

TITLE IX FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is Title IX just about athletics?

Title IX pertains to GCU recruitment, admissions, financial aid, scholarships, course offerings, counseling, hiring and retention of employees, benefits and leave, sexual harassment, sexual assault and sexual violence.

Does Title IX require that male athletic opportunities be diminished in order to provide more opportunities for female athletic programs?

Title IX does not require that cuts be made to male athletic programs; it only requires that there are equal opportunities for male and female students.

Does Title IX only apply to girls?

No. Title IX protects against all sex- or gender-based misconduct. Any discrimination, harassment or sexual violence that occurs based on someone's sex or gender identity, falls under Title IX. Title IX violations can occur between people of the same or opposite sex. Both men and women can be the aggressor in these scenarios.

Does GCU have an obligation to address violations that occur off campus?

Yes. GCU has jurisdiction over Title IX-related complaints regarding conduct that occurred off campus during or at an official university program or activity (regardless of location), or if the conduct has the potential to create a hostile environment on campus. GCU must remedy the on-campus effects caused by any off-campus violations.

Will my parents be told?

GCU will not inform your parents of any complaint or investigation, unless requested by you. GCU's relationship is with the student, and we will do everything possible to respect your wishes.

Will the accused individual know my identity?

Yes, if GCU determines there is reasonable cause to believe a violation has occurred and investigates the matter. Sexual misconduct is a serious offense and the respondent has the right to know the identity of the Claimant in order to adequately respond to the allegation. If there is a hearing, GCU does provide options to attend without confrontation, including Skype, a room divider or separate hearing rooms.

Do I have to name the accused individual?

Yes, if you want formal disciplinary action to be taken against the respondent. You can report the incident without the identity of the respondent, but doing so may limit GCU's ability to respond comprehensively. However, GCU will still provide resources as needed or requested.

Can I change residence halls?

Yes. It is GCU's policy to put the least possible burden on the claimant. If a change in housing needs to take place, GCU first looks to move the respondent. But, if the claimant expresses a desire to be moved, GCU will make all efforts to act in accordance with their wishes.

Will I get in trouble for drug or alcohol use when reporting a sexual misconduct violation?

No. GCU grants limited amnesty for drug or alcohol possession and consumption violations when considered with the reporting of a sexual misconduct violation.

Will my drug or alcohol use affect the outcome of my case?

The use of drugs or alcohol by either party involved does not absolve the respondent of their behaviors and responsibilities. Alcohol or drug use may impact the memory of the claimant, respondent and witnesses, so the investigation could be affected in terms of accurate fact gathering. But, it is important to remember that the use of drugs or alcohol never excuse a policy violation by the respondent.

What if I do not know if I was subject to sexual misconduct or not?

The medical staff and licensed counselors in the Canyon Health and Wellness Clinic can speak with you in complete confidence. Additionally, Public Safety officers, the Title IX coordinator and resident assistants or resident directors can assist you, but they are obligated to report the incident. There are resources available to you to help you sort out what the best course of action is for you and your situation.

How do I file a complaint with the police?

You can contact the Phoenix Police Department directly at 602-262-6151. If you want assistance with filing a criminal report or more information on what that may mean for you, contact GCU's Department of Public Safety at 855-GCU-LOPE.