

# 2024 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report

Information for  
the 2024-2025  
Academic Year



**Northern Illinois  
University**

*Your Future. Our Focus.*

This information is  
provided for the  
Northern Illinois University  
main campus (DeKalb),  
Lorado Taft,  
Rockford and  
Naperville campuses.



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## Read This Report Online

The full text of this 2024 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report is available online at [niu.edu/clery](https://niu.edu/clery).



# Letter from the President

The well-being, health and safety of our university requires involvement from our entire Huskie pack. Together, we are stronger when we work collaboratively to maintain a safe and respectful community in which to live, work and study.

Our Department of Police and Public Safety plays an important role in supporting NIU's mission, vision and values. Our dedicated and diverse police force works 24/7/365, interacting with our campus community and patrolling our surrounding neighborhoods. In addition to helping to prevent crime, our team offers our community a variety of resources designed to help all of us better protect ourselves and those around us.

Our Office of Prevention Education and Outreach informs and empowers members of our university community with the personal knowledge and tools to assist in averting violence and discrimination, and in keeping our campus safe. Our office staff coordinates and delivers workshops, presentations and trainings focused on promoting healthy relationships and preventing sexual misconduct.

Our Ethics and Compliance Office works to ensure prompt and appropriate resolution of sexual misconduct complaints, including reports of sexual violence, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking. Our Ethics and Compliance Office also aids those who fall victim to such crimes by providing resources and individualized support to help them through the difficult aftermath of such events.

This Annual Security and Fire Safety Report summarizes useful statistics, safety-related services and resources, and key policies and procedures. For more details on how we strive to keep campus safe, I encourage you to visit [niu.edu/publicsafety](https://niu.edu/publicsafety), where you will find a comprehensive collection of safety information and resources.

Thank you for taking the time to review this information and for helping us create a campus environment that is safe, respectful and supportive for all students, faculty, staff and guests.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lisa Freeman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Dr. Lisa C. Freeman  
President, Northern Illinois University

# Letter from the Chief



Dear Campus Community:

Thank you for taking the time to review our 2024 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report (ASFSR). At our Northern Illinois University Department of Police and Public Safety, we understand that it is important for our students, faculty and staff to be aware of campus safety and the services that we provide so they can make well-informed decisions about their personal safety. Having a sense of safety and belonging is foundational for individuals to grow and thrive, which is essential on a university campus. As a department, we are committed to earning your trust as we work to fulfill our responsibilities with integrity, compassion and respect.

This ASFSR is provided to you in accordance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act. This report is designed to provide you with Northern Illinois University crime statistics, as well as other public safety-related information and resources. This can be a helpful tool in connecting you with programs offered by our university and in identifying tips for keeping yourself and others safe.

Our collaboration with Housing and Residential Services to improve security technology where our students live, study and thrive is ongoing. Most of our residence halls have new and improved security camera systems, and we are working diligently on making improvements to remaining living spaces on campus. We have also invested in next-generation external mobile camera technology in order to expand our public safety capabilities.

I want our students, faculty and staff to know that we at the Northern Illinois University Department of Police and Public Safety are committed to the fair and impartial treatment of our community, and treating all people with dignity and respect. We strive to build trust and legitimacy with our community we serve through policy, training, transparency and accountability. All our police officers receive Crisis Intervention Training, Ally training and other important trainings to recognize and reduce implicit bias and enhance our skills to de-escalate encounters with law enforcement. Also, in collaboration with our Office of Academic Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, many of our police officers have been trained as facilitators for Conversations on Diversity and Equity to help our staff learn about cultural differences that shape society and build an inclusive campus. Our officers are equipped with body-worn cameras to record police interactions with the public to increase transparency with our community we serve.

We all have an important role to play in keeping ourselves, our fellow Huskies and our campus community safe. Our work continues, but we need all of you, in partnership, to be successful in creating and maintaining a thriving living and learning environment. Communication, participation and collaboration are keys to our success. I recognize that safety looks and feels different to each person. I am committed to leading a department that works with our community to foster a safe environment where all individuals feel empowered and equipped to succeed. From all of us at the Northern Illinois University Department of Police and Public Safety, we hope you have a safe and successful school year.

Go Huskies!  
Darren Mitchell  
Chief of Police  
Northern Illinois University



## Introduction

Northern Illinois University (“NIU” or the “university”) is a student-centered, nationally recognized public research university, with expertise that benefits our region and spans the globe in a wide variety of fields including the sciences, humanities, arts, business, engineering, education, health and law. Through our main campus in DeKalb, Illinois, and education centers for students and working professionals in Naperville, Oregon and Rockford, NIU offers more than 100 areas of study while serving a diverse and international student body.

NIU is home to 15,415 students and 3,192 faculty and staff. With a large campus population including undergraduate students, graduate and professional students, faculty, academic professionals and staff, as well as our many visitors, occasional criminal activity and emergencies may occur on campus.

NIU is committed to promoting the safety and security of our campus community. This annual publication of the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report (“ASFSR”) fulfills the requirements of the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, as amended by the Violence Against Women Act (collectively referred to as the “Clery Act”) and the Higher Education Opportunity Act.

This Annual Security Report (“ASR”) is prepared by NIU’s director of Clery compliance, housed in the Ethics and Compliance Office, in consultation with the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety and other departments including but not limited to the Division of Student Affairs; the Division of Academic Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; and Human Resource Services. This ASR provides NIU’s policies related to safety and security including alcohol and drugs, sexual misconduct, crime prevention and the reporting of crimes. It also includes crime statistics for the previous three calendar years for crimes that occurred on

campus, in certain off-campus buildings or property owned or controlled by NIU, and on the public property within or immediately adjacent to and accessible from university property.

This Annual Fire Safety Report (“AFSR”) is prepared by the Department of Environmental Health and Safety. This AFSR contains current NIU fire safety protocols and fire statistics for the residential facilities at the DeKalb and Lorado Taft campuses for the previous three calendar years.

The policies in this ASFSR apply to all NIU campus locations (DeKalb, Lorado Taft, Naperville and Rockford) unless otherwise stated in a particular section of the report. The crime and fire statistics in this report are presented in separate statistics charts for each campus location. NIU submits the annual crime and fire statistics published in this report to the U.S. Department of Education. The statistical information gathered by the Department of Education is available to the public on its website.

Each year, NIU sends an email notification to all currently enrolled students and current employees that provides the website link to access this report. Notice of the availability of this report is also made to all prospective students and employees. This report is available at [niu.edu/clery](http://niu.edu/clery). In addition, anyone may obtain a physical copy of this report at the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety at 395 Wirtz Drive in DeKalb. Printed copies of this report are also available upon request to the director of Clery compliance via email at [CleryCompliance@niu.edu](mailto:CleryCompliance@niu.edu).

All members of our NIU community are encouraged to read this report. While our university takes measures to ensure a safe campus environment, safety is a shared responsibility. We hope that you will use the information in this report to help foster a safe environment for yourself and others.

# Annual Security Report

## NIU Department of Police and Public Safety

The NIU Department of Police and Public Safety (NIU Police) officers have full law enforcement authority, including the authority to effect arrests, granted by the Illinois General Assembly under 110 ILCS 685/30-45(11). The NIU Police have full law enforcement authority in any county the university and any of its branches or properties are located when required for the protection of university properties and interests, and its students and personnel, and otherwise, within such counties, when requested by appropriate state or local law enforcement officials. Their primary jurisdiction includes all property owned or controlled by the university, as well as streets adjacent to and running through campus. The NIU Police has 39 sworn police officers who are certified as peace officers in accordance with state law and receive basic and advance law enforcement training and education governed by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board.

In addition to its sworn police officers, the NIU Police also employs five security guards and sometimes contracts with a third-party security company to provide additional security guards for the campus community. The employed and contracted security guards are unarmed and do not have the authority to enforce laws or make arrests. Security guards have the same jurisdiction as the sworn police officers.

The NIU Police has a working relationship with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, and routinely exchanges crime-related reports and statistics and conduct cooperative patrols, special events, investigations and special unit operations.

The NIU Police maintains the following intergovernmental agreements related to the investigation of alleged criminal offenses:

- **DeKalb County Major Case Squad:** Includes local law enforcement agencies that provide comprehensive investigative assistance in murder cases, non-parental kidnappings and other exceptional heinous offenses when requested by the sheriff or chief of police of any of the law enforcement agencies that are parties to the intergovernmental agreement.
- **DeKalb County Sheriff's Office Special Operations Team:** Combines resources of the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office and NIU Police Department to implement a highly trained and skilled law

enforcement tactical unit to respond to critical incidents.

- **Co-policing Initiative with City of DeKalb:** Authorizes NIU Police Department sworn officers to issue citations for violations of city of DeKalb ordinances. Also provides for the NIU Police Department and DeKalb Police Department to engage in cooperative efforts such as sharing police reports and other similar documentation.
- **Collaborative Policing with City of DeKalb:** NIU Police Department sworn officers assist DeKalb Police Department by patrolling specific neighborhoods surrounding the main campus, serving as backup, intervening in crimes-in-progress and stabilizing the scene, and investigating cases when requested.
- **Illinois Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement:** Includes the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System and local law enforcement agencies throughout Illinois agreeing to provide law enforcement mutual aid to each other during emergencies or disasters.

### Satellite Campuses

NIU maintains education centers in Naperville, Oregon and Rockford, Illinois. While the NIU Police maintains primary law enforcement jurisdiction at these centers, the local law enforcement agencies where each center is located will generally be the first responders should an emergency occur.

### Noncampus Locations of Student Organizations Officially Recognized by NIU

NIU Police officers have primary jurisdiction over university-owned or leased properties within the city limits of DeKalb. However, the DeKalb Police Department has primary jurisdiction over DeKalb noncampus locations of student organizations officially recognized by NIU, such as sorority and fraternity houses. The DeKalb Police Department monitors and records criminal activity at these noncampus locations and works cooperatively with the NIU Police, Student Conduct, the Ethics and Compliance Office, and the Division of Student Affairs to address problems as they arise. NIU Police detectives meet with detectives from area police agencies frequently to exchange information.

NIU may pursue disciplinary action for noncampus violations of university rules, regardless if the activity was criminal in nature.

# Crime Prevention and Security Awareness Programs

The NIU Police takes a proactive approach to preventing crimes. The goal of crime prevention programs is to inform students and employees about the prevention of crimes. The goal of security awareness programs is to inform students and employees about campus security procedures and practices and to encourage students and employees to be responsible for their own security and the security of others. For a list of safety services and training see [niu.edu/publicsafety](http://niu.edu/publicsafety). The following programs were provided in 2023.

