

Georgia Tech VOICE Advocacy Victim-Survivor Rights and Options

Campus Assistance: If you would like confidential assistance in notifying the proper authorities (law enforcement, Title IX, etc.) and/or accessing accommodations and resources, the VOICE Advocates in Health Initiatives can be contacted during business hours (Monday-Friday 8 am-5 pm) at (404) 385-4451 or (404) 385-4464, or by walking in to Stamps Health Services Suite 232. Advocates are also available after business hours (nights, weekends, and holidays), and can be reached by calling the Georgia Tech Police Department (GTPD) at (404) 894-2500 and asking to speak to the On-Call Advocate (you do not need to disclose any information except a phone number). Confidential resources also include the Georgia Tech Counseling Center (404) 894-2575, Women's Resource Center (404) 385-0230, LGBTQIA Resource Center (404) 385-2679, and Stamps Health Services (404) 894-1420. VOICE Advocates can assist in accessing these resources.

Reporting: You may choose to file a criminal report with GTPD, or you may also choose to file a complaint with Institute officials including the Title IX Coordinator, the Office of Student Integrity and/or the Office of Human Resources. You can choose to report to some, all, or none of these options, and an Advocate can help you make an informed decision. If you are unsure about filing a police report, you can have a forensic medical exam (if applicable) within a window of 5 days after the incident, and decide later (up to 12 months). Additionally, photographing your injuries and saving any texts, e-mails, screenshots, or other types of evidence may be helpful if you choose to report.

Investigations: If a responsible employee (non-confidential resource) at the Institute receives any information about an incident or parties involved, Georgia Tech is obligated under federal law to promptly investigate the incident. You may choose to participate in the Institute's investigation and disciplinary proceedings as you wish. A VOICE Advocate can discuss your rights and options in more detail and provide you with support and assistance throughout the process. You have the right to be notified of the outcome of any disciplinary actions taken by the Institute, and to be informed of any appeal procedures.

Accommodations: At your request, the Institute will assist you as is reasonable in keeping you safe from the assailant. This may include issuance of a no contact directive and/or providing alternative academic, work, or living arrangements if these options are available.

Crime Victims Compensation: You may qualify to apply for assistance with out of pocket expenses such as medical bills, lost wages, and mental health counseling. VOICE Advocates can assist you with the application process. You may also qualify to apply for assistance through the Division of Student Life's Students' Temporary Assistance and Resource (STAR) program.

Program Evaluation Survey: VOICE may email you a Program Evaluation Survey in the future as part of our federal grant requirements, and we hope the information will help us improve our services. The survey is optional and confidential and completed surveys do not include any identifying information.

Confidentiality: All identifying information shared with the VOICE Advocates will be held in confidence within Health Initiatives and will not be disclosed without your permission, with some exceptions:

- The VOICE Advocate has reason to believe that you or others are in imminent harm
- In cases of suspected child, elder, or vulnerable adult abuse
- A subpoena or court order requires the release of information

Your records are generally protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and not subject to disclosure under the Georgia Open Records Act (ORA). If records are disclosed pursuant to the ORA, personally identifiable information will be redacted.

Pursuant to the Clery Act and Title IX purposes, information about sexual violence incidents is reported to the Institute to track crime statistics for the public. Federal grant stipulations require VOICE to report information about clients served and sexual violence incidents to our funders. VOICE uses an electronic system called Osnum to record identifying information about students and incidents. Osnum is shared internally among the two VOICE Advocates; their supervisor, the Director of Health Behavior; and the Assistant Director of Health Systems only. Your name or any identifying information about you or the perpetrator WILL NOT be included in any information reported externally from VOICE unless you explicitly request so.

Visit voice.gatech.edu and titleix.gatech.edu for more information.

Please let us know if you have any questions about our mandated reporting protocols or anything else