

# CAMPUS & COMMUNITY RESOURCES

## CALL 911 IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

### CONFIDENTIAL CAMPUS RESOURCES

#### BTC Counselor:

360.752.8345 or email: [counselor@btc.edu](mailto:counselor@btc.edu)

### NON-CONFIDENTIAL CAMPUS RESOURCES

#### Title IX Coordinator/Vice President of Student Services:

360.752.8440 or email [vp@btc.edu](mailto:vp@btc.edu)

#### Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action (EEO/AA) Officer/ Executive Director of Human Resources:

360.752.8354

### COMMUNITY RESOURCES

#### Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS) of Whatcom County:

360.715.1563 (24-hour hotline)

#### LGBTQIA+ National Hotline (24 hour):

1.888.843.4564

#### National Sexual Assault Hotline

(24 hour):1.800.656.HOPE (4673)

#### National Domestic Violence Hotline

(24 hour): 1.800.799.SAFE (7233)

#### PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center:

360.734.5400

#### Walk-In Health Clinic: 360.734.2330

#### Bellingham Police (24 hour):

Call 911, state that it's a non-emergency (if applicable)

#### Coordinated Legal Education Advice & Referral:

1.888.201.1014

# HELP IS HERE FOR YOU

If you, or someone you care about, have been impacted by sexual misconduct, the most important thing to know is that there are people who can and want to help. People are available to listen, offer support, provide options, and take actions to help ensure that you and our community are safe.

Survivors of sexual misconduct respond to their experiences in different ways.

There is no *right way* to feel or *right thing* to do.

This brochure contains information to think about as you decide what is *right for you*.

Remember, you are not alone. Bellingham Technical College is here to help!



Bellingham Technical College provides equal opportunity and access in education and employment and does not exclude, deny benefits to, or otherwise discriminate against any person on the basis of race, ethnicity, creed, color, sex, gender, citizenship status, national origin, age, marital status, religious preference, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, reliance on public assistance, sexual orientation, veteran status, political opinions or affiliations, or genetic information under any of its programs, activities and services. The College complies with all Washington State anti-discrimination laws (RCW 49.60) and the following federal laws relating to equal opportunity: Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination, equal opportunity, affirmative action of the ADA policies: Executive Director of Human Resources, 3028 Lindbergh Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225, **360.752.8354**.

For Title IX/504 compliance, contact: Vice President of Student Services, 3028 Lindbergh Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225, **360.752.8440**.

BTC publications are available in alternate formats upon request by contacting the Accessibility Resources Office at **360.752.8576**.

## Bellingham Technical College SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT



Resource Guide



[www.btc.edu](http://www.btc.edu)

3028 Lindbergh Ave.  
Bellingham, WA 98225  
Executive Director of Human Resources  
360.752.8354

3/2021

TECHNICALLY  
SPEAKING  
[www.btc.edu](http://www.btc.edu)



# WHAT IS SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Sexual misconduct is a type of violence that uses power, control, and/or intimidation to harm another. It includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. It occurs when there is an absence of consent. Consent is a free and clearly given yes, not the absence of a no, and cannot be received when a person is incapacitated by alcohol or drugs.

## DEFINITIONS UNDER BTC COLLEGE POLICY

Full policies are available on the BTC website by searching “**student conduct**” at: [www.btc.edu](http://www.btc.edu)

**Sexual Harassment** means discrimination of unwelcome, gender-based verbal, written, electronic, and/or physical conduct. It does not have to be of a sexual nature, and can include offensive remarks about a person’s gender.

**Sexual Violence** is a type of sexual discrimination and harassment that includes nonconsensual sexual intercourse, nonconsensual sexual contact, incest, statutory rape, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

**Nonconsensual Sexual Intercourse** is any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, by a person upon another person, that is without consent and/or by force.

**Nonconsensual Sexual Contact** is any actual or attempted sexual touching, however slight, with any object or body part, by a person upon another person, that is without consent and/or by force.