## Police Community Relations

Police Community Relations (PCRs) are presentations the NIU Police offer to the public and university community. These presentations include talking to UNIV 101 classes, tabling events, presentations during summer orientation, public awareness posts on social media and more. This is one way we empower our community to recognize risk and avoid potential crime. Our typical PCRs are about staying safe and keeping your financial property secure. Our PCR programs can be tailored to best meet the needs of your audience.

## A.L.I.C.E. Training

The NIU Police proactively teaches the A.L.I.C.E. concepts to mentally prepare our community for violent attacks. Participants in A.L.I.C.E. training learn about the actions that everyday people can take to survive a dangerous encounter with a violent intruder.

A.L.I.C.E. is a simple acronym for the following basic life saving strategies:

- Alert – Notify the people within the danger zone about the life-threatening risk.
- Lockdown — Barricade your area and prepare to evacuate or counter if needed.
- Inform — Relay continuous, accurate information to responders about the incident.
- Counter — Challenge the attacker and regain control (this is the last resort).
- Evacuate — Remove yourself from the area of the threat as soon as it is safe to do so.

During A.L.I.C.E. training, participants work through practical scenarios that utilize each of the principles learned during the lecture so they can understand the benefits of each strategy. Participants are taught the value of teamwork in overcoming a potential attacker. A.L.I.C.E. trainings may be requested by individual university departments so that the scenarios are conducted within the department to evaluate the current security of that space. There were 40 A.L.I.C.E. trainings conducted during 2023.

## CPR Course

This Basic Life Support (BLS) CPR course is taught by an American Heart Association instructor. Participants are trained to promptly recognize several life-threatening emergencies, give high-quality chest compressions, deliver appropriate ventilations and provide early use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). They also participate in simulated clinical scenarios and learning stations. Participants complete BLS skills practice and skills testing, as well as a written exam. There were 11 CPR courses during 2023.

## NIU Safe App

The NIU Safe app ([go.niu.edu/NIUSafe](http://go.niu.edu/NIUSafe)) provides another layer of security for the students, faculty and staff in the DeKalb campus area. Among the app's many features are:

- An Emergency Contacts button to dial 911 or the NIU and DeKalb police departments.
- Friend Walk to send your location to a friend to follow along as you walk and make sure you reach your destination.
- Virtual Walkhome to send the NIU Police Dispatch Center your location. The dispatcher will be notified if you don't reach your destination.
- A Mobile Blue Light button that instantly shares your location with NIU Police and have the NIU Police immediately dispatched.
- Ability to report a tip anonymously to the NIU Police.
- Ability to display campus maps showing the user's location.
- Ability to access instructions on what to do in various emergencies.
- Ability to contact Huskie Safe Walk.
- Ability to link to the Huskie Line bus tracker.
- Ability to view phone numbers for campus support services such as sexual misconduct prevention, health services and campus mental health resources.







## Security of and Access to Campus Facilities

This section discusses security of and access to campus facilities, including on campus residences, and security considerations used in the maintenance of campus facilities. Information is provided related to each separate NIU campus.

### DeKalb Campus

The NIU DeKalb campus is a public facility. Except as restricted in individual cases, the academic and administrative buildings are open to the public, at a minimum, during normal business hours, from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Most facilities have individual hours, which may vary due to special events and at different times of year. Access to some of these buildings is controlled by proximity card or keys after normal business hours, and all these buildings have varied levels of access. The distribution of proximity cards and keys is set forth in the university's Access Control Policy. All buildings are secured when not in use.

NIU Police officers and security guards patrol the academic and administrative buildings, residence halls, parking lots and grounds on a regular basis. Additionally, contract security personnel patrol the residence halls overnight and the NIU Police's expanded patrol jurisdiction during the day. There are also security cameras within certain academic buildings and residence hall facilities.

### Residence Halls

NIU Police officers patrol the residence halls on a regular basis. Community advisors and hall directors also maintain security measures in the halls and apartments, and work with residents to achieve a community respectful of individual and group rights and responsibilities. Access Control attendants help monitor resident and guest entries into the residence halls

during the evening hours. Additionally, contract security personnel monitor entry points, exits and lobby areas overnight in certain residence halls. Safety inspections of all residence hall rooms are conducted every semester. Housing staff receive training on safety and security protocols, and students receive this information during floor meetings each semester.

Housing and Residential Services maintains the following policy with respect to security of and access to residence halls and the Northern View apartments:

### Residence Halls — Building and Lobby Security

- The main entrance and all outside doors to each building are secured.
- Persons are not permitted to prop open community access doors or exterior doors.
- Residents must show their NIU OneCard to gain entrance into their residence hall and present their NIU OneCard at the front desk.
- Residents are required to show proper identification to Housing and Residential Services staff upon reasonable request. Without proper identification, residents may be asked to leave the building.
- Video recording may occur in some areas of the residence halls.
- Guests to the residence halls who are not NIU students will be asked to show a valid photo ID to be properly registered as a guest.
- Guests who do not show identification upon request can be instructed to leave the premises immediately and arrested for trespass for noncompliance.
- It is each resident's responsibility to help maintain a safe and secure environment.



### Residence Halls — Room and Apartment Security

- Residents are expected to lock their doors and always carry their keys (if applicable) and NIU OneCard with them.
- When a door lock mechanism is broken or not working properly, students are expected to report this immediately to their community front desk.
- Residents of Grant C and D Towers, Patterson Hall and Gilbert Hall should not hang things from the inside door handle of any door that has a proximity reader on it (room doors and Patterson Hall cluster doors) as this will drain the battery on the lock.
- Engaging in acts that may endanger the safety of others (blocking a person in a room, dangerous “pranks,” etc.) are prohibited.

### Residence Halls — Appropriate Window Usage

- Entry and/or exit from residence hall windows is prohibited.
- No window coverings may be placed directly over the windows except for the blinds or drapes provided. Aluminum foil, cardboard, tape, newspaper, computer paper, garbage bags, contact paper, posters, flags, etc. may not be used to cover windows.
- No object should be thrown, released or dropped from windows.
- Do not remove window screens.
- Windows should be closed when residents are not in the room or during harsh weather conditions. Residents are responsible for damage to the room or personal property caused by an open window (e.g., pipes freezing). The damage and cleaning costs may not necessarily be limited to a single room, hallway or floor.
- Do not hang or place anything on windowsills or ledges.

### Your Keys and NIU OneCard

Do not:

- Give possession of your room key to another person.
- Give possession of your NIU OneCard to another person.
- Have possession of a residence hall room key or NIU OneCard not issued to you by the university.
- Allow your room key or NIU OneCard to be duplicated or modified.
- Use a key or NIU OneCard to gain entry to a floor/building other than your current building or residence.

Additional information can be found in the Safety and Security section of the Housing Handbook. It is available online at [go.niu.edu/housinghandbook](http://go.niu.edu/housinghandbook).

### Safety Considerations Used in the Maintenance of DeKalb Campus Facilities

Facilities and landscaping are maintained in a manner that minimizes hazardous conditions. NIU Police officers regularly patrol campus and report unsafe or hazardous physical conditions to be addressed by Facilities Management and Campus Services. Campus lighting typically meets or exceeds the industry standard for pedestrian walkways, and parking lots are well-lit and patrolled routinely by the NIU Police officers.

The university also maintains numerous safety committees that evaluate and address reported unsafe or hazardous conditions throughout campus. The Department of Environmental Health and Safety is often consulted by the safety committees and utilized during capital improvements to the university to ensure the health and safety of individuals are a priority.

Though our police officers and grounds and facilities employees work diligently to keep our campus safe, it is helpful when other members of the university community report concerns such as inoperable lights, areas where additional lighting is needed or areas where shrubbery is overgrown and blocking sight lines. These concerns can be reported to Facilities Management and Campus Services at [workorder@niu.edu](mailto:workorder@niu.edu) or 815-753-1741. More information is available at [go.niu.edu/report-concerns](http://go.niu.edu/report-concerns).



## Lorado Taft Field Campus

The NIU Lorado Taft Field Campus is located near Oregon, Illinois. It is a 141-acre campus consisting of wooded areas, open fields and ravines. There are numerous buildings on the campus including three housing facilities. The campus is often used for outdoor education activities, conferences, meetings and retreats.

The NIU Lorado Taft Field Campus is open for registered events and programming. All buildings remain locked unless they are being utilized, in which case they remain open and accessible for the timeframe they are being used. Access to the buildings is controlled by key.

Buildings and grounds staff monitor the campus during business hours. When a group is utilizing the campus, a manager on duty remains on site for the duration of the group's stay in the event of an emergency.

Facilities and landscaping are maintained in a manner that minimizes hazardous conditions. Lorado Taft maintains a safety committee, and all staff can report safety concerns related to the maintenance of the facilities such as inoperable lights and fallen trees or limbs. These concerns can be reported to Facilities Management and Campus Services at [workorder@niu.edu](mailto:workorder@niu.edu) or 815-753-1741. More information is available at [go.niu.edu/report-concerns](https://go.niu.edu/report-concerns).

Security and safety audits are also conducted by the NIU Police as well as the Department of Environmental Health and Safety. While the NIU Police maintains primary law enforcement jurisdiction, Ogle County Sheriff's Office, the local law enforcement agency where the education center is located, will generally be the first responders should an emergency occur. Ogle County Sheriff's Office can be contacted at 815-732-1101.

## Naperville Campus

The NIU Naperville Campus consists of one building and offers academic programs to students and the community, conference and event management, and leased space. The building is generally open during business hours (7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday; and 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday). Hours may vary at different times of the year or due to special events or classes.

Access to the building after normal business hours

is controlled by key fobs or programmed door locks. Operations staff monitor the building during business hours and there are also security cameras throughout the building.

The facility and landscaping are maintained in a manner that minimizes hazardous conditions. All staff can report safety concerns related to the maintenance of the facility to Facilities Management and Campus Services at [workorder@niu.edu](mailto:workorder@niu.edu) or 815-753-1741. More information is available at [go.niu.edu/report-concerns](https://go.niu.edu/report-concerns).

Security and safety audits are also conducted by the NIU Police as well as the Department of Environmental Health and Safety. While the NIU Police maintains primary law enforcement jurisdiction, Naperville Police, the local law enforcement agency where the education center is located, will generally be the first responders should an emergency occur. Naperville Police can be contacted at 630-420-6666.

## Rockford Campus

The NIU Rockford Campus consists of one building and offers academic programs to students and the community, conference and event management, and leased space. The building is generally open during business hours (7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday). Hours may vary at different times of the year or due to special events or classes.

Access to the building after normal business hours is controlled by key fobs. Operations staff monitor the building during business hours.

The facility and landscaping are maintained in a manner that minimizes hazardous conditions. All staff can report safety concerns related to the maintenance of the facility to Facilities Management and Campus Services at [workorder@niu.edu](mailto:workorder@niu.edu) or 815-753-1741. More information is available at [go.niu.edu/report-concerns](https://go.niu.edu/report-concerns).

