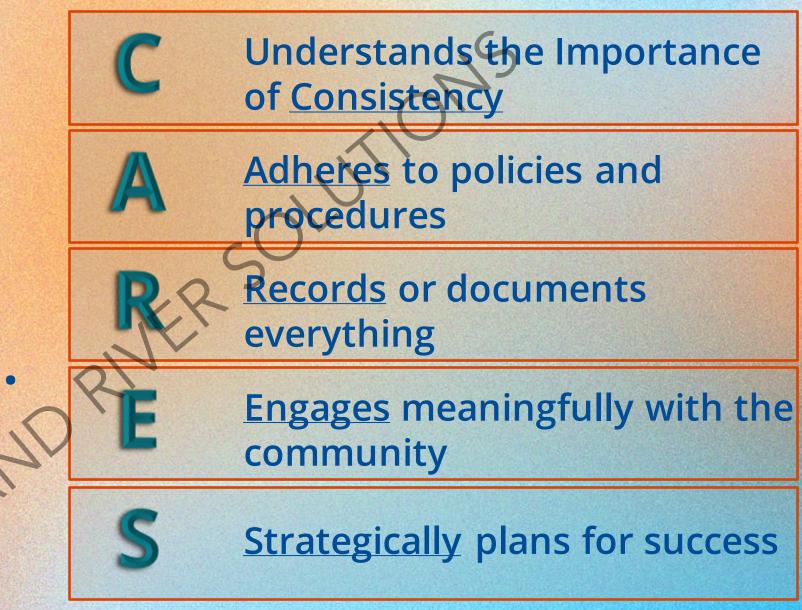
- Ensuring that the institutional policies and procedures are compliant with Title IX
- Ensuring dissemination of the policy
- Overseeing the grievance process to ensure it is compliant
- Coordinating a compliant grievance process
- Staffing various roles
- Ensuring training requirements are met
- Record keeping
- Compliance with intersecting federal and state laws
- Education and prevention efforts







A Successful Title IX Coordinator...



Strategic

- Conduct your own review: Evaluate the institution's state of compliance, strengths, and opportunities in all areas
- Develop plans for success in every area
- Prioritize the implementation and execution of those plans

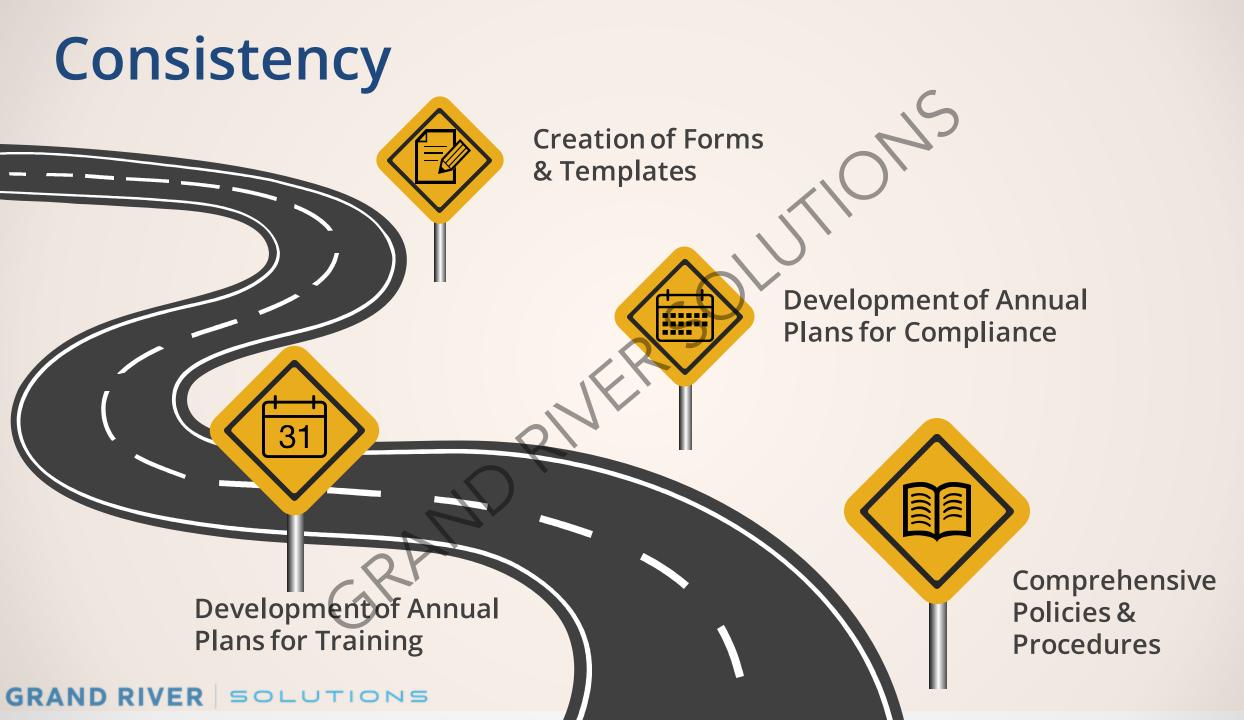
Engage

- Understand the needs of the community you serve
- Build awareness
- Build trust
- When you engage, others engage
- Can assist with workload

Adhere

Adhere to policies and procedures Implement training plans Stick to compliance plans Use the forms that are developed







Record

Document, Document, Document!