**Stalking** is engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others or suffer substantial emotional distress.

**Consent** is knowing, voluntary, and clear permission to engage in mutually agreed upon sexual activity. Each person is responsible for gaining consent. A person cannot consent if they are unable to understand what is happening or is disoriented, helpless, asleep, or unconscious for any reason, including due to alcohol or other drugs.

# REPORTING OPTIONS

**You may choose one, several, or none of the following reporting options:**

**Bellingham Police:** If you would like to make a police report immediately following an assault, dial 911.

**Title IX Coordinator:** Reports can be made to the Title IX Coordinator or Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action (EEO/AA) Officer. More information can be found by visiting: [www.btc.edu/TitleIX](http://www.btc.edu/TitleIX)

Reports received will be investigated to the extent possible, determining subsequent action.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

**If you decide to report to campus officials, you can expect the following:**

**Privacy Protection:** Your privacy will be protected to the greatest extent possible.

**Support and Safety Accommodations:** Accommodations including: no-contact orders, modifications to academic or work schedules, etc. will be offered to prevent further contact between you and the person who harmed you.

**No Retaliation:** Any attempt to intimidate, threaten retaliation, or otherwise attempt to prevent the reporting of an incident—or participation in a conduct process—is prohibited. Anyone who is intimidated or threatened in any way should report concerns to the Title IX Coordinator.

**Interviews Conducted:** To gather information about the incident, individual interviews will be conducted with you, the person who harmed you, and any identified witnesses.

**Support Person Available:** Both parties involved have the right to have a support person present during the interviews.

**Informed of Decisions:** Both parties will be informed of the decisions and outcome of any investigation/disciplinary hearing process.

# PERSONAL SAFETY

**If you are in immediate danger, call 911.**

If you are concerned for your safety, and would like assistance in establishing a safety plan in a confidential setting, a counselor at the Counselors Office or a DVSA Crisis Line Advocate can help you explore your options.

## EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

**If you would like to speak with someone** who might be able to help you make decisions and begin to heal, the counselors at the Counselors Office offer free, confidential, individual counseling.

## MEDICAL ATTENTION

**If you have been sexually assaulted or physically harmed,** consider seeing a healthcare provider to treat any injuries and discuss possible pregnancy concerns and/or sexually transmitted infections.

## SAFE KIT – EVIDENCE COLLECTION

**If you have been sexually assaulted and might want to press charges,** it is ideal to have forensic evidence collected immediately by completing a Sexual Assault Forensics Exam (SAFE kit).

**A SAFE kit** can be obtained by visiting a local hospital’s emergency department within 84 hours of the assault. Choosing to get a SAFE kit does not obligate you to make a police report. Any evidence collected will be held for up to six months, giving you time to decide whether you would like to file a report in the future.

**To preserve evidence,** it is best to not change clothes or shower. If you do remove clothing, place them in a paper (not plastic) bag. If oral contact took place, try not to smoke, eat, drink, or brush your teeth until evidence can be collected.

# TITLE IX & SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Sexual misconduct is a form of gender discrimination prohibited by Title IX, federal legislation from the US Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights. Anyone impacted by personal violence and/or sexual assault—whether involving students, staff, faculty, or administrators—may contact any of the campus or community resources to seek assistance.

Any report of sexual misconduct received by any college staff, faculty, or administrator who is not a confidential resource will be shared with the Title IX Coordinator or the EEO/AA Officer. The Title IX Coordinator and EEO/AA Officer review and respond promptly to all reports to ensure safety and provide appropriate campus response. For more information visit: [www.btc.edu/TitleIX](http://www.btc.edu/TitleIX)

## HELPING A FRIEND

**If you know someone who has experienced violence:**

- Believe them.
- Let them know it was not their fault.
- Avoid blaming or criticizing statements.
- Suggest they consider talking with a confidential support resource.
- Help them learn about their reporting and medical care options.
- Allow them to make choices.
- If you witness abuse or assault, intervene in a safe way.

**If you would like more suggestions on how to help a friend:**

Please contact the **Admissions & Student Resource Center** at **360.752.8345** or [counselor@btc.edu](mailto:counselor@btc.edu) to connect with a BTC counselor.



*Bellingham Technical College is an equal opportunity institution.*