Security and safety audits are also conducted by the NIU Police as well as the Department of Environmental Health and Safety. While the NIU Police maintains primary law enforcement jurisdiction, Rockford Police, the local law enforcement agency where the education center is located, will generally be the first responders should an emergency occur. Rockford Police can be contacted at 815-966-2900.



# How to Report a Crime or Emergency

Campus safety depends upon the prompt reporting of criminal actions and other emergencies occurring on or within NIU's Clery geography. NIU encourages all members of the NIU community to report all crimes and

emergencies occurring on campus to the NIU Police.

Below is a list of different ways an individual may report a crime occurring at one of NIU's campuses.

## Reporting to Police Agencies

Individuals are encouraged to report all crimes accurately and promptly to the NIU Police or the appropriate police agency, including when the victim elects to, or is unable to, make such a report. A report to a police agency related to one of NIU's campuses may be made using one of the following options:

### DeKalb Campus

Emergency	911
Nonemergency	Phone: 815-753-1212
	Email: niupd@niu.edu
	In person: 395 Wirtz Drive, DeKalb, Illinois
	Online: NIU Safe App

### DeKalb Off-campus

Emergency	911
Nonemergency	
DeKalb Police	815-748-8400
DeKalb County	
Sheriff's Office	815-895-2155

### Lorado Taft

Emergency	911
Nonemergency	
NIU Police	815-753-1212
Ogle County Sheriff's Office	815-732-1101

### Naperville Campus

Emergency	911
Nonemergency	
NIU Police	815-753-1212
Naperville Police	630-420-6666

### Rockford Campus

Emergency	911
Nonemergency	
NIU Police	815-753-1212
Rockford Police	815-966-2900

NIU Police are trained to receive, document and investigate all crimes reported. An officer will work with individuals reporting a crime to obtain information and evidence, identify potential witnesses and conduct a thorough investigation. When appropriate, crime suspects may be adjudicated through the criminal justice and/or university system.

Reports made to the NIU Police are also evaluated by the NIU Police for inclusion in the daily crime log and to determine if a timely warning or emergency notification should be issued to the campus community.

The director of Clery compliance reviews all reports made to the NIU Police for inclusion in the annual crime statistics.

## Reporting to Campus Security Authorities

Individuals may also report crimes that occurred on or within NIU's Clery geography to campus security authorities (CSAs). Some examples of CSAs at NIU include:

- Leadership within the Division of Student Affairs.
- College deans and department chairs.
- Housing and residential services staff (including community advisors, hall directors and desk assistants).
- Athletics department staff (including coaches and athletic trainers).
- Directors of diversity and cultural resource centers.
- Title IX coordinator, deputy Title IX coordinators and investigators.
- Student Conduct Office.
- Faculty and staff advisors to student organizations.
- NIU Department of Police and Public Safety.

To make a report to a CSA, an individual should inform the CSA of pertinent information related to the crime, such as where it occurred, when it occurred, who was involved, and what happened.

After a crime report is made to a CSA, the CSA is required to report it to the university through the procedures outlined in the Clery Act Compliance Policy. The NIU Police evaluate all CSA crime reports for inclusion in the daily crime log and to determine if a timely warning or emergency notification should be issued to the campus community. The NIU Police will respond to and investigate a CSA crime report based on the severity of the reported crime, or if there is an indication that the victim wants police assistance.

The director of Clery compliance reviews all CSA crime reports for inclusion in the annual crime statistics.

## Reporting Confidentially

If an individual wants to report a crime on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in the annual disclosure of crime statistics, but does not want to pursue action with the university and/or criminal justice system, they may contact NIU's Confidential Advisor within the Center for Student Assistance, Peters Campus Life Building 150, 815-753-8300. When a crime is reported to the Confidential Advisor, the NIU Police are not notified and, therefore, will not investigate the matter unless they receive a report via a nonconfidential reporting process.

Crime reports can also be filed anonymously with the NIU Police by calling the NIU Police TipLine at 815-753-TIPS (8477) or by completing the TipLine Confidential Online

Reporting Form at [go.niu.edu/tipline](https://go.niu.edu/tipline). Anonymous crime reports are investigated to the extent possible by the NIU Police so long as it is within their jurisdiction. They are also reviewed for inclusion in the daily crime log and to determine if a timely warning or emergency notification should be issued to the campus community. The director of Clery compliance also reviews anonymous reports for inclusion in the annual crime statistics.

Pastoral and professional counselors are encouraged to inform persons they are counseling of procedures to report crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in the annual crime statistics.





# NIU Safety Notifications

Students and employees who provide their mobile phone number in MYNIU ([myniu.niu.edu](https://myniu.niu.edu)) are automatically registered to receive notifications via text messages.

The NIU Police provides three types of safety notifications to the campus community which are intended to keep students and employees informed about threats to their safety and health in a manner that allows them to protect themselves

and take appropriate precautions. These safety notifications include:

1. Emergency Notifications.
2. Timely Warnings.
3. Community Awareness Bulletins.

## Emergency Notifications

The NIU Police shall issue immediately Emergency Notifications (referred to as “NIU Alerts” at the university), upon confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees occurring on the campus. Examples of significant emergencies or dangerous situations include, but are not limited to:

1. Active threat.
2. Hazardous materials release.
3. Fire.
4. Public health emergency.
5. Severe weather that would directly impact one of NIU’s campuses.

The following factors shall be considered when evaluating whether to issue an Emergency Notification:

1. The nature of the significant emergency or dangerous situation involved.
2. Confirmation of the significant emergency or dangerous situation. Confirmation may be through emergency personnel on scene or information provided by a firsthand witness.
3. Whether the significant emergency or dangerous situation is an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees. In evaluating this, it should be determined if the emergency or situation is currently occurring on or imminently threatening one of NIU’s campuses.

NIU students can register up to two additional contacts to receive Emergency Notifications via MyNIU ([myniu.niu.edu](https://myniu.niu.edu)).

The NIU Police will take into account the safety of the community and, without delay, determine the content of the notification and initiate the notification system, unless issuing a notification will, in the professional judgment of responsible

authorities, compromise efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to or otherwise mitigate the emergency.

The following procedures for initiating an Emergency Notification shall be followed:

1. An Emergency Notification may be initiated by any of the following position ranks within the NIU Police: Sergeant, Commander/Lieutenant, Deputy Chief, Chief of Police.
2. Once it has been determined that an Emergency Notification must be initiated, the content of the notification shall be drafted based on the specific circumstances of the significant emergency or dangerous situation. The content shall include pertinent information, such as the nature and location of the emergency or situation, so the campus community may take appropriate precautions. The content shall be drafted by the NIU Police Dispatch Center. There are available templates in the NIU Emergency Notifications Reference Guide.
3. Based on the specific circumstances, it shall be determined if the entire campus community or only a limited segment shall be notified. Generally, Emergency Notifications will not be limited to a certain segment of the campus community, however, there may be some circumstances where it is limited to the location of the significant emergency or dangerous situation on campus.
4. After the content of the Emergency Notification has been prepared, the NIU Police Dispatch Center shall send the Emergency Notification via the approved modes of communication.

Emergency Notifications may be delivered by one or more of the following modes of communication:

1. Text message and/or phone call to students and employees.
2. Message broadcast via fire panels/loudspeakers in campus buildings.
3. Push notification via NIU Safe app.
4. Message on the NIU home page.
5. Email sent to all niu.edu email addresses.
6. Posts to NIU Police and Public Safety social media pages.
7. Face-to-face communication.

Institutional Communications will post the Emergency Notification on the NIU Police Current Safety Notifications webpage.

The NIU Police shall also coordinate with Institutional Communications to determine if information pertaining to the Emergency Notification should be disseminated to the larger community. Such dissemination may occur through local news media, NIU social media posts, and/or NIU’s home page.

Following the issuance of an Emergency Notification, the NIU Chief of Police, or designee, will determine if additional notifications should be provided with updates on the significant emergency or dangerous situation. Follow-up information will be distributed using some or all of the identified communication systems.

## Timely Warnings

The NIU Police shall issue Timely Warnings (referred to as “Safety Warnings” at the university), for all Clery Act crimes that occur on NIU’s Clery geography that are:

1. Reported to local police agencies or NIU campus security authorities; and
2. Considered by the university to represent a serious or continuing threat to students and employees.

The decision to issue a Timely Warning will be determined on a case-by-case basis. A Timely Warning Decision Matrix is completed for all Clery Act crimes that occur on NIU’s Clery geography to evaluate whether there is a serious or continuing threat to students and employees. The Timely Warning shall be sent as soon as information is available. The reported information may not have been investigated or confirmed at the time the Timely Warning is issued.

A Timely Warning will not be sent if:

1. The crime was reported to a pastoral or professional counselor.
2. An Emergency Notification was sent based on the same circumstances.

The content of the Timely Warning will contain sufficient information for the campus community to understand the continuing risk involved so they may take appropriate steps to protect themselves from becoming victims.

Information may include but is not limited to:

1. Date, time, location, and type of crime.
2. Activities which may have contributed to the situation.
3. Information that promotes safety and allows individuals to protect themselves.

4. Suspect description(s) when deemed appropriate and if there is sufficient detail.
5. Contact information to assist in the investigation or to seek additional advice and/or guidance.
6. Current status.

Timely Warnings shall withhold as confidential the names and other identifying information of victims, as defined in section 40002(a)(2) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925(a)(20)).

Timely Warnings may be delivered by one or more of the following modes of communication:

1. Push notification via NIU Safe app.
2. Email sent to all niu.edu email addresses.
3. Posts to NIU Police and Public Safety social media pages.

Institutional Communications will post the Timely Warning on the NIU Police Current Safety Notifications webpage.

Following the issuance of any Timely Warning, the NIU Chief of Police, or designee, in collaboration with Institutional Communications will determine if additional notifications should be provided with updates related to the Clery crime.

## Community Awareness Bulletins

The NIU Chief of Police, or designee, may issue Community Awareness Bulletins to the NIU campus community for crimes and other incidents that may impact the NIU campuses that do not otherwise meet the requirements for a Timely Warning or Emergency Notification.

Community Awareness Bulletins are not required by law. The decision to issue a Community Awareness is at the discretion of the NIU Chief of Police, or designee.

The content of the Community Awareness Bulletin may vary depending on the nature of the public safety information being shared.

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# Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures

As required by state and federal law, Northern Illinois University has a comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan for each of its campuses that details immediate response and evacuation procedures. The NIU Police has the responsibility of responding to and summoning the necessary resources to mitigate, investigate and document any situation that may constitute an emergency or dangerous situation. In addition, the NIU Police has a responsibility to respond to such incidents to determine if the situation does in fact pose a threat to the health and safety of the campus community.