- . Compliance
 - Maintain old policies Keep records of all responses to reporting requirement

2. Training

- 1. Dates, times, locations
- 2. Attendees
- 3. Training materials
- 4. Reason for the training
- 3. Response
 - 1. EVERYTHING



The Requirement of Impartiality



Section 106.45(b)(1)(iii)

The grievance process must require that any individual designated by the recipient as Title IX Coordinator, investigator, decision maker, or facilitator of informal resolution not to have a conflict of interest or bias

For or against complainants or respondents generally, or
 An individual complainant or respondent

What Constitutes Bias?

Conduct a fact-specific, objective inquiry based in common sense to determine bias.

Includes:

- Decision-making that is grounded in stereotypes
- Different treatment based on a person's sex or other protected characteristic
- A decision based on something other than the facts



<u>Impermissible</u> <u>Bias</u>

Making a decision, determination, or finding that is based on something other than the evidence and specific facts of the case.



Conflict of Interest

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Avoiding Prejudgment of the Facts

Requires that the Title IX professional refrain from making a judgement on individual facts, the allegations, or whether a policy violation occurred until they have had the opportunity to consider all of the evidence.





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Sources of Compliance Obligations



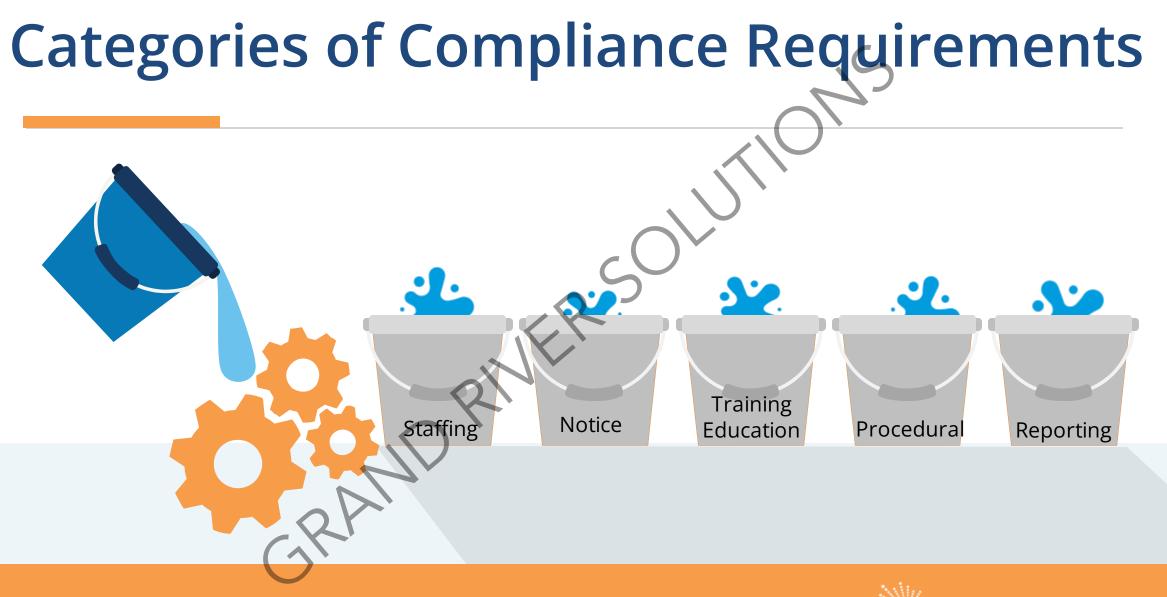
Title IX Compliance Obligations

Designate	Designate a Title IX Coordinator
	Discominate Delini
Disseminate	Disseminate Policy •Notification •Publications
Respond	Promptly respond to instances of sexual harassment occurring within the educational program or activity of which the institution has actual knowledge in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent;
Provide	Provide supportive measures in accordance with the requirements of section 160.30
Utilize	For reports of sexual harassment utilize grievance procedures that comply with section 160.45
Require	Require that individuals participating in the grievance process do so impartially and that they are trained in accordance with the 160.45(b)(1)(iii).
Maintain	Maintain records response to sexual harassment in accordance with 160.45 (10)
Comply	Comply with 160.71 prohibition against retaliation

