If You Have Experienced Sexual Violence, Relationship Violence, or Stalking

Immediate steps
- Go to a safe place. Your RA’s room, a friend’s room, or any open offices on campus, like UConn Police.
- Call someone you trust. A friend, family member, victim advocate, or counselor are good resources. You do not have to go through this alone.
- After sexual violence, preserve physical evidence. A sexual assault examination and evidence collection is available at no cost at the local hospital, even if you do not yet know if you want to report or press charges. Do not shower until you have considered whether to have an examination, and save the clothes you were wearing in a paper or cloth bag.

Within 24 hours
- Seek out support. You may want to turn to an advocate or counselor for support and information. They will talk with you about your options for additional support services and reporting.
- After unwanted physical contact, get medical attention. A medical provider can check and treat for physical injury, sexually transmitted infections, and pregnancy. You do not need to make a formal report or press charges to receive medical care.

At any time
- Consider making a formal report. You are encouraged to report what happened to both the police and the Office of Diversity and Equity (ODE). Keep in mind that reporting to ODE is not the same as bringing criminal charges with the police.
- UConn can help. The campus-based resources in this brochure can help you with changes to your housing, classes, work, student activities, and more. UConn can help, whether or not you make a formal report or press charges.

UConn Sexual Assault Response Policy (SARP)

UConn is committed to creating and maintaining a campus environment free from all forms of sexual violence, relationship violence, and stalking. All reports are taken with the utmost seriousness. The University cares deeply about supporting victim-survivors and protecting community safety. Therefore, if a student, faculty, or staff member discloses a sexual assault to a UConn employee, it invokes that employee’s duty to report the assault.

Pursuant to UConn’s Sexual Assault Response Policy, most employees who witness or receive a report of sexual assault must report the incident to the Office of Diversity and Equity. Exceptions include employees who are empowered by law to maintain confidentiality, such as those in Student Health Services and Counseling and Mental Health Services.

The report must include the date, time, and place of the incident; the date the incident was reported to or witnessed by the employee; and the identities of the victim-survivor and, if disclosed, the alleged perpetrator.

Under the federal Clery Act, many employees also have a duty under federal law to report crimes to the UConn Police Department. Their report to police must include the date, time, and place of the incident, but not the identity of the victim-survivor.

What is Sexual Violence*?
Sexual violence, which includes rape, is any unwanted physical contact with the intimate parts of a person’s body for the purposes of sexual gratification, humiliation, or degradation. Sexual violence can happen to anyone, regardless of gender.

What is Consent*?
Consent is defined by UConn as “an understandable exchange of affirmative words or actions, which indicate a willingness to participate in mutually agreed upon sexual activity.” It is the responsibility of the person initiating sexual activity to obtain clear and affirmative indications of consent at each stage of sexual activity. The absence of “no” is not necessarily a “yes,” and consent to one form of sexual activity (like kissing) does not imply consent to other forms of sexual activity (like sex). A person who is incapacitated by alcohol and/or drugs is unable to give consent.

What is Relationship Violence*?
Relationship violence (also known as intimate partner violence, dating violence, and domestic violence) is a pattern of behavior in an intimate relationship used to establish power and control over another person through fear and intimidation. Relationship violence can be verbal, emotional, and/or physical. Examples include: slapping, pulling hair, name-calling, damaging property, and threats of abuse or physical harm.

What is Stalking*?
Stalking is a course of conduct directed at a specific person that instills fear and/or threatens safety, mental health, or physical health. Stalking is serious, often violent, and can escalate over time. Examples include: non-consensual communications (in person, telephone, or email), surveillance, or showing up at the targeted person’s classroom or workplace.

*Please note that these definitions are contained within UConn’s Student Code and are not the same standard applied in a law enforcement proceeding.
**Reporting and Investigations**

Victim-survivors are strongly encouraged to make a report to both the police and to the Office of Diversity and Equity (ODE) for assistance and investigation. The police investigate criminal violations. The University (ODE) investigates University conduct code and policy violations. Reporting can help to ensure the safety of the victim-survivor and the entire campus community. Victim-survivors have the right to report assaults without further participation in any investigation.

**UConn Police Department**

Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. 126 North Eagleville Road, Storrs 860.486.4800 | police.uconn.edu, crimealerts@uconn.edu

The UConn Police are responsible for all criminal investigations for on-campus crimes. In cases of sexual or relationship violence or stalking, an officer from the Special Victims Unit is assigned as the primary contact with the victim-survivor throughout the investigation. For off-campus crimes, state or local police are responsible for investigations. If you are unsure where to call, start with UConn Police.

