VAWA Rights, Resources and Options

If you have been sexually assaulted:

If you or someone you know has been sexually assaulted, there can be time-sensitive decisions to make about preventing sexually transmitted infections, preventing pregnancy and collecting physical evidence. Some physical assaults may also require immediate medical attention.

Immediate action to take
1. Go to a safe location.
2. Call a confidential advocate who can explain all your medical and reporting options and provide immediate emotional support.
   - Dave Goetze, SC4 Director of Behavioral Intervention & Support Services (810) 989-5552
   - SC4 Behavioral Education Success Team at bestservices@sc4.edu or (810) 989-5856
   - Blue Water Safe Horizons, (888) 985-5538,
   - Child and Adult Protective Services, (855) 444-3911,
   - Turning Point, 24 Hour Crisis, (586) 463-6990
   - Professional Counseling Center, (810) 984-4202,
   - Michigan Sexual Assault Hotline, (855) 864-2374
   - National Domestic Violence Hotline, (800) 799-7233
   - National Teen Dating Abuse Hotline, (866) 331-9474
3. Get medical care as soon as possible. Go to a hospital, emergency room or a forensic clinic that works with sexual assault survivors.
   - McLaren Port Huron Hospital, (810) 987-5000, 1221 Pine Grove Ave., Port Huron, MI, 48060
   - Lake Huron Medical Center, (810) 216-1500, 2601 Electric Ave., Port Huron, MI 48060
   - Ascension River District Hospital, (810) 329-7111, 4100 River Road, East china, MI, 48054
   - You may also request medications for the prevention of sexually transmitted infections, including HIV, and emergency contraception.
   - If you think you may have been given a rape drug, request that the hospital or clinic take a urine and blood sample. These samples need to be collected as soon as possible because these drugs leave the system quickly.
4. If you want to report the crime immediately, call 911 and/or notify Campus Patrol at (810) 989-5757. Note that any report alleging rape or sexual assault filed with Campus Patrol will be forwarded to local law enforcement only with your express permission. You have the right to notify law enforcement, and also the right to decline to notify law enforcement. The Title IX Coordinator or Vice President of Human Resources can also help you in making a report to law enforcement.
5. Preserve all physical evidence of the assault, even if you are unsure whether you want to report the crime. Do not shower, bathe, douche, eat, drink, wash your hands or brush your teeth until after you have had a medical examination. Save all the clothing you were wearing at the time of the assault and bring it and any other potential evidence to the medical exam. Place each item of
clothing in a separate paper bag (do not use plastic bags). Do not clean or disturb the area where the assault occurred.

6. Call a trusted friend, family member or someone else who can provide support.

7. If more than one week has passed since the assault, or if you are certain that you do not want the collection of forensic evidence, the St. Clair County Health Department provides medical care, including emergency contraception and testing for sexually transmitted infections.

8. Staff at the Health Department also assure confidentiality to anyone seeking their services. (Please note that, in cases involving a physical wound or injury due to a sexual assault, domestic violence, or in the case of a sexual assault of a minor, physicians may be required to report these situations to the proper legal authorities, although not to campus authorities.)

Follow-up action to take

1. Talk to a counselor for emotional support and advocacy. The nature of sexual misconduct or assault, particularly by an acquaintance, date or partner, makes it difficult for many students to report their experience. There are several resources in our community that can help: https://sc4.edu/about/campus-security-information/crisis-resource/

2. Consider reporting to law enforcement and/or the Title IX Office.
   - Port Huron Police Department, (810) 984-8415, 100 McMorran Blvd., Port Huron, MI, 48060
   - St. Clair County Sheriff, (810) 985-8115, 1170 Michigan Road, Port Huron, MI 48060
   - SC4 Title IX Coordinator, (810) 989-5509, Cori Krohn, 323 Erie Street, Main Building Room 207, Port Huron, MI, 48060

3. Other evidence to gather: Whether or not you have decided to pursue an investigation, certain information should be gathered before too much time elapses, so that you may best preserve your options. For example, you might consider saving text messages, Facebook postings, emails, or voicemail messages that might prove relevant. If you have already deleted text messages, they might also be retrieved from your mobile phone company if you make the request during the current billing cycle. It can also be helpful to write down the names (or descriptions, if you do not have names) of possible witnesses, in case you later forget this information.