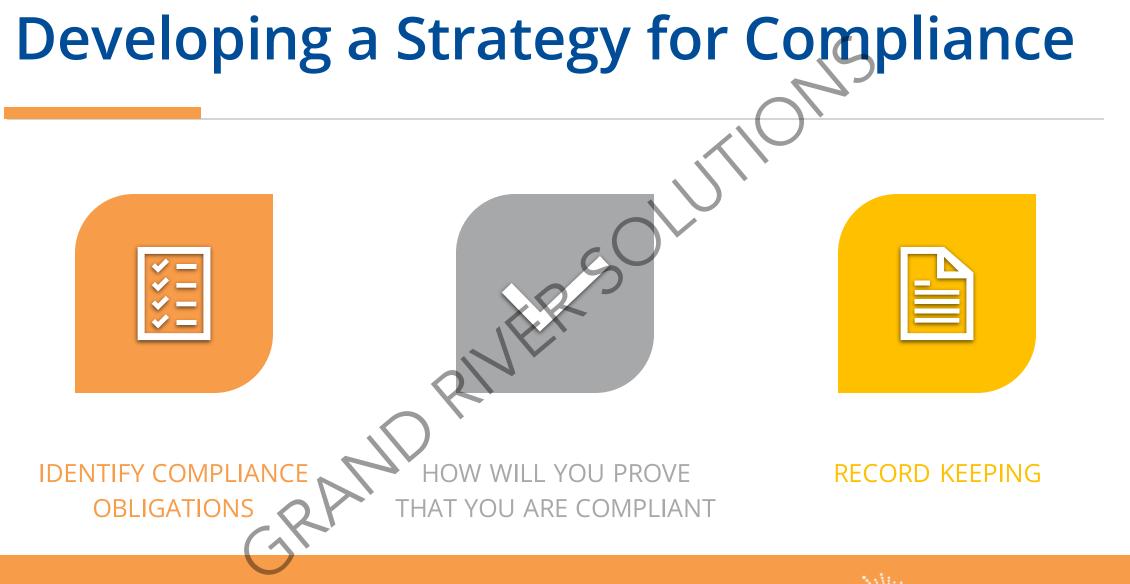
Maryland Education Code Section 11-601

- Adopt, disseminate and post, a policy compliant with the provisions of this law;
- 2. The policy must include procedures for reporting and taking disciplinary action;
- 3. Parties going through an administrative adjudication process are entitled to assistance of an attorney paid for by MHEC;
- 4. Administer and report results of a campus climate survey, every two years.











Implementing the Strategy for Compliance

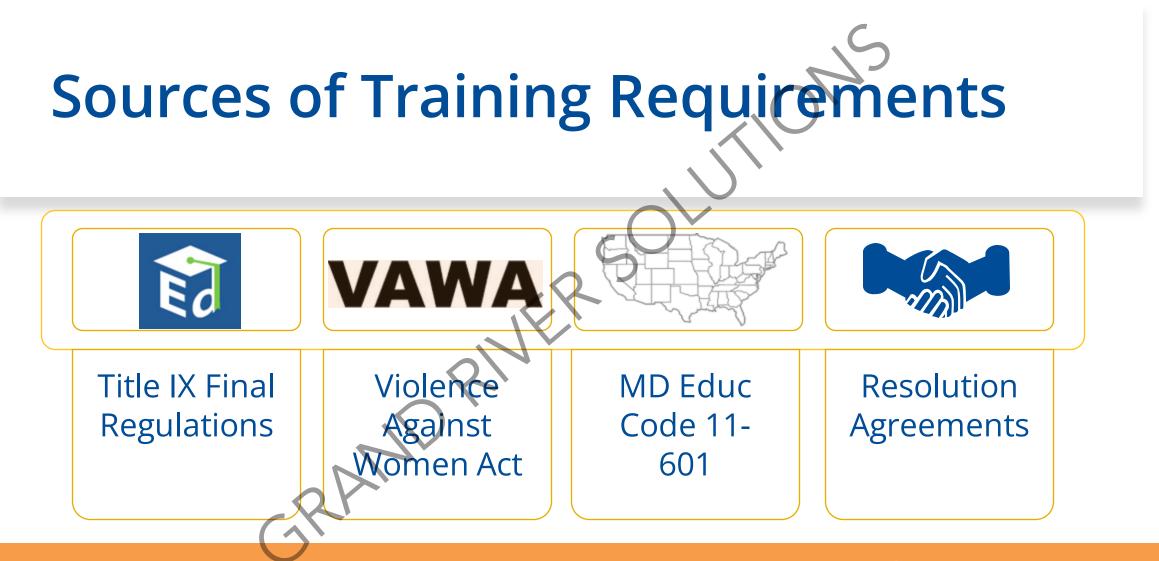




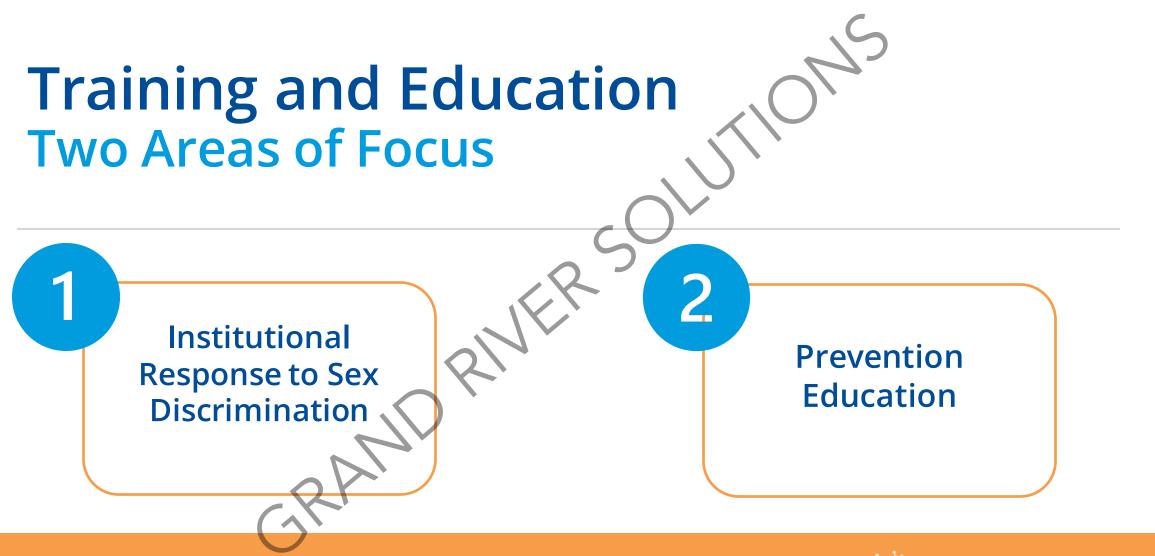
Training & Education

Educating ourselves and our communities in a post-regulatory world

04









Institutional Response Training

- 1. Institutional Policies and Procedures
- 2. Prohibited Conduct
- 3. Options for Confidential Support
- 4. The Identify, Role, and Requirements of the Responsible Employee
- 5. Options and methods for Reporting
- 6. The Grievance Process
- 7. The Role of the Title IX Coordinator



A Really Important Moment. Listen Up. It's Okay...