The NIU Police officers and supervisors have received training in Incident Command and the National Incident Management System. When a serious incident occurs on campus that causes an immediate threat to the campus community, the first responders to the scene will be the local law enforcement agency where the campus is located. The first responders to the scene on the DeKalb Campus will typically be members of the NIU Police with assistance as needed from other local first responders such as the DeKalb Police Department, DeKalb Fire Department, Sycamore Police Department, Sycamore Fire Department, Illinois State Police and DeKalb County



Sheriff's Office. These departments will typically respond and work together to manage the incident. Depending on the size, scale and seriousness of the incident, other university departments and other local, state or federal agencies could be involved in confirming and responding to the incident.

The NIU Police issues Emergency Notifications to the campus community upon confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees occurring on the campus. (See Page 13 for more information on Emergency Notifications.)

The NIU Police shall test the university's emergency response and evacuation procedures on at least an annual

basis. The test(s) are scheduled and may be announced or unannounced. An actual emergency situation or false emergency alarm does not serve as a test. The test(s) are documented, including a description of the exercises, the date, time and whether it was announced or unannounced. The test(s) are designed for assessment and evaluation of the emergency response and evacuation procedures. Upon completion of the test(s), an After-Action Report is written by the NIU Police.

The campus publicizes an Emergency Response Guide, which provides a summary of the emergency response and evacuation procedures, via email at least once each calendar year in conjunction with a test. The Emergency Response Guide is also available on the NIU Police website at [niu.edu/emergency-response-guide](http://niu.edu/emergency-response-guide).

## Shelter-in-Place Procedures

### What it Means to "Shelter-in-Place"

If an incident occurs and the buildings or areas around you become unstable, or if the air outdoors becomes dangerous due to toxic or irritating substances, it is usually safer to stay indoors because leaving the area may expose you to that danger. Thus, to "shelter-in-place" means to make a shelter of the building that you are in, and with a few adjustments this location can be made even safer and more comfortable until it is safe to go outside.

### Basic "Shelter-in-Place" Guidance

If an incident occurs and the building you are in is not damaged, stay inside in an interior room until you are told it is safe to come out. If your building is damaged, follow the evacuation procedures for your building (close your door, proceed to the nearest exit and use the stairs instead of the elevators). Once you have evacuated, seek shelter at the nearest university building quickly. If police or fire department personnel are on the scene, follow their directions.

### How You Will Know to "Shelter-in-Place"

A shelter-in-place notification may come from several sources: NIU Police, Housing and Residential Services, other university employees or other authorities utilizing the university's emergency communications tools.

### How to "Shelter-in-Place"

No matter where you are, the basic steps of shelter-in-place will generally remain the same. Should the need ever arise, follow these steps, unless instructed otherwise by local emergency personnel:

1. If you are inside, stay where you are. Collect any emergency shelter-in-place supplies and a telephone to be used in case of emergency. If you are outdoors, proceed into the closest building quickly or follow instructions from emergency personnel on the scene.

2. Locate a room to shelter inside. It should be:
  - An interior room.
  - Above ground level.
  - Without windows or with the least number of windows. If there is a large group of people inside a particular building, several rooms may be necessary.
3. Shut and lock all windows (for a tighter seal) and close exterior doors.
4. Turn off air conditioners, heaters and fans.
5. Close vents to ventilation systems as you are able. (University staff will turn off the ventilation as quickly as possible.)
6. Make a list of the people with you and ask someone (hall staff, faculty or other staff) to call the list into NIU Police so they know where you are sheltering. If only students are present, one of the students should call in the list.
7. Turn on a radio or TV and listen for further instructions.

At the sound of a fire alarm or if you are instructed to evacuate, leave the area immediately and proceed to the nearest exit and leave the building. If you are the first to recognize a fire situation, activate the alarm, evacuate to a safe location using the nearest exit and notify NIU Police at 815-753-1212 or dial 911.

1. Remain calm.
2. Do **not** use elevators. Use the stairs.
3. Assist the physically impaired. If they are unable to exit without using an elevator, secure a safe location near a stairwell and immediately inform NIU Police or the responding fire department of the individual's location.
4. Proceed to a clear area at least 150 feet from the building. Keep all walkways clear for emergency vehicles.
5. Make sure all personnel are out of the building.
6. Do not re-enter the building.

# Missing Student Notification Policy and Procedures

If a member of the university community has reason to believe that a student is missing they shall immediately notify the NIU Police by dialing 911 or calling the non-emergency telephone number at 815-753-1212.

A student may be classified as missing if a student's absence is contrary to pattern of behavior and/or unusual circumstances may have caused their absence. Such circumstance could include, but not limited to, a report or suspicion that the student is a victim of foul play, has expressed suicidal thoughts, has concerns about drug and/or alcohol use, is in a life-threatening situation, or has been with persons who may endanger the student's welfare.

After the report of a missing student is made, the NIU Police will investigate the report and, if the facts determine that student is missing, the NIU Police will generate a report by entering relevant student data into an appropriate database, and notify additional law enforcement agencies within 24 hours after determination that a student is missing, if necessary.

Within 24 hours after determination that a student is missing, the NIU Police shall notify the student's missing person contact(s). Every student has the ability to identify missing person contact(s) via MyNIU. The missing person contact(s) does not have to be associated with the university. Missing person contact(s) information will be registered confidentially and will be accessible only to authorized campus officials. It may not be disclosed except to law enforcement personnel in furtherance of a missing person investigation.

If the missing student is under the age of 18 and is not an emancipated individual, the university must notify the student's parent or legal guardian, in addition to any other contact person, within 24 hours of the determination that the student is missing. Regardless of whether the student has identified a contact person designated by the student, is above the age of 18, or is an emancipated minor, the NIU Police will notify the appropriate local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction in the area the student went missing within 24 hours of the determination that the student is missing unless the local law enforcement agency was the entity that made the determination that the student is missing.

## Sex Offender Registration

The federal Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act, enacted October 28, 2000, went into effect October 28, 2002. The law requires institutions of higher education to issue a statement advising the campus community where law enforcement agency information provided by the State concerning registered sex offenders may be obtained. It also requires sex offenders already required to register in a state to provide notice, as required, under state law, of each institution of higher education in that state at which a person is employed, carries on a vocation, volunteers services or is a student. The Illinois Sex Offender Registration Act (730 ILCS 150/3) also requires a sex offender or sexual predator who is employed at or attends an institution of higher education to register (within three days of beginning school or employment) with the chief of police in the municipality in which they are employed or attend an institution of higher education; or the sheriff in the county in which they are employed or attend an institution of higher education located in an unincorporated area, or if incorporated, no police chief exists; and with the public safety or security director of the institution of higher education which they are employed or attend.

In Illinois, the Illinois State Police maintain a statewide sex offender database identifying persons who must register as sex offenders. The NIU campus community may obtain information regarding sex offenders in our area using this sex offender database, which can be accessed at [isp.illinois.gov/sor](http://isp.illinois.gov/sor).

If you have questions about sex offender registration, please contact the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety at 815-753-1212.





## NIU Policies Pertaining to Alcohol and Illegal Drugs

As an institution of higher education, NIU is dedicated to maintaining an environment in which students can achieve their academic, personal, and professional ambitions. The possession or use of illegal drugs, as well as the use or abuse of legal drugs such as alcohol, seriously undermines the goals of the university, as well as the goals of our students and staff. To mitigate the impact of drug and narcotic use, the university will enforce and follow all relevant local, state, and federal laws, as well as university policies, including:

- The unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and staff on NIU property, or at NIU-related events.

NIU will impose disciplinary sanctions on students and staff consistent with local, state, and federal laws. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, academic suspensions or expulsions for students, and termination of employment for staff members. When appropriate, NIU will also refer cases for criminal prosecution; or refer students and staff members to a rehabilitation program as a condition of an administrative sanction.

This policy will be reviewed no less than on a biennial basis in an effort to determine the effectiveness of the

policy and implement any needed changes; and to ensure that the sanctions imposed for violations of this policy are consistently and fairly enforced.

NIU encourages students and staff to voluntarily obtain assistance for dependency or abuse problems before such conduct results in personal, professional, or educational harm. Assistance for students and staff of NIU is available from a wide range of resources, some of which are listed below. NIU does not endorse any particular off-campus provider, and invites individuals seeking assistance to utilize the internet for additional providers.

NIU will impose disciplinary sanctions consistent with local, state, and federal laws upon any student or employee who is found to be in violation of laws or policies relating to the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of drugs and alcohol. Common sanctions imposed on students or employees for violations of this policy can be found below. NIU may use, but is not limited to, any one or combination of the below listed sanctions.

For employees, such sanctions may include, without limitation, the following:

- Referral to an educational or rehabilitation program (employees who are convicted of drug or alcohol-related offenses can be required to demonstrate satisfactory completion of such a program).
- Referral for fitness for duty evaluation.
- Employee discipline (including suspension or dismissal) pursuant to provisions of the NIU board of trustees regulations, NIU constitution and by-laws, NIU personnel policies, or those of the State Universities Civil Service System.
- Referral for criminal prosecution.
- Additional procedures pertain to employees in designated positions subject to the Federal Department of Transportation Alcohol and Drug Testing Program regulations.

Service	Phone Number
All Emergencies	911
NIU Department of Police and Public Safety	
Nonemergency	815-753-1212
DeKalb Police Department	815-748-8400
NIU Employee Well-being (For Staff)	815-753-9191
Counseling and Consultation Services (For Students)	815-753-1206
Northwestern Medicine Behavioral Health Services (Off-Campus Resource)	815-748-8334
Alcoholics Anonymous	800-452-7990



In addition to the measures outlined above, as a condition of employment, an employee directly engaged in work pursuant to a federal grant or contract must abide by the terms of this policy, and must notify the university no later than five days after any criminal drug statute conviction, if the criminal act upon which the conviction is based occurred upon property owned, operated, or controlled by the university. Each employee engaged in the performance of a federal grant or contract shall be given a copy of this policy notification. The university will notify the granting or contracting agency within ten days after receiving notice from a covered employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such convictions.

Students are subject to referral for action under the Student Code of Conduct ([go.niu.edu/policy-code-of-conduct](https://go.niu.edu/policy-code-of-conduct)) and, without limitation, may include the following sanctions:

- Expulsion, suspension, or probation.
- Deferred Sanction.
- Formal Warning.
- Referral to Counseling Education Program (e.g., Counseling and Consultation Services for a Substance Use Assessment and/or Substance Use Education and Intervention Program).
- Referral for action under policies relating to residence halls (e.g., Disciplinary Removal from, Loss of Eligibility for, and/or Loss of Visitation Privileges in University-Owned/Operated Housing).
- Loss of Eligibility for University Privileges, participation in University Intercollegiate competitions or other social activities.
- Educational Sanction.
- Community Service and/or Community Reparations.
- Student Conduct Fine.
- Withholding Degree.
- Parental Notification.
- Restitution.