**The Office of Diversity and Equity (ODE) and the Title IX Coordinator**

Available 8am – 5pm Monday – Friday. 241 Glenbrook Road, Unit 4175, Storrs 860.486.2943 | sexualviolence.uconn.edu and ode.uconn.edu

ODE investigates complaints of sexual violence, relationship violence, and/or stalking when the accused individual is a UConn student or employee. Students and employees who commit acts of sexual violence, relationship violence, and/or stalking are in violation of University policies and conduct codes and may be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion. As Title IX Coordinator, ODE’s Associate Vice President Elizabeth Conklin is responsible for ensuring that all reports are investigated and addressed at UConn.

**Confidential Resources (On-Campus)**

NOT required to report to ODE.

- **Student Health Services**
  Advice Nurse on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Assault Crisis Services available 8am – 4pm, Monday – Friday. 234 Glenbrook Road, Storrs Phone: 860.486.2719 (Appointment Desk) 860.486.4700 (24-Hour Advice Nurse) shs.uconn.edu/womens_clinic.html

  Student Health Services provides crisis and follow-up care for victim-survivors of sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking. Medical staff provide free medical examinations, medications, STD testing, and will assist in arranging referral services for evidence collection and crisis counseling.

- **Counseling and Mental Health Services**
  Therapist on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Office hours 8:30am – 4:30pm, Monday – Friday. Arjona Building, 337 Mansfield Road, Storrs 860.486.4705 | counseling.uconn.edu

  Counseling and Mental Health Services provides both immediate crisis intervention and therapy to recent or past victim-survivors of sexual violence, relationship violence, and/or stalking. Therapists can be accessed by appointment, walk-in, or after-hours emergency.

- **Stronger Support Group**
  Stronger is a confidential support and discussion group for UConn student victim-survivors of sexual violence, domestic violence and stalking. Stronger provides a supportive, confidential environment and can help victim-survivors to gain strength and empowerment. For more information, contact Counseling and Mental Health Services.

**Confidential Advocacy (Off-Campus)**

NOT required to report to ODE. All services are free and confidential.

- **Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc.**
  Statewide Hotline: 1.888.999.5545 (24/7) Spanish Hotline: 1.888.568.8332 (24/7)
  • Support for victim-survivors of sexual violence
  • Hotline services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
  • Crisis and short-term counseling
  • Information and referral services
  • Hospital, police, and court accompaniment

- **Storrs-Mansfield and New London Area**
  Sexual Assault Crisis Center of Eastern Connecticut Local Hotline: 860.456.2789 90 South Park Street, Willimantic 165 State Street, Suite 405, New London

- **Waterbury Area**
  Safe Haven of Greater Waterbury Local Hotline: 203.753.3613 29 Central Avenue, Waterbury

- **Torrington Area**
  Susan B. Anthony Project Local Hotline: 860.482.7133 179 Water Street, Torrington

- **Hartford Area**
  YWCA Sexual Assault Crisis Services Local Hotline: 860.547.1022 175 Main Street, Hartford

- **Stamford Area**
  Center for Sexual Assault Crisis Counseling & Education Local Hotline: 203.329.2929 700 Canal Street, Suite 226, Stamford

- **Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence**
  Statewide Hotline: 1.888.774.2900 (24/7)
  • Support for victim-survivors of domestic or dating violence and stalking
  • Hotline services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
  • 24-hour crisis counseling

**Non-Confidential Resources (On-Campus)**

Required to report to ODE.

- **Dean of Students Office**
  8am – 5pm, Monday – Friday. Wilbur Cross Building, 2nd Floor 233 Glenbrook Road, Storrs 860.486.3426 | dos.uconn.edu | dos@uconn.edu

- **Department of Residential Life**
  Office hours 8am – 5pm, Monday – Friday. RA’s and Hall Directors are on call 24/7 during the academic year.

**Women’s Center**

8am – 5pm, Monday – Friday. Student Union, 4th Floor 2101 Hillside Road, Storrs 860.486.4738 | womenscenter.uconn.edu

The Women’s Center provides advocacy, support services (including accompaniment during reporting and investigations), information and referral services to individuals who have, or think they might have, experienced sexual assault, relationship violence, and/or stalking. The Women’s Center provides these services to students, staff, and faculty regardless of their gender identity.