To not know the answer to every question thrown your way

"I don't know"

- "I'd like to think about that"
- "I'll get back to you"
- "Thank you for sharing your perspective"

To decline to answer a question

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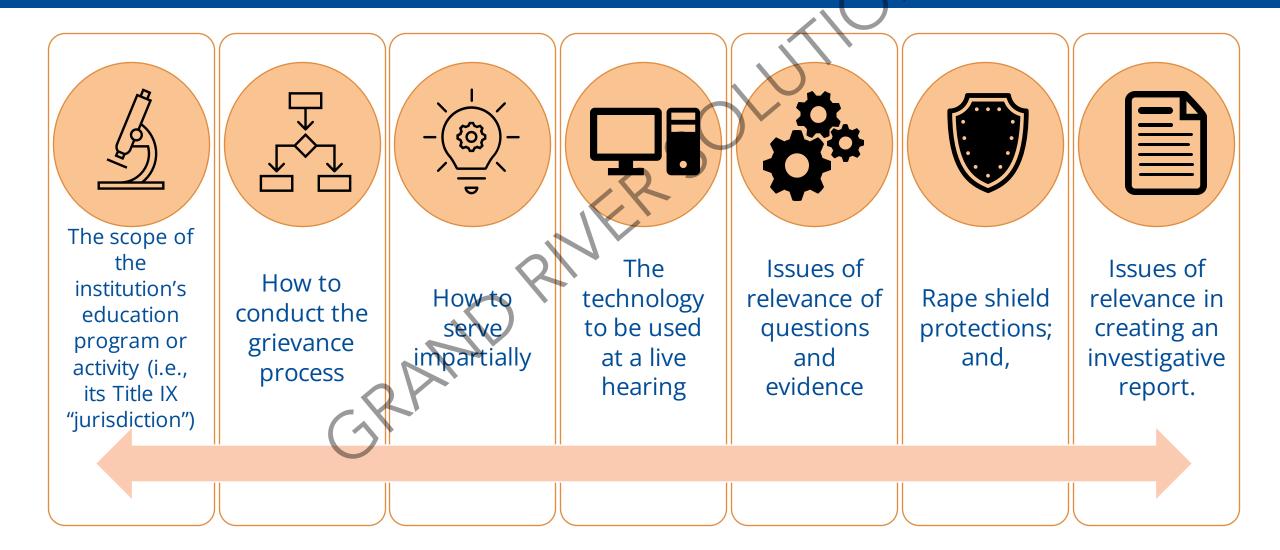
To recognize and assert your expertise

Title IX Staff **Students** Coordinators Investigators **Decision Makers (hearings and appeals) New Students Facilitators of Informal Resolution Existing Students** "Those who are charged **Specialized populations** • with ensuring a prompt, Student staff • fair, and impartial investigation and result." Who Must (VAWA) Receive Faculty Training? Staff **New faculty** Senior leadership **Existing faculty** ٠ L. Public Safety/campus • **Adjunct Faculty** ٠ law enforcement Supervising faculty Health care workers •





Training for Title IX Staff



Responsible Employees/ Officials with Authority



Responsible Employee Training: Additional Areas of Focus

Take time to explain the reason for and importance of Responsible Employee reporting

Provide advice on how to receive a report

Provide suggestions on how to share their obligation to report with the reporting individual

Instruct on their options for reporting to the Title IX Coordinator

Fully explain what happens after they report a disclosure



Special Considerations for Training & Education in the Post Regulatory Landscape

Explaining the narrowed scope of Title IX

Explaining the institutional decision for two processes/procedures

Responsible Employee challenges

Burden of proof challenges

Length of Training



Time for questions/community processing

Prevention Education: Title IX Regulations

"The Department understands commenters' beliefs that the Department should create rules that monitor drinking, teach about interpersonal boundaries, sexuality, bystander intervention, and sexual consent communication, . . . [A]nd while the Department does not mandate educational curricula, nothing in the final regulations impedes recipients' discretion to provide students (or employees) with educational information." 85 Fed. Reg. 30063 (May 19, 2020).

Prevention Education: Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

A primary prevention and awareness program [which includes bystander intervention] aims to prevent dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

