



GMC Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights

Georgia Military College is committed to ensuring a safe and respectful environment for all students. In accordance with federal law, including the Clery Act, Title IX, and the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), students who experience sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking have the following rights.

Victim Rights

- **To be treated with dignity and respect** by all GMC personnel and to have all incidents of sexual misconduct taken seriously.
- **To report** sexual misconduct to GMC officials, local law enforcement, or both, and to receive full and prompt cooperation from the institution in doing so.
- **To receive information and support** in accessing medical attention, evidence collection (e.g., forensic exams), counseling, advocacy services, and legal assistance.
- **To receive supportive measures** and accommodations, such as changes to academic, living, transportation, or work situations, regardless of whether a formal complaint is filed.
- **To be informed** of the outcome of institutional disciplinary proceedings, consistent with federal regulations.
- **To be free from pressure** by college personnel to:
 - Not report an incident;
 - Minimize or downplay the seriousness of the incident;
 - Report the incident as a lesser offense than perceived by the victim.
- **To be free from victim-blaming language or attitudes**, including suggestions that:
 - The victim was responsible for or contributed to the assault;
 - The victim's behavior, dress, or intoxication excused the misconduct;
 - Reporting the incident would result in negative personal consequences or public exposure.
- **To be notified of and assisted with exercising any legal rights** related to the testing of alleged perpetrators for communicable diseases, and to be informed of the results, when applicable.

Disciplinary Process Protections

- **To have the same rights and opportunities** as the accused in any disciplinary process, including the right to an advisor or legal representative.
- **To a prompt, fair, and impartial investigation and resolution**, conducted by trained officials free from conflict of interest or bias.
- **To be informed in writing** of the outcome, sanction(s), and rationale following any disciplinary proceeding.

Risk Reduction Guidance



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While the responsibility for sexual violence lies solely with the perpetrator, GMC provides the following educational guidance to help individuals reduce risk and promote mutual respect:

If you are setting personal boundaries:

1. Communicate limits clearly and early.
2. Say "no" firmly and clearly to any unwanted behavior.
3. Exit unsafe situations and seek help from others if needed.
4. Take responsibility for your personal safety, including decisions about alcohol and drug use.
5. Look out for your friends, and expect them to do the same for you.

If you are initiating any sexual activity:

1. Clearly communicate and confirm mutual intentions.
2. Respect all verbal and non-verbal cues or boundaries.
3. **Do not assume** consent from silence, past behavior, or perceived attraction.
4. Understand that **intoxicated or incapacitated individuals cannot consent**.
5. Do not abuse a position of power, authority, or influence.
6. Remember that **consent to one activity is not consent to others**.
7. Stop immediately if your partner expresses uncertainty or discomfort.

Institutional Response and Safety Measures

GMC will take any steps deemed necessary to ensure student safety and uphold the rights of all parties involved. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Issuing interim protective measures (e.g., no-contact orders, housing adjustments)
- Providing academic accommodations or schedule changes
- Placing a student on interim suspension pending an investigation
- Referring matters to law enforcement for criminal investigation
- Conducting institutional disciplinary proceedings independently of criminal processes

Sanctions for violations of the Sexual Misconduct Policy may range from a verbal warning to expulsion, depending on the severity of the offense. In all cases, GMC considers the rights, safety, and concerns of both the complainant and the respondent.