If you have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking

If a sex offense, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking has occurred:
   - It is important to preserve evidence that may be necessary for obtaining a protective order, or in the event that you wish to file a criminal complaint. Steps to take include; Do not shower, bathe, douche, eat, drink, wash your hands or brush your teeth until after you have had a medical examination. Save all the clothing you were wearing at the time of the assault and bring it and any other potential evidence to the medical exam. Place each item of clothing in a separate paper bag (do not use plastic bags). Do not clean or disturb the area where the assault occurred.
• If you wish to make a report to the College, contact Cori Krohn; Title IX Coordinator, 323 Erie Street, Main Building, Room 207, Port Huron, MI, 48060, (810) 989-5509, cmkrohn@sc4.edu
• You have the choice to notify law enforcement and/or campus authorities, including both on-campus officers and local police, as well as the right to decline to notify law enforcement/and or campus authorities;
• You have the right to be assisted by campus authorities in notifying law enforcement authorities, if you wish.

Possible Sanctions in the Case of Sexual Assault, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking

When there is a finding of responsibility, the Complainant will be offered such remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the institution’s education program or activity. Some examples are tutoring, counseling or other services described as Supportive Measures. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for implementation of remedies.

Persons who violate one or more of SC4’s policies will be disciplined. The form of sanction will depend on the nature of the offense, as well as any prior disciplinary history. Such sanction will be imposed pursuant to and in accordance with all applicable SC4 rules, policies, and procedures. A person against whom such sanction is imposed will have a right to contest the imposition of a sanction.

Any one or more of the sanctions listed here may be imposed on a Respondent who is found responsible for a violation of SC4’s policies. Sanctions not listed here may be imposed in consultation with the Title IX Coordinator. Sanctions are assessed in response to the specific violation(s) and any prior discipline of the Respondent.

Possible sanctions include, but are not limited to:

**Verbal warning** – Reported verbal reprimand.

**Grade adjustment** – Violations of academic policy may result in loss of assignment or course credit.

**Restriction of courses attendance** – Based on the violation, students may be temporarily or permanently restricted from class attendance or dropped from the class.

**Behavioral Contract:** Formal, written notice that the student Respondent will be expected to adhere to College expectations regarding their conduct as may set forth in a behavior contract. Any violation of that contract may result in further disciplinary action.

**Censure:** A written reprimand for violating SC4 Policy. This conduct status specifies a period of time during which the Respondent’s good standing with SC4 may be in jeopardy. The Respondent is officially warned that continuation or repetition of Prohibited Conduct may be
cause for additional conduct action including probation, suspension, expulsion or termination from SC4.

**Disciplinary probation** – The college may limit and/or monitor student participation in academic, privileged or extracurricular activities for a specified period of time. Violation of the terms of disciplinary probation may result in suspension or expulsion from the college.

**Suspension** – Exclusion from classes and other privileges or activities, including access to college premises or college-sponsored activities off campus, as set forth in the notice of suspension, for a specified period of time. Any student who is suspended shall not be entitled to any tuition or fee refund and is barred from college premises in accordance with the suspension.

**Expulsion** – Termination of student status and exclusion from college privileges and activities, including access to college premises or college-sponsored activities off campus, in perpetuity. Any student who is expelled shall not be entitled to any tuition or fee refund and is barred from college premises.

**Withholding Degree:** SC4 may withhold awarding a degree otherwise earned until the completion of the process set forth in this Policy, including the completion of all sanctions imposed, if any.

**Demotion or Change in Employment Status:** Temporary or permanent changes or demotions in employment position, status or title which may or may not include an adjustment in salary.