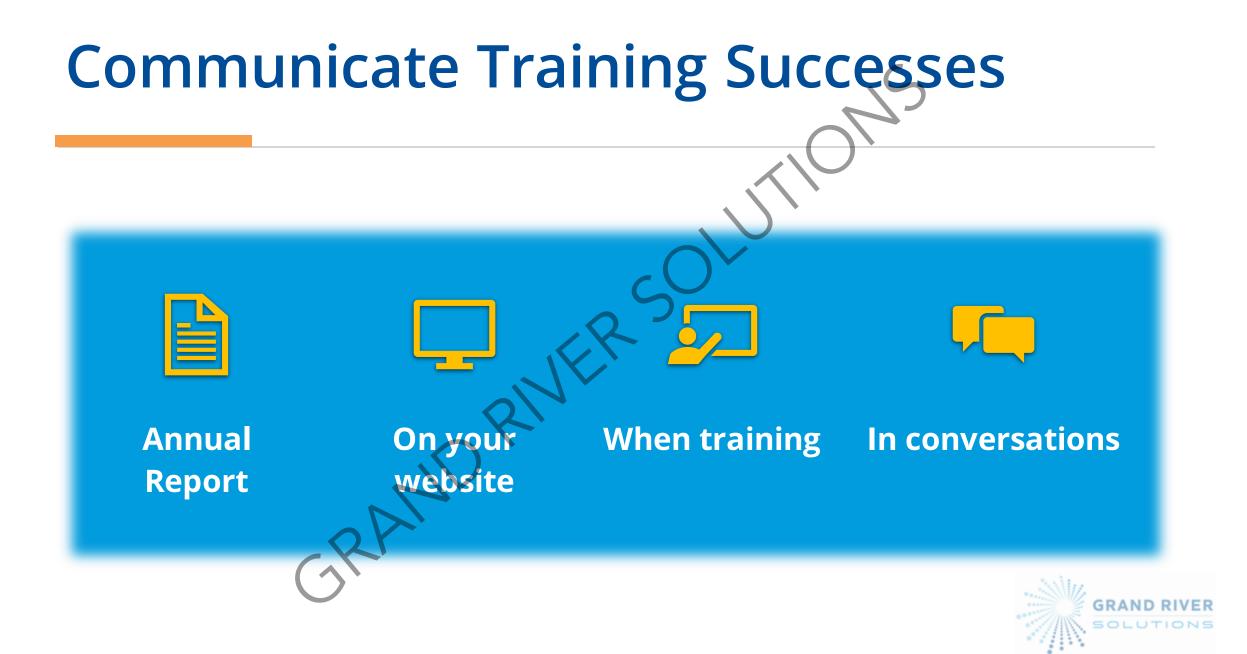
Ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns.

Elements of Annual Training Strategy

Identify population to be trained	
Determine topic	
Schedule the training	
How will you deliver the training	
Partnerships	
Communications	
Community input/feedback	
Engagement as passive education	GRAND RIV









Receipt of Reports

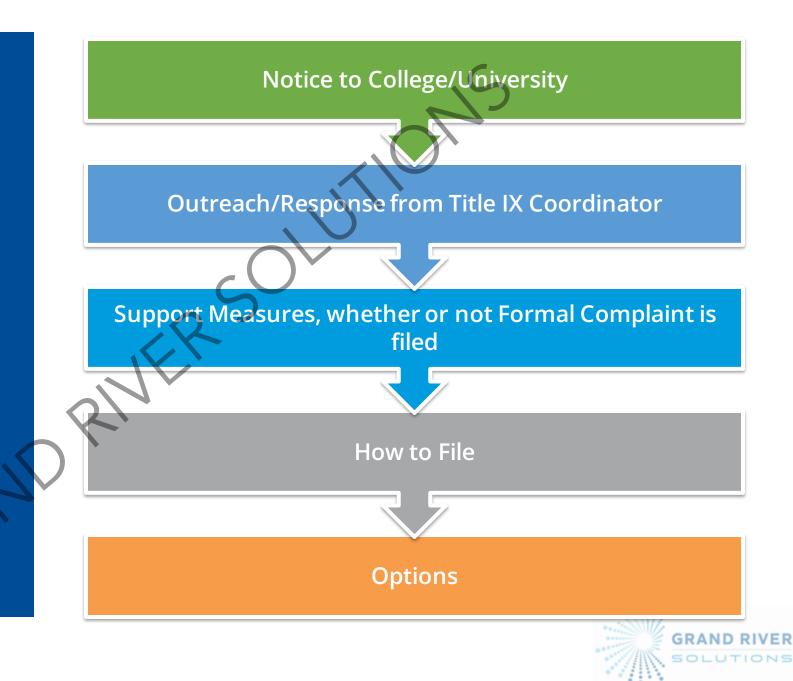
Actual Knowledge, Report Response, Initial Assessments, and Supportive Measures

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Infrastructure for Reporting