If a student is found in violation of the Student Code of Conduct, the Office of Student Conduct shall notify the student of the hearing decision, including the finding(s) and sanction(s), within two business days after the decision is reached.

Pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, the Office of Student Conduct may send written notice to the parents and/or legal guardians of a student under twenty-one years of age who is found to be responsible for violating any state or local laws pertaining to possession, consumption, or inappropriate sale of any alcoholic beverages or controlled substances.

It is also a violation of NIU's policies for anyone to consume or possess alcohol in any public or private area

of campus without prior university approval. Groups or organizations violating alcohol/substance policies or laws may be subject to sanctions by the university. Certain locations on campus are approved to serve alcohol, for example at athletic or catered events. Prohibitions on underage drinking still apply at all such events.

NIU's complete Drug-Free Schools Communities Act Policy is available at [go.niu.edu/policy-drug-free](https://go.niu.edu/policy-drug-free). NIU's Student Code of Conduct is available at [go.niu.edu/policy-code-of-conduct](https://go.niu.edu/policy-code-of-conduct).

Information about NIU's compliance with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, including the descriptions of drug and alcohol education and intervention programs, and NIU's Biennial Review can be found at [go.niu.edu/biennial-academic-review](https://go.niu.edu/biennial-academic-review).

## If You Need Help

The university encourages students and employees who may have a problem with the use of drugs or alcohol to seek professional advice and treatment. The university provides or can assist in arranging education, assessment, counseling, intervention, treatment, rehabilitation and aftercare. Some of these services may be without charge or the cost of others may be partially paid by student or employee health insurance programs.

### Students

Counseling and Consultation Services  
815-753-1206  
[go.niu.edu/counseling](https://go.niu.edu/counseling)

### Faculty and Staff

Employee Well-being  
815-753-9191  
[niu.edu/employee-assistance](https://niu.edu/employee-assistance)

### Community Resources

Alcoholics Anonymous  
800-452-7990  
[aa-nia.org](https://aa-nia.org)

Northwestern Medicine Behavioral Health Services  
815-748-8334  
[nm.org/locations/sycamore-behavioral-health](https://nm.org/locations/sycamore-behavioral-health)

# Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking

Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking are all prohibited by the university's Sexual Misconduct Policy and Complainant Procedures ("Sexual Misconduct Policy"), and may also be crimes in Illinois. This section of the ASR provides the definitions of these offenses and other relevant terms, university procedures when one of these offenses is reported, and university programs designed to prevent the occurrence of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.

## University's Sexual Misconduct Policy and Complaint Procedures

The university does not discriminate on the basis of sex or gender in any phase of its educational or employment programs. The university's Sexual Misconduct Policy prohibits all students, faculty and staff from engaging in sexual misconduct. This prohibition is consistent with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq. ("Title IX"), which provides in part:

*No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.*

The Sexual Misconduct Policy is consistent with Title IX and its implementing regulations, along with applicable state law, to include the Illinois Preventing Sexual Violence in Higher Education Act, 110 ILCS 155/1 et seq., and the Illinois State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, 5 ILCS 430/1-5 et seq., to the extent that state law does not conflict with federal laws and regulations. To review the complete Sexual Misconduct Policy, please visit [go.niu.edu/sexual-misconduct-policy](http://go.niu.edu/sexual-misconduct-policy).

Below are the university's definitions of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking and consent, as contained within the *Sexual Misconduct Policy*:

**Dating Violence:** Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the complainant. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the length of the relationship, type of relationship, and frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. For the purposes of this definition —

- Dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse.
- Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

**Domestic Violence:** A felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed —

- By a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the complainant;
- By a person with whom the complainant shares a child in common;
- By a person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with, the complainant as a former or current spouse or intimate partner;
- By a person similarly situated to a spouse of the complainant under the domestic or family violence laws of the State of Illinois;
- By any other person against an adult or youth complainant who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the State of Illinois.

**Sexual Assault:** Any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the complainant, including instances where the complainant is incapable of giving consent. Sexual assault also includes the following:

**Rape** — Penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the complainant.

**Sodomy**—Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will (non-consensually) or not forcibly or against the person's will in instances where the complainant is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

**Sexual Assault With An Object**—To use an object or instrument to penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will (non-consensually) or not forcibly or against the person's will in instances where the complainant is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

**Fondling** — The touching of the private body parts of another person (buttocks, anus, groin, breasts) for the purpose of sexual gratification, forcibly and/or against that person's will (non-consensually) or not forcibly or against the person's will in instances where the complainant is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

**Incest** — Nonforcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by Illinois law.

**Statutory Rape** — Nonforcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent of 17.

**Stalking:** Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person on the basis of their sex that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

Course of conduct means two or more acts in which a person directly, indirectly or through third parties: follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, communicates to or about a person, or interferes with another's personal property. Substantial emotion distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

**Consent:** Clear, unambiguous, informed, voluntary and freely given agreement between all participants to knowingly engage in sexual activity. Consent must demonstrate that all individuals understand, are aware of and agree to the "who" (same partners), "what" (same acts), "where" (same location), "when" (same time), and "how" (the same way and under the same conditions) of the sexual activity.

Consent must be mutually understandable by words or actions (i.e., a reasonable person would consider the words or actions to indicate mutual agreement to engage in the sexual activity). Consent is active and cannot be based on the absence of an affirmative statement or act of denial. Silence or lack of resistance does not constitute consent.

Consent cannot be given when a person is incapacitated (including but not limited to a person or someone with a physical or mental disability and/or level of intoxication that causes impairment resulting in incapacitation), asleep, or unconscious; and the respondent knew or should have known that the person was incapacitated, asleep, or unconscious.

Consent cannot be the result of force (violence, physical restraint or the presence of a weapon); threats (indications of intent to harm, whether direct or indirect); intimidation (extortion, menacing behavior, bullying); coercion (undue pressure); or fraud (misrepresentation or material omission about oneself or the situation in order to gain permission for sexual or intimate activity).

Seeking and receiving consent is the responsibility of the person(s) initiating the sexual act(s) regardless of whether the person initiating the act(s) is under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.

Consent to any sexual act or prior consensual sexual activity between or with any party does not in and of itself constitute consent to any other sexual act. Consent to engage in sexual activity with one person does not constitute consent to engage in sexual activity with another.

Consent may be initially given but withdrawn at any time. Consent cannot be inferred by an individual's manner of dress, the giving or acceptance of gifts, the extension or acceptance of an invitation to go to a private room or location, or going on a date.

Consent must be given to engage in the act of sexual activity, and consent must also be given to any person

who records or photographs any aspect of the sexual activity as well as third parties who wish to view the sexual activity either in person or via any electronic equipment, methods or devices.

The definition of consent does not vary based upon a participant's sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

## Relevant Illinois Criminal Law Definitions

Many of the acts prohibited by university policy are also crimes under Illinois state law. Excerpted below are relevant parts of the Illinois criminal laws related to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Also included is the statutory definition of consent. Because laws are always changing, and because only excerpts of the laws are included below, individuals should read the full language of these laws on the Illinois General Assembly webpage found at <https://www.ilga.gov> or consult with an attorney.

### Definitions Related to Consent

Pursuant to 720 ILCS 5/11-0.1, "consent" means a freely given agreement to the act of sexual penetration or sexual conduct in question. Lack of verbal or physical resistance or submission by the victim resulting from the use of force or threat of force by the accused shall not constitute consent. The manner of dress of the victim at the time of the offense shall not constitute consent.

"Unable to give knowing consent" includes when the accused administers any intoxicating or anesthetic substance, or any controlled substance causing the victim to become unconscious of the nature of the act and this condition was known, or reasonably should have been known by the accused. As used in this paragraph, "unconscious of the nature of the act" means incapable of resisting because the victim meets any one of the following conditions:

- (1) Was unconscious or asleep;
- (2) Was not aware, knowing, perceiving, or cognizant that the act occurred;
- (3) Was not aware, knowing, perceiving, or cognizant of the essential characteristics of the act due to the perpetrator's fraud in fact; or
- (4) Was not aware, knowing, perceiving, or cognizant of the essential characteristics of the act due to the perpetrator's fraudulent representation that the sexual penetration served a professional purpose when it served no professional purpose.

Additionally, pursuant to 720 ILCS 5/11-1.70,

- a) It shall be a defense to any offense under Section 11-1.20, 11-1.30, 11-1.40, 11-1.50, or 11-1.60 of this Code where force or threat of force is an element of the offense that the victim consented.
- b) It shall be a defense under subsection (b) and subsection (c) of Section 11.150 and subsection (d)



of Section 11-1.60 of this Code that the accused reasonably believe the person to be 17 years of age or over.

- c) A person who initially consents to sexual penetration or sexual conduct is not deemed to have consented to any sexual penetration or sexual conduct that occurs after he or she withdraws consent during the course of that sexual penetration or sexual conduct.

**Criminal Sexual Assault:** (720 ILCS 5/11-1.20) A person commits criminal sexual assault if that person commits an act of sexual penetration and: (1) uses force or threat of force; (2) knows that the victim is unable to understand the nature of the act or is unable to give knowing consent; (3) is a family member of the victim, and the victim is under 18 years of age; or (4) is 17 years of age or over and holds a position of trust, authority, or supervision in relation to the victim, and the victim is at least 13 years of age but under 18 years of age.

**Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault:** (720 ILCS 5/11-1.30) (a) A person commits aggravated criminal sexual assault if that person commits criminal sexual assault and any of the following aggravating circumstances exist during the commission of the offense or, for purposes of paragraph (7), occur as part of the same course of conduct as the commission of the offense:

- (1) the person displays, threatens to use, or uses a dangerous weapon, other than a firearm, or any other object fashioned or used in a manner that leads the victim, under the circumstances, reasonably to believe that the object is a dangerous weapon;
- (2) the person causes bodily harm to the victim, except as provided in paragraph (10);
- (3) the person acts in a manner that threatens or endangers the life of the victim or any other person;
- (4) the person commits the criminal sexual assault during the course of committing or attempting to commit any other felony;
- (5) the victim is 60 years of age or older;
- (6) the victim is a person with a physical disability;
- (7) the person delivers (by injection, inhalation, ingestion, transfer of possession, or any other means) any controlled substance to the victim without the victim's consent or by threat or deception for other than medical purposes;
- (8) the person is armed with a firearm;
- (9) the person personally discharges a firearm during the commission of the offense; or
- (10) the person personally discharges a firearm during the commission of the offense, and that discharge proximately causes great bodily harm, permanent disability, permanent disfigurement, or death to another person.

