# Title IX Investigation

# Support & Resources for Students



# Bellingham Technical College

Bellingham Technical College recognizes that being involved in an investigation surrounding Title IX topics (sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, and the issue of consent) is difficult. Everyone involved is affected in some way. We want you to know that support and resources are available, both on and off campus. We believe that self-care and stress management are important, and encourage you to be mindful of the impact this situation may be having on all aspects of your life.

Our processes and procedures are designed to provide equitable support and opportunity for the parties involved. Confidentiality is honored and your privacy will be respected throughout this process, to the extent possible.

#### 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 Policy** (WAC 495B-121)

Full policies available by searching "student conduct code" at: www.btc.edu

**Sexual Harassment** means unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

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

**Nonconsensual Sexual Intercourse** is any sexual intercourse or penetration (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object, by a person upon another person, that is without consent and/or by force. Often referred to as sexual assault.

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

**Domestic Violence** means violence committed by the victim's current or former spouse, partner, or cohabitant.

**Dating Violence** means violence by a person who has been in a romantic or intimate relationship with the victim.

**Stalking** is intentional and repeated harassment or following of another person that places that person in reasonable fear of their safety.

**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, helpless, asleep, or unconscious for any reason, including due to alcohol or other drugs.

## **Support & Resources**

#### **Confidential Campus Resources**

BTC Counselor: 360.752.8450, College Services, Room 106

#### **Non-Confidential Campus Resources**

Title IX Coordinator (see reverse)

#### **Community Resources**

Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS) of Whatcom County (24-hour hotline): 360.715.1563

LGBTQIA+ National Hotline (24-hour): 1.888.843.4564

PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center: 360.734.5400

Walk-In Health Clinic: 360.734.2330

Coordinated Legal Education Advice & Referral:

1.888.201.1014



#### **Title IX Coordinator:**

#### Michele Waltz

Vice President of Student Services
Title IX Coordinator

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## **Equal Opportunity Officer:**

#### Tami Willett

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

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More information about Title IX can be found at: www.btc.edu/TitleIX

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