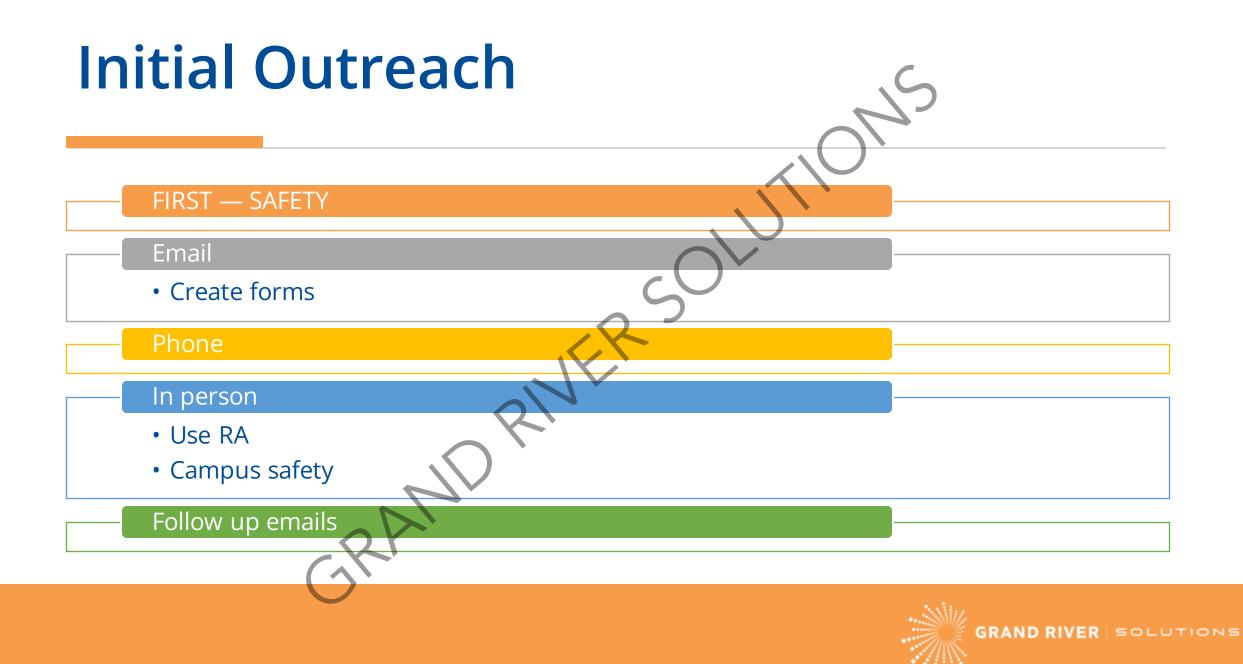


Regulatory Requirements









Emergency Removal of Student

- High threshold
- Not a determination of responsibility
- Whether or not grievance is underway
- Individualized
- Immediatethreat(physical)
- Opportunity to challenge



The Title IX Office receives the following anonymous report via your institution's online reporting form:

Riley Smith is in trouble. I live on their floor in River Hall and I constantly hear fighting and crying coming from their room at night. Every time I see Riley with their partner, they seem really submissive and nervous and I have noticed bruises on Riley the mornings after the biggest fights. The RA and Riley's partner are friend and so the RA doesn't do anything about it. It's getting so bad that some of the other people on the floor are talking about intervening, but we are afraid of Riley's partner too.

The Title IX Office is contact by a professor who forwards the following email from a student to you:

I really don't want to bother you but I'm in a really hard situation.

I and my boyfriend had a row for these days. And he beated me yesterday and this morning that I attached some pictures before XXXX final starts this afternoon because I found out I couldn't hold pencil because of trembling and I couldn't even think in the first thirty minutes. These pictures shows my arms after he twisting them, which doesn't look violent but feel hurt. One hour before lab final started, I told him I'm going to call police after he beated me, then he dragged me from bed to the floor and threatened to kill me if I call police. It was horrible and hard to reminisce. I knew he tends to use violence before and I forgave him some times when he just pinched my chin and dragged my arm. But this time it is too bad. So he took my phone away and restrain me in my room, not letting me go because I told him I would tell my TA about this whole thing after the final. So he just let me go to final after I promised I won't tell school and police.

When I go to two finals today (XXXX and XXXX, especially the latter), I really couldn't think and even hold pen (and I grabbed my bag but almost nothing in it) for the first thirty minutes. Now everything is done, he promised not to show up in my life nor my room, which is good becaused don't want to take penalty on anyone. But I couldn't predict what my final shows out. It won't match my work for the whole semester. I don't expect any makeup chance. I just want to let you know since I barely know any American women here, am I doing wrong? Is there anything I can do to fix anything from academics or life?

Sorry for bothering.

The Title IX Office receives the following email from a responsible employee:

My name is Professor Jones. One of my students shared that they were raped last weekend at a party by another student. They don't want the school starting an investigation, and so I am not going to share their name or the details with you. They are thinking about talking to the police but are not sure who to contact. Can you please provide me with information that I can share with the student?



Complainant Intake & Supportive Measures

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Initial Meeting with the Complainant

- Prepare for the meeting
- Select appropriate space
- Build trust and rapport; empower
- Explain your role
- Discuss available support
- Options for reporting
- Answer questions
- Evidence collection/preservation
- Conclude with a discussion of next steps



Supportive Measures

Non-Disciplinary May not unreasonably Nonburden the punitive other party Supportive Designed to appropriate restore or and preserve reasonably equal access available

Confidential

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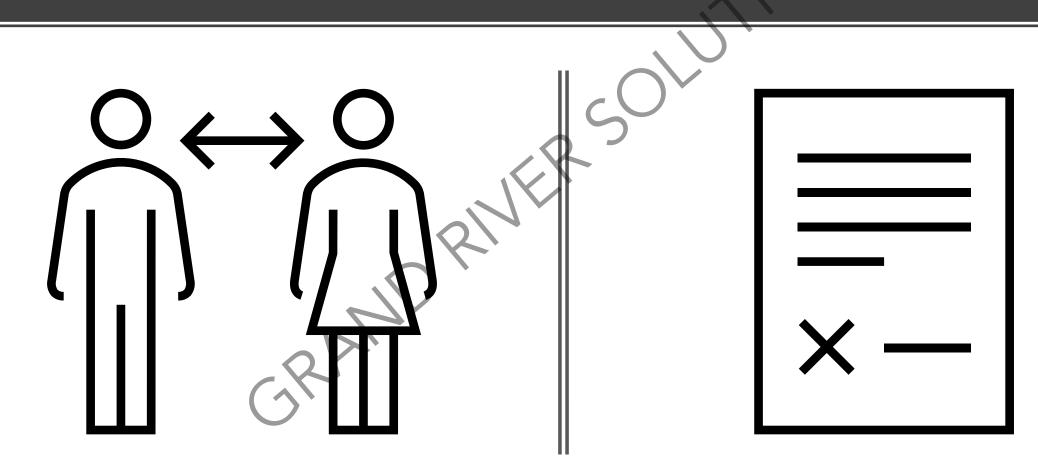
Examples of Supportive Measures

- Assistance obtaining access to counseling, advocacy, or medical services;
- Assistance obtaining access to academic support and requesting academic accommodations;
- Changes in class schedules;
- Assistance requesting changes in work schedules, job assignments, or other work accommodations;

- Changes in campus housing;
- Safety escorts;
- Leaves of absence;
- Mutual restrictions on contact between the Parties ("No-contact" orders).