- (b) A person commits aggravated criminal sexual assault if that person is under 17 years of age and: (i) commits

an act of sexual penetration with a victim who is under 9 years of age; or (ii) commits an act of sexual penetration with a victim who is at least 9 years of age but under 13 years of age and the person uses force or threat of force to commit the act.

(c) A person commits aggravated criminal sexual assault if that person commits an act of sexual penetration with a victim who is a person with a severe or profound intellectual disability.

**Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault of a Child:** (720 ILCS 5/11-1.40) A person commits predatory criminal sexual assault of a child if that person is 17 years of age or older, and commits an act of contact, however slight, between the sex organ or anus of one person and the part of the body of another for the purpose of sexual gratification or arousal of the victim or the accused, or an act of sexual penetration, and: (1) the victim is under 13 years of age; or (2) the victim is under 13 years of age and that person: (A) is armed with a firearm; (B) personally discharges a firearm during the commission of the offense; (C) causes great bodily harm to the victim that: (i) results in permanent disability; or (ii) is life threatening; or (D) delivers (by injection, inhalation, ingestion, transfer of possession, or any other means) any controlled substance to the victim without the victim's consent or by threat or deception, for other than medical purposes.

**Criminal Sexual Abuse:** (720 ILCS 5/11-1.50) (a) A person commits criminal sexual abuse if that person: (1) commits an act of sexual conduct by the use of force or threat of force; or (2) commits an act of sexual conduct and knows that the victim is unable to understand the nature of the act or is unable to give knowing consent. (b) A person commits criminal sexual abuse if that person is under 17 years of age and commits an act of sexual penetration or sexual conduct with a victim who is at least 9 years of age but under 17 years of age. (c) A person commits criminal sexual abuse if that person commits an act of sexual penetration or sexual conduct with a victim who is at least 13 years of age but under 17 years of age and the person is less than 5 years older than the victim.

**Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse:** (720 ILCS 5/11-1.60) (a) A person commits aggravated criminal sexual abuse if that person commits criminal sexual abuse and any of the following aggravating circumstances exist (i) during the commission of the offense or (ii) for purposes of paragraph (7), as part of the same course of conduct as the commission of the offense:

- (1) the person displays, threatens to use, or uses a dangerous weapon or any other object fashioned or used in a manner that leads the victim, under the circumstances, reasonably to believe that the object is a dangerous weapon;
- (2) the person causes bodily harm to the victim;
- (3) the victim is 60 years of age or older;
- (4) the victim is a person with a physical disability;
- (5) the person acts in a manner that threatens or

- endangers the life of the victim or any other person;
- (6) the person commits the criminal sexual abuse during the course of committing or attempting to commit any other felony; or
- (7) the person delivers (by injection, inhalation, ingestion, transfer of possession, or any other means) any controlled substance to the victim for other than medical purposes without the victim's consent or by threat or deception.

(b) A person commits aggravated criminal sexual abuse if that person commits an act of sexual conduct with a victim who is under 18 years of age and the person is a family member.

(c) A person commits aggravated criminal sexual abuse if:

- (1) that person is 17 years of age or over and: (i) commits an act of sexual conduct with a victim who is under 13 years of age; or (ii) commits an act of sexual conduct with a victim who is at least 13 years of age but under 17 years of age and the person uses force or threat of force to commit the act; or
- (2) that person is under 17 years of age and: (i) commits an act of sexual conduct with a victim who is under 9 years of age; or (ii) commits an act of sexual conduct with a victim who is at least 9 years of age but under 17 years of age and the person uses force or threat of force to commit the act.

(d) A person commits aggravated criminal sexual abuse if that person commits an act of sexual penetration or sexual conduct with a victim who is at least 13 years of age but under 17 years of age and the person is at least 5 years older than the victim.

(e) A person commits aggravated criminal sexual abuse if that person commits an act of sexual conduct with a victim who is a person with a severe or profound intellectual disability.

(f) A person commits aggravated criminal sexual abuse if that person commits an act of sexual conduct with a victim who is under 18 years of age and the person is 17 years of age or over and holds a position of trust, authority, or supervision in relation to the victim.

**Dating Violence:** The Illinois Criminal Code does not define this term.

**Domestic Violence:** (750 ILCS 60/103)

(1) "Abuse" means physical abuse, harassment, intimidation of a dependent, interference with personal liberty or willful deprivation but does not include reasonable direction of a minor child by a parent or person in loco parentis.

...

(3) "Domestic violence" means abuse as defined in paragraph (1).

...

(6) "Family or household members" includes spouses,

former spouses, parents, children, stepchildren and other persons related by blood or by present or prior marriage, persons who share or formerly shared a common dwelling, persons who have or allegedly have a child in common, persons who share or allegedly share a blood relationship through a child, persons who have or have had a dating or engagement relationship, persons with disabilities and their personal assistants, and caregivers as defined in Section 12-4.4a of the Criminal Code of 2012. For purposes of this paragraph, neither a casual acquaintanceship nor ordinary fraternization between 2 individuals in business or social contexts shall be deemed to constitute a dating relationship. In the case of a high-risk adult with disabilities, "family or household members" includes any person who has the responsibility for a high-risk adult as a result of a family relationship or who has assumed responsibility for all or a portion of the care of a high-risk adult with disabilities voluntarily, or by express or implied contract, or by court order.

(7) "Harassment" means knowing conduct which is not necessary to accomplish a purpose that is reasonable under the circumstances; would cause a reasonable person emotional distress; and does cause emotional distress to the petitioner. Unless the presumption is rebutted by a preponderance of the evidence, the following types of conduct shall be presumed to cause emotional distress:

- (i) creating a disturbance at petitioner's place of employment or school;
- (ii) repeatedly telephoning petitioner's place of employment, home or residence;
- (iii) repeatedly following petitioner about in a public place or places;
- (iv) repeatedly keeping petitioner under surveillance by remaining present outside his or her home, school, place of employment, vehicle or other place occupied by petitioner or by peering in petitioner's windows;
- (v) improperly concealing a minor child from petitioner, repeatedly threatening to improperly remove a minor child of petitioner's from the jurisdiction or from the physical care of petitioner, repeatedly threatening to conceal a minor child from petitioner, or making a single such threat following an actual or attempted improper removal or concealment, unless respondent was fleeing an incident or pattern of domestic violence; or
- (vi) threatening physical force, confinement or restraint on one or more occasions.

...

(9) "Interference with personal liberty" means committing or threatening physical abuse, harassment, intimidation or willful deprivation so as to compel another to engage in conduct from which she or he has a right to abstain or to refrain from conduct in which she or he has a right to engage.

(10) "Intimidation of a dependent" means subjecting

a person who is dependent because of age, health or disability to participation in or the witnessing of: physical force against another or physical confinement or restraint of another which constitutes physical abuse as defined in this Act, regardless of whether the abused person is a family or household member.

...

(14) “Physical abuse” includes sexual abuse and means any of the following:

(i) knowing or reckless use of physical force, confinement or restraint;

(ii) knowing, repeated and unnecessary sleep deprivation; or

(iii) knowing or reckless conduct which creates an immediate risk of physical harm.

(15) “Willful deprivation” means wilfully denying a person who because of age, health or disability requires medication, medical care, shelter, accessible shelter or services, food, therapeutic device, or other physical assistance, and thereby exposing that person to the risk of physical, mental or emotional harm, except with regard to medical care or treatment when the dependent person has expressed an intent to forgo such medical care or treatment. This paragraph does not create any new affirmative duty to provide support to dependent persons.

**Domestic Battery:** (720 ILCS 5/12-3.2) (a) A person commits domestic battery if he or she knowingly without legal justification by any means: (1) causes bodily harm to any family or household member; (2) makes physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature with any family or household member.

**Aggravated Domestic Battery:** (720 ILCS 5/12-3.3) (a) A person who, in committing a domestic battery, knowingly causes great bodily harm, or permanent disability or disfigurement commits aggravated domestic battery. (a-5) A person who, in committing a domestic battery, strangles another individual commits aggravated domestic battery. For the purposes of this subsection (a-5), “strangle” means intentionally impeding the normal breathing or circulation of the blood of an individual by applying pressure on the throat or neck of that individual or by blocking the nose or mouth of that individual.

**Stalking:** (720 ILCS 5/12-7.3) (a) A person commits stalking when he or she knowingly engages in a course of conduct directed at a specific person, and he or she knows or should know that this course of conduct would cause a reasonable person to: (1) fear for his or her safety or the safety of a third person; or (2) suffer other emotional distress. (a-3) A person commits stalking when he or she, knowingly and without lawful justification, on at least 2 separate occasions follows another person or places the person under surveillance or any combination thereof and: (1) at any time transmits

a threat of immediate or future bodily harm, sexual assault, confinement or restraint and the threat is directed towards that person or a family member of that person; or (2) places that person in reasonable apprehension of immediate or future bodily harm, sexual assault, confinement or restraint to or of that person or a family member of that person. (a-5) A person commits stalking when he or she has previously been convicted of stalking another person and knowingly and without lawful justification on one occasion: (1) follows that same person or places that same person under surveillance; and (2) transmits a threat of immediate or future bodily harm, sexual assault, confinement or restraint to that person or a family member of that person.

(a-7) A person commits stalking when he or she knowingly makes threats that are a part of a course of conduct and is aware of the threatening nature of his or her speech.

#### **Definitions — For purposes of Stalking:**

(1) “Course of conduct” means two or more acts, including but not limited to acts in which a defendant directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about, a person, engages in other non-consensual contact, or interferes with or damages a person’s property or pet. A course of conduct may include contact via electronic communications.

(2) “Electronic communication” means any transfer of signs, signals, writings, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photoelectric, or photo-optical system. “Electronic communication” includes transmissions by a computer through the Internet to another computer.

(3) “Emotional distress” means significant mental suffering, anxiety or alarm.

(4) “Family member” means a parent, grandparent, brother, sister, or child, whether by whole blood, half-blood, or adoption and includes a step-grandparent, step-parent, step-brother, step-sister or step-child. “Family member” also means any other person who regularly resides in the household, or who, within the prior 6 months, regularly resided in the household.

(5) “Follows another person” means (i) to move in relative proximity to a person as that person moves from place to place or (ii) to remain in relative proximity to a person who is stationary or whose movements are confined to a small area. “Follows another person” does not include a following within the residence of the defendant.

(6) “Non-consensual contact” means any contact with the victim that is initiated or continued without the victim’s consent, including but not limited to being in the physical presence of the victim; appearing within the sight of the victim; approaching or confronting the victim in a public



place or on private property; appearing at the workplace or residence of the victim; entering onto or remaining on property owned, leased, or occupied by the victim; or placing an object on, or delivering an object to, property owned, leased, or occupied by the victim.

(7) “Places a person under surveillance” means: (1) remaining present outside the person’s school, place of employment, vehicle, other place occupied by the person, or residence other than the residence of the defendant; or (2) placing an electronic tracking device on the person or the person’s property.