**Restrictions on Access or Duties:** Conditions which specifically dictate and limit the Respondent’s presence on campus, restrict employment duties, and/or participation in SC4 sponsored or related activities. The restrictions will be clearly defined and may include, but are not limited to, presence in certain buildings or locations on campus.

**Restitution:** Repayment to SC4 or to an affected party for damages (amount to be determined by SC4) resulting from a violation of this Policy. To enforce this sanction, SC4 reserves the right to withhold its transcripts and degrees or to deny a student participation in graduation ceremonies and privileged events.

**Probation:** Formal, written notice that the employee is in violation of SC4’s policies and an expectation that the employee exhibit good behavior for a defined period of time. Any violation during the probationary period may result in further disciplinary action.

**Termination of Employment:** Permanent separation of the employee from SC4.

**Other sanctions** – Other sanctions may be imposed instead of or in addition to those specified above as determined at the sole discretion of the college. Service, education, or research projects may also be assigned. For example, students may be subject to restrictions upon or denials for college parking privileges for violations involving the use or registration of motor vehicles on campus. Service projects also may be assigned. Students may be directed to have
no contact with other students and/or may be forbidden to access specified areas of campus. Access to technology and participation in college activities may be denied.

**Multiple Disciplinary Actions:** More than one of the actions listed above may be imposed for any single violation.

**Your Rights:**

The rights of victims and the institution’s responsibilities regarding orders of protection, no contact orders, restraining orders, or similar lawful orders issued by a criminal, civil, or tribal court:

- **Procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, which shall include a clear statement that such proceedings shall:**
  - provide a prompt, fair, and impartial investigation and resolution, and
  - be conducted by officials who receive annual training on issues related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and how to conduct an investigation and hearing process that protects the safety of victims and promotes accountability.

- The accuser and accused are entitled to the same opportunity to have others present during an institutional disciplinary proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by an advisor of their choice;
  - both the accuser and accused shall be simultaneously informed in writing of the outcome of any institutional disciplinary proceeding that arises from an allegation of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
  - the institution’s procedures for the accused and the victim to appeal the results of the institutional disciplinary proceeding;
    - of any change to the results that occurs prior to the time that such results become final; and
    - when such results become final.

- Information about how the institution will protect the confidentiality of victims, including how publicly available recordkeeping will be accomplished without the inclusion of identifying information about the victim, to the extent permissible by law.

- Notification about existing counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, and other services available for victims both on campus and in the community;

- Notification about options for and available assistance in changing academic, living, transportation, and working situations, if so, requested by the victim and if such accommodations are reasonably available regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to campus police or local law enforcement.
Resources

SC4 has professionally licensed mental health staff who are available to meet with students by appointment only to provide assistance with college and community support services, as well as any personal life concerns students wish to discuss. The college does not offer counseling on-campus but does offer services for consultation and referrals to local mental health providers in a safe, confidential, and professional educational setting. (https://sc4.edu/support-services/health-and-safety/mental-health-and-wellness/).

Information shared with mental health staff is not considered a report to the College.

Below are several resources for victims of sexual misconduct:

A Resource Handbook for Campus Sexual Assault Survivors, Friends, and Family:
https://www.michigan.gov/documents/campussexualassault/Campus_Sexual_Assault_Book_613695_7.pdf

Michigan Sexual Assault Hotline,
(855) VOICES4 or (855) 864-2374

National Domestic Violence Hotline,
(800) 799-SAFE (7233)
TTY: (800)787-3224
Chat: www.theadvocate.org

National Teen Dating Abuse Hotline
(866) 331-9474
TTY: (866) 331-8453
Text Loveis to 2252
Chat: www.loveisrespect.org

Turning Point, 24-hour crisis line,
(586) 463-6990

RAINN National Sexual Assault Hotline
(800) 656-HOPE (4673)
Chat: www.rainn.org

May also view the crisis resource page at https://sc4.edu/about/campus-patrol/crisis-resource/

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