"Mutual Restrictions On Contact Between the Parties"







Report Resolution

Remedies Based, Informal, or Formal

07

How to Proceed?



Remedies-based No formal process

Alternative/Informal

Signed agreement; Voluntary; What records?

Formal/ Investigation/ Hearing

All requirements of 106.45



Remedies Based Resolution

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Remedies Based Resolutions

- Supportive Measures
- Educational Conversations
- Targeted Education



Formal Complaint & Notice Requirements

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Factors to Consider When Determining Whether to File a Formal Complaint





Formal Complaint

A Formal Complaint must include:

FORM

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The Complainant's digital or physical signature, or an indication that the Complainant is the person filing the Formal Complaint;

An allegation of Prohibited Conduct as defined under this Policy. This may include:

• Where the incident(s) occurred; what incident(s) occurred; when the incident(s) occurred;

Identity of Respondent, if known;

A request for **2** resolution.

Formal Complaints may be made to the Title IX Coordinator by US Mail, email, or in person.

Dismissing Complaints

MANDATORY

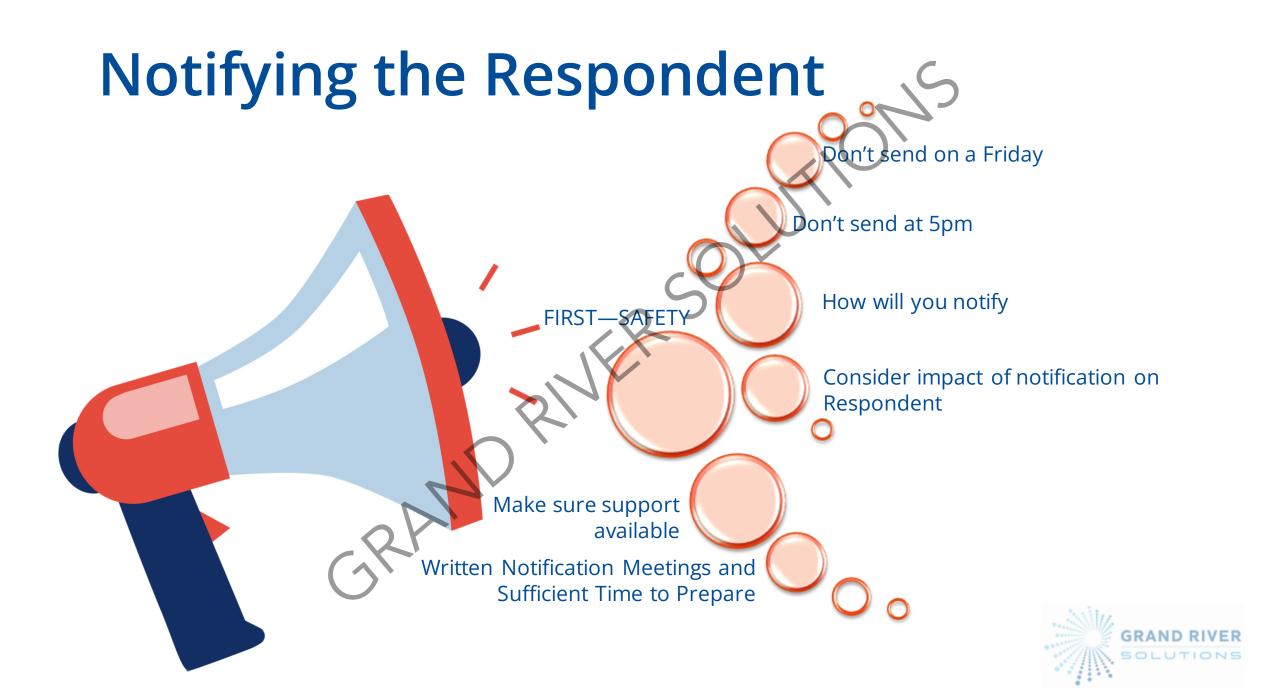
- Not sexual harassment
- Did not occur in program or activity
- Not against person in the U.S.

DISCRETIONARY

- Complainant withdraws complaint
- Respondent no longer enrolled/employed
- School unable to collect sufficient info







Notice of Allegation Requirements

- Notice of the allegations, including sufficient details known at the time and with sufficient time to prepare a response before any initial interview. Sufficient details include:
 - the identities of the parties involved in the incident, if known,
 - the conduct allegedly constituting sexual harassment under § 106.30,
 - and the date and location of the alleged incident, if known.
- The written notice must include a statement that the respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process.
- The written notice must inform the parties that they may have an advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney, under paragraph (b)(5)(iv) of this section, and may inspect and review evidence under paragraph (b)(5)(vi) of this section.
- The written notice must inform the parties of any provision in the recipient's code of conduct that prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance process

Advisor of Choice The advisor can be anyone, including an attorney; Institutions cannot place restrictions on who can serve No training required Institution must provide advisor for the purposes of cross examination, only.