(8) “Reasonable person” means a person in the victim’s situation.

(9) “Transmits a threat” means a verbal or written threat or a threat implied by a pattern of conduct or a combination of verbal or written statements or conduct.

...

(d-10) A defendant who directed the actions of a third party to violate this Section, under the principles of accountability set forth in Article 5 of this Code, is guilty of violating this Section as if the same had been personally done by the defendant, without regard to the mental state of the third party acting at the direction of the defendant.

**Aggravated Stalking:** (720 ILCS 5/12-7.4) (a) A person commits aggravated stalking when he or she commits stalking and: (1) causes bodily harm to the victim; (2) confines or restrains the victim; or (3) violates a temporary restraining order, an order of protection, a stalking no contact order, a civil no contact order, or an injunction prohibiting the behavior described in subsection (b)(1) of Section 214 of the Illinois Domestic Violence Act of 1986. (a-1) A person commits aggravated stalking when he or she is required to register under the Sex Offender Registration Act or has been previously required to register under that Act and commits the offense of stalking when the victim of the stalking is also the victim of the offense for which the sex offender is required to register under the Sex Offender Registration Act or a family member of the victim.

...

(d) A defendant who directed the actions of a third party to violate this Section, under the principles of accountability set forth in Article 5 of this Code, is guilty of violating this Section as if the same had been personally done by the defendant, without regard to the mental state of the third party acting at the direction of the defendant.

**Cyberstalking:** (720 ILCS 5/12-7.5) (a) A person commits cyberstalking when he or she engages in a course of conduct using electronic communication directed at a specific person, and he or she knows or should know that would cause a reasonable person to: (1) fear for his or her

safety or the safety of a third person; or (2) suffer other emotional distress.

(a-3) A person commits cyberstalking when he or she, knowingly and without lawful justification, on at least 2 separate occasions, harasses another person through the use of electronic communication and: (1) at any time transmits a threat of immediate or future bodily harm, sexual assault, confinement, or restraint and the threat is directed towards that person or a family member of that person; or (2) places that person or a family member of that person in reasonable apprehension of immediate or future bodily harm, sexual assault, confinement, or restraint; or (3) at any time knowingly solicits the commission of an act by any person which would be a violation of this Code directed towards that person or a family member of that person.

(a-4) A person commits cyberstalking when he or she knowingly, surreptitiously, and without lawful justification, installs or otherwise places electronic monitoring software or spyware on an electronic communication device as a means to harass another person and: (1) at any time transmits a threat of immediate or future bodily harm, sexual assault, confinement, or restraint and the threat is directed towards that person or a family member of that person; (2) places that person or a family member of that person in reasonable apprehension of immediate or future bodily harm, sexual assault, confinement, or restraint; or (3) at any time knowingly solicits the commission of an act by any person which would be a violation of this Code directed towards that person or a family member of that person.

(a-5) A person commits cyberstalking when he or she, knowingly and without lawful justification, creates and maintains an Internet website or webpage which is accessible to one or more third parties for a period of at least 24 hours, and which contains statements harassing another person and: (1) which communicates a threat of immediate or future bodily harm, sexual assault, confinement, or restraint, where the threat is directed towards that person or a family member of that person, or (2) which places that person or a family member of that person in reasonable apprehension of immediate or future bodily harm, sexual assault, confinement, or restraint, or (3) which knowingly solicits the commission of an act by any person which would be a violation of this Code directed towards that person or a family member of that person.

#### **Definitions – For purposes of Cyberstalking:**

(1) “Course of conduct” means two or more acts, including but not limited to acts in which a defendant directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about, a person, engages in other non-consensual contact, or

interferes with or damages a person's property or pet. The incarceration in a penal institution of a person who commits the course of conduct is not a bar to prosecution under this Section.

(2) "Electronic communication" means any transfer of signs, signals, writings, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photoelectric, or photo-optical system. "Electronic communication" includes transmissions through an electronic device including, but not limited to, a telephone, cellular phone, computer, or pager, which communication includes, but is not limited to, e-mail, instant message, text message, or voice mail. (2.1) "Electronic communication device" means an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a wireless telephone, personal digital assistant, or a portable or mobile computer.

(2.1) "Electronic communication device" means an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a wireless telephone, personal digital assistant, or a portable or mobile computer.

(2.2) "Electronic monitoring software or spyware" means software or an application that surreptitiously tracks computer activity on a device and records and transmits the information to third parties with the intent to cause injury or harm. For the purposes of this paragraph (2.2), "intent to cause injury or harm" does not include activities carried out in furtherance of the prevention of fraud or crime or of protecting the security of networks, online services, applications, software, other computer programs, users, or electronic communication devices or similar devices.

(3) "Emotional distress" means significant mental suffering, anxiety or alarm.

(4) "Harass" means to engage in a knowing and willful course of conduct directed at a specific person that alarms, torments, or terrorizes that person.

(5) "Non-consensual contact" means any contact with the victim that is initiated or continued without the victim's consent, including but not limited to being in the physical presence of the victim; appearing within the sight of the victim; approaching or confronting the victim in a public place or on private property; appearing at the workplace or residence of the victim; entering onto or remaining on property owned, leased, or occupied by the victim; or placing an object on, or delivering an object to, property owned, leased, or occupied by the victim.

(6) "Reasonable person" means a person in the victim's circumstances, with the victim's knowledge of the defendant and the defendant's prior acts.

(7) "Third party" means any person other than the person violating these provisions and the person or persons towards whom the violator's actions are directed.

...

(e) A defendant who directed the actions of a third party to violate this Section, under the principles of accountability set forth in Article 5 of this Code, is guilty of violating this Section as if the same had been personally done by the defendant, without regard to the mental state of the third party acting at the direction of the defendant.

## Procedures to Follow if Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence or Stalking has Occurred

If a crime of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking has occurred, victims are encouraged to follow the below procedures.

### Get to a Safe Place

Get away from the alleged offender as soon as possible. A safe place might be a friend's house, a domestic violence or sexual assault shelter, or a police station. Call 911 to connect with local law enforcement agencies or medical professionals. Call 815-756-5228 or text 815-393-1995 to connect with **Safe Passage** ([safepassagedv.org](https://safepassagedv.org)), DeKalb County's Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Crisis Center.

### Talk to Someone You Trust

Talk to someone you trust for support. This may be a friend, loved one, neighbor, co-worker, mentor, religious or spiritual adviser. You may also speak confidentially to an advocate from **Safe Passage** (DeKalb County's Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Crisis Center) or NIU's Confidential Advisor. Call 815-753-8300 or email [studentassistance@niu.edu](mailto:studentassistance@niu.edu) to connect with **NIU's Confidential Advisor** ([niu.edu/counseling](https://niu.edu/counseling)).

### Preserve Physical Evidence

It is important to preserve evidence that may assist in proving that the offense occurred or is occurring. Physical evidence may also be helpful in obtaining a protection order.

If you have been sexually assaulted, it is advisable not to bathe, wash your hands, use the restroom, shower, drink, smoke, brush your teeth, or change clothing. Any clothing removed should be placed in a paper bag and can be brought unwashed to the hospital or police department. You may obtain a forensic examination (often referred to as a sexual assault kit or rape kit) at a hospital to collect evidence. Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital (1 Kish Hospital Drive, DeKalb) has nurses who are trained to complete forensic exams.

You are also encouraged to preserve evidence by saving text/social media messages, phone call logs, pictures, and other copies of documents related to the crime that occurred or is occurring. If you have physical injuries, photograph them or have them photographed, with a date stamp on the photo. Try to memorize details (e.g.,

physical description, names, location, etc.), or even better, write notes to remind you of details, if you have time and the ability to do so.

### Seek Medical Attention

Seek medical attention if you are injured. **For severe injuries call 911 immediately.** Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital provides emergency room medical services. If you need transportation, the NIU Police are able to assist. Alternative medical services are also provided on campus by Northwestern Medicine Student Health Center at NIU.

### Report the Incident

You have several options for reporting the incident, as listed below. Victims have options to report the incident to on-campus and local law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction, be assisted by campus authorities in notifying law enforcement authorities if the victim so chooses, and to decline to notify such authorities.

#### Police

You may report the incident to the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction:

- Call 911 if you are in immediate danger or have severe injuries.
- For incidents that occur on-campus: NIU Department of Police and Public Safety, 395 Wirtz Drive, DeKalb, IL, 815-753-1212
- For incidents that occur off-campus in DeKalb: DeKalb Police Department, 700 W. Lincoln Highway, DeKalb, IL, 815-748-8400
- For incidents that occur off-campus and outside of DeKalb, contact the local police department in the city where the incident occurred.

#### University Report or Complaint

You may also file a sexual misconduct report or complaint with the university electronically at [go.niu.edu/file-misconduct](https://go.niu.edu/file-misconduct) or by contacting the Title IX Coordinator, 815-753-5560, [TitleIXCoordinator@niu.edu](mailto:TitleIXCoordinator@niu.edu), Health Services Building, Second Floor, Room 230. For more information on this process, visit **Your Rights and Options — NIU — Ethics and Compliance Office**.

#### Confidential Reporting

You may confidentially report the incident to one of the following:

- **Safe Passage** (DeKalb County's Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Crisis Center), 815-756-5228 (crisis line) or 815-393-1995 (crisis text line).
- **NIU's Confidential Advisor**, Center for Student Assistance, Peters Campus Life Building, Room 150, 815-753-8300, [studentassistance@niu.edu](mailto:studentassistance@niu.edu).
- **NIU's Counseling and Consultation Services** (free for students), Peters Campus Life Building, Room 200, 815-753-1206.
- **Employee Well-Being** (free for employees),

Holmes Student Center, Room 709, 815-753-9191, [employee wellbeing@niu.edu](mailto:employee wellbeing@niu.edu).

A confidential report to one of the above resources means that they cannot disclose the information you tell them to anyone else, unless you consent to them doing so. A confidential report will not result in a university or police investigation.

If you would like assistance in notifying a law enforcement agency or filing a report or complaint with the university, you may contact one of the above confidential resources.

### Obtain Supportive Measures

If you have experienced sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, NIU can provide supportive measures such as changes to your academic, living, transportation, and working situations. Examples include:

- Transferring to a different section of a class or withdrawing and taking a class at another time.
- Moving to a different residence hall room or residence hall.
- Issuance of a campus no contact order.
- Changing your working hours or location.
- Parking in a different location or getting a safety escort.

The university must provide requested supportive measures so long they are reasonably available, regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to campus police or local law enforcement. The university will maintain as confidential any supportive measures provided to a student or employee, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the university to provide the supportive measures. For example, if a requested supportive measure is the issuance of a campus no contact order, the alleged offender will be notified of the order and who requested it.

To request supportive measures, contact the Title IX Coordinator at 815-753-5560 or [TitleIXCoordinator@niu.edu](mailto:TitleIXCoordinator@niu.edu).

### Consider Obtaining an Order of Protection

Victims of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking have the right to request an order of protection, whether through the university or the court system. Different types of orders are discussed below.

**Campus no contact orders.** The university may issue a campus no contact order between members of the campus community. A no contact order may be issued regardless of whether a complaint or report has been filed with the university or police. If the university receives information that a campus no contact order has been violated, the university will initiate disciplinary proceedings and impose sanctions if the accused is found responsible for violating the no contact order. To request a no contact order, contact the Title IX



Coordinator, 815-753-5560, TitleIXCoordinator@niu.edu, Health Services Building, Second Floor, Room 230.

**Court orders of protection.** An order of protection, restraining order, stalking no contact order, and other similar orders may also be petitioned for in criminal, civil or tribal court. The university cannot apply for one of these orders on behalf of a victim. The victim must apply for the order. To learn more about the different types of orders, contact NIU's Confidential Advisor or Safe Passage. To obtain an order:

- Contact Safe Passage and an advocate can discuss if you qualify to obtain an order and assist you in obtaining one.
- Ask an attorney to assist you.
- If a criminal case has been filed, ask if the State's Attorney's Office can assist.
- Contact the local circuit clerk's office for information on how to request an order on your own.

NIU complies with Illinois law in recognizing orders or protection entered by a court. The NIU Police will arrest persons who are in violation of such an order if the violation occurs on campus. Any person who obtains such an order should notify the NIU Police and contact the Title IX Coordinator to coordinate services and additional assistance. Individuals whom an order of protection has been filed against may also contact the Title IX Coordinator for assistance.

### Develop a Safety Plan

A safety plan is a tool to help you think about what you can do to protect yourself and prepare for the possibility of further abuse or violence. A safety plan may include some of the following:

- Create a list of emergency contacts.
- Learn information about local resources such as support groups, shelters, and other organizations that can assist you.
- Identify safe friends and safe places you can go.
- Pack an emergency bag and hide it or leave it with someone you trust. Include items you'll need if you leave, such as money, important documents, keys, medication, and extra clothes.
- Open your own savings account.
- Have a "code word" to use with friends, family, and loved ones. Ask them to call the police if they hear you say that word.
- Change the locks on your doors and consider extra security measures.
- When you leave work or school, have someone walk you to your car, bus, or other form of transportation.
- Do not take the same route home every day.
- Inform your employer, neighbor's and children's schools if you have an order of protection.

For assistance in developing a safety plan, contact Safe Passage to meet with an advocate or contact NIU's Confidential Advisor.

## University Procedures When Sexual Misconduct is Reported

The university's Title IX Coordinator, located within the Ethics and Compliance Office, receives reports and complaints alleging sexual misconduct. There are important differences between what happens when a report or a complaint is filed. All employees of the university, unless deemed confidential, are considered responsible employees, and are required to report actual or suspected sexual misconduct (including dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking). Additionally, any third-party who witnesses or learns of actual or suspected sexual misconduct may submit a report. Individuals who have experienced sexual misconduct have the right to submit a formal sexual misconduct complaint, which initiates the university's formal grievance process.

Upon receipt of a sexual misconduct report or complaint, regardless of if the conduct occurred on or off campus, the identified victim will receive written notification of the following via email:

- Their rights and options;
- Information about existing counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid, and other services available for victims, both within the institution and in the community (see Pages 33-34 for this list of resources);
- Options for, available assistance in, and how to request changes to academic, living, transportation, and working situations or protective measures; and
- An explanation of the university's formal grievance process and procedures.

The Title IX Coordinator, or designee, will follow-up with the victim via email within two business days offering to meet confidentially with the victim to discuss their right and options, to include the availability of supportive measures.

If a formal complaint is submitted, the university's formal grievance process is initiated. This includes an investigation and live hearing. The complainant (victim) and respondent (accused individual) will separately and simultaneously receive notice of the sexual misconduct complaint and investigation within several business days of the complaint being filed unless a delay is necessary pursuant to policy. The notice will provide specific information, including but not limited to, the date and location of incident, identities of parties involved, conduct allegedly constituting a policy violation, ability to have advisor of choice, availability of supportive measures, and statement that the determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of a hearing.

The Title IX Coordinator, or designee, reviews the complaint to determine jurisdiction and if the complaint requires a dismissal or referral to an alternative university

process. If the Title IX Coordinator does not have jurisdiction over the matter, the complaint is dismissed or referred. The complainant and respondent will receive notice of this decision and will have an opportunity to appeal the decision. Absent a dismissal or referral, or if an appeal is granted, the investigation will proceed.

If an investigation proceeds, it will be conducted in as timely a manner as possible. The complainant and respondent will have the opportunity to provide a statement as to what occurred and may also suggest questions to the investigator to be asked of the other party, at the discretion of the investigator. Witnesses may then be interviewed and a collection of inculpatory and exculpatory evidence, to include text messages, photos, emails, etc., will occur. Interviews and the gathering of evidence typically take several weeks or longer, depending on the number and availability of witnesses and complexity of the facts alleged. Periodic updates about the grievance process are provided to the complainant and respondent throughout the investigation.

After gathering all reasonably available evidence,

### **Retaliation Prohibited**

No person may intimidate, threaten, coerce or discriminate against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by the Sexual Misconduct Policy or Title IX, or because the individual has made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this policy. Intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination for the purposes of interfering with any right or privilege secured by the Sexual Misconduct Policy or Title IX constitutes retaliation. Retaliation should be reported immediately to the Title IX Coordinator at 815-753-5560 or [TitleIXCoordinator@niu.edu](mailto:TitleIXCoordinator@niu.edu).

the investigator will prepare an Evidence Packet to be distributed to the complainant and respondent. This document contains all relevant statements and evidence obtained during the investigation. The complainant and respondent are given a minimum of ten days to provide a written response to this document. After a review of submitted written responses, the investigator will incorporate the additional information into a final Investigation Report, which is provided to both parties, their advisors, and the hearing officer prior to the hearing. The complainant and respondent are given a minimum of ten days to review the Investigation Report and provide a written response. The final Investigation Report serves as a basis for the hearing. Before the hearing takes place,

both parties and their advisors will separately meet with the Title IX Coordinator, or designee, to discuss the rules and procedures of the hearing. The party's advisor must attend this meeting and failure to attend may result in their disqualification from participating in the hearing.

The hearing typically occurs within two weeks after the deadline for written responses to the Investigation Report. The hearing will be conducted by a neutral hearing officer to determine by a preponderance of evidence ("more likely than not") whether the respondent violated the Sexual Misconduct Policy and, if so, appropriate sanctions. The respondent is presumed not responsible until this decision is made. During the hearing, both parties are required to have an advisor of their choice present and if they do not have one, a university advisor will be appointed, at no cost. The parties are not allowed to question participants at the hearing. However, the parties' advisors will have the opportunity to question all participants. The hearing officer may also ask questions of all the participants. Within two weeks after the conclusion of the hearing, the hearing officer will separately and simultaneously issue a written determination to the complainant and respondent regarding responsibility and if appropriate, sanctions. The complainant and respondent have the right to appeal the decision regarding responsibility and/or sanctions within five days of the hearing decision being issued. The individual who did not file the appeal is provided a copy of the appeal and given an opportunity to respond. The appeal process generally takes up to two weeks. The hearing officer's decision becomes final either on the date that the appeal response is provided (if an appeal has been filed), or the date on which an appeal would no longer be considered timely. Sanctions will be in effect after the decision is final.

At any time before the hearing begins, the complainant and respondent may elect to resolve the complaint by means of informal resolution. Resolving the complaint through informal resolution does not require a full investigation or hearing.

Any student found responsible for violating the Sexual Misconduct Policy may receive the following sanctions:

- Anger intervention assessment.
- Abuse intervention program.
- Banishment from part or all NIU property, functions, etc.
- Community service to NIU or the DeKalb community.
- Discretionary sanction-required work assignments, written assignments, service to NIU or other related discretionary assignments.
- Educational sanctions including, but not limited to, the completion of an educational assignment.
- Fines.
- Formal written warning.
- Loss of privileges (e.g., inability to have visitors/guests, etc.).

- Parental notification.
- Probation.
- Termination of residence hall contract.
- Restitution.
- Restorative justice participation.
- Revocation of admission.
- Revocation of degree.
- Substance use intervention and education program.
- Training on sexual misconduct.
- University expulsion.
- University suspension.
- Withholding degree.

Any employee found responsible for violating the Sexual Misconduct Policy may receive the following corrective action/sanctions:

- Letter of warning.
- Official reprimand.
- Referral to a required counseling program.
- Referral to university disciplinary process, to include tenure revocation.
- Suspension from employment with or without pay.
- Termination from employment.
- Training on sexual misconduct.
- Community service.

Any third-party (visitor, guest, contractor, subcontractor, vendor, partner or business affiliate) who violates the Sexual Misconduct Policy will receive a sanction ranging from a written warning to banishment from any university property, activities and/or programs, including the termination of any business contract with the university.

## Rights of Parties during University Investigation and Resolution

During the formal grievance process of a Sexual Misconduct Complaint, both the complainant and respondent are provided the following rights:

- A prompt, fair, and impartial process from the initial investigation to the final result. This means the formal grievance process will be:

- Completed within reasonably prompt timeframes, including a process that allows for the extension of timeframes for good cause with written notice to the complainant and the respondent of the delay and the reason for the delay.
- Conducted in a manner that is consistent with the university policies and transparent to the complainant and respondent, includes timely notice of meetings at which the complainant or respondent, or both, may be present; and provides timely and equal access to the complainant, the respondent, and appropriate officials to any information that will be used during informal and formal disciplinary meetings and hearings.
- Conducted by officials who do not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against the complainant or respondent.
- Officials conducting the formal grievance process will, at minimum, receive annual training on the issues related to dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking and how to conduct an investigation and hearing process that protects the safety of victims and promotes accountability. Training the officials receive is provided through in-person workshops, online interactive trainings, and webinars.
- The same opportunity to have others present during any institutional disciplinary proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by the advisor of their choice.
- There will be no limitations on the choice of advisor, or whether or not an advisor may be present for any meeting or proceeding; however, the university may establish restrictions regarding the extent to which the advisor may participate in the proceedings, as long as the restrictions apply equally to both parties.
- Simultaneous notification, in writing, of the result of the formal grievance process, the procedures to appeal the result, any change to the result, and when such results become final.

## Privacy of Student Records

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, often referred to as FERPA, is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. Generally, NIU must have written permission from eligible students in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, in certain situations. NIU may disclose, without consent, "directory" information, unless a student has requested that the university not disclose this information about them.