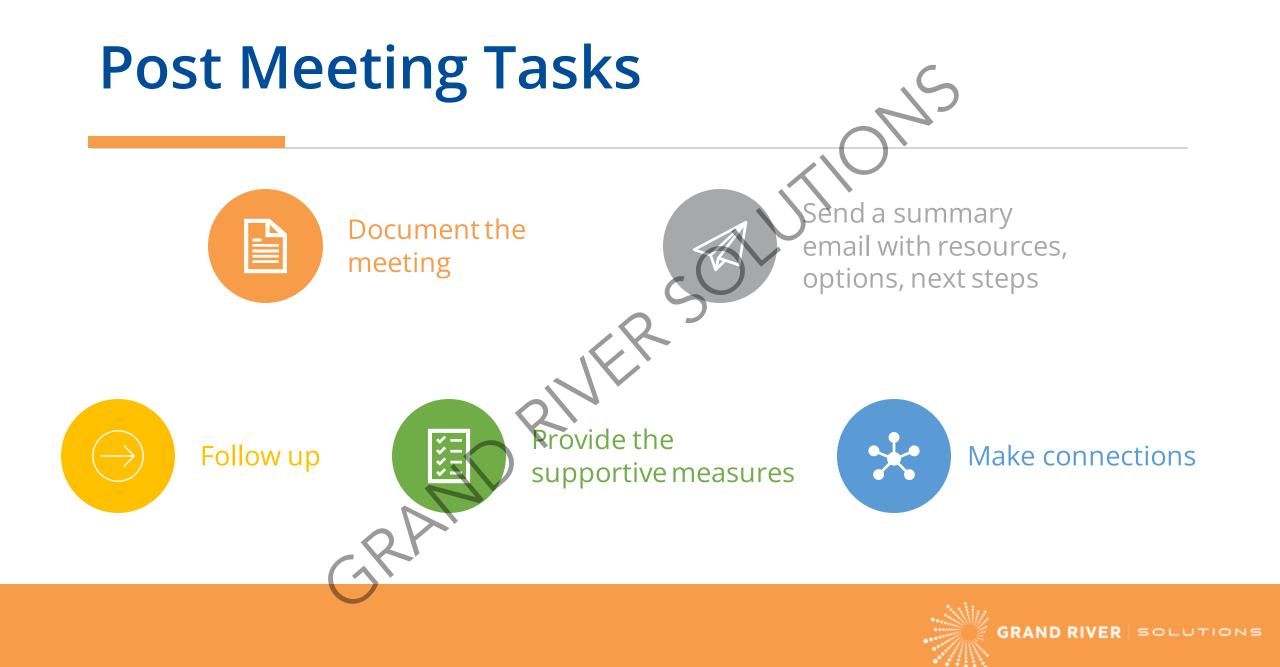


Initial Meeting with Respondent



- Prepare for the meeting
- Select appropriate space
- Build trust and rapport; empower
- Explain your role
- Discuss available supportive measures
- Supportive measures that provided to complainant that impact them
- Answer questions
- Evidence collection/preservation
- Conclude with a discussion of next steps





Formal Complaint Resolution

Informal Resolution

- Formal Complaint Required
- Parties must agree
- Can withdraw form process
- Alternate Resolution/Mediation
- No appeal

Formal Resolution

Investigation and Adjudication process in compliance with Section 106.45





Informal Resolution

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Informal Resolution Requirements

- Formal Complaint must be filed
- Participation in an informal resolution must be voluntary
- Must occur prior to resolution via a formal process
- Parties must be permitted to withdraw and seek formal resolution
- Voluntary, written consent to the informal resolution must be obtained
- Facilitators of informal resolution must be trained

Informal Resolution Notice Requirements

- the allegations,
- the requirements of the informal resolution process including the circumstances under which it precludes the parties from resuming a formal complaint arising from the same allegations, provided, however, that at any time prior to agreeing to a resolution, any party has the right to withdraw from the informal resolution process
- and resume the grievance process with respect to the formal complaint, and any consequences resulting from participating in the informal resolution process, including the records that will be maintained or could be shared;

Facilitators of Informal Resolution as Witnesses Informal Resolution is prohibited to resolve allegations that an employee sexually harassed a student.

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Formal Resolution

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Procedural Requirements for Investigations





Title IX Coordinator's Role In the Investigation

- Title IX Coordinator is permitted to conduct the investigation, though this is not favored
- If conducting the investigation, do so in accordance with the applicable institutional policy
- If not conducting the investigation, may serve as a support to the investigators
- May serve as a resource to the parties

Procedural Requirements for Hearings

Must be live, but can be conducted remotely

No Compelling participation

Standard of proof used may be preponderance of the evidence or clear and convincing; standard must be the same for student and employee matters

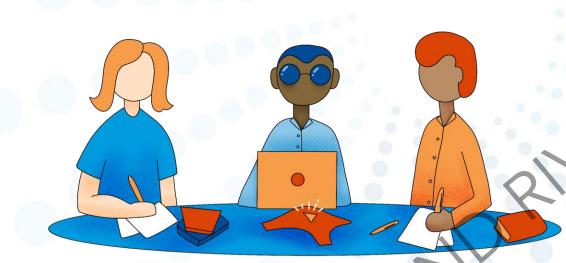
Cross examination must be permitted and must be conducted by advisor of choice or provided by the institution

Decision maker determines relevancy of questions and evidence offered

Exclusion of Evidence if no cross examination

Written decision must be issued that includes finding and sanction

Title IX Coordinator's Role In the Adjudication



- Title IX Coordinator may not serve as the decision maker
- May serve to support the decision maker(s)
 - May participate in the hearing to provide logistical support to decision makers
- Responsible for effective implementation of remedies imposed

Final Rule § 106.45(b)(8)

[I]nstitutions must offer both parties an appeal from a determination regarding responsibility, and from a recipient's dismissal of a formal complaint or any allegations therein.

Title IX Coordinator's Role In the Appeal > Title IX Coordinator may not serve as an appellate reviewer > May serve to support the appellate reviewer/panel May provide logistical support > May coordinate implementation of appellate findings, where appropriate. Responsible for effective implementation of remedies imposed

Feedback?

Send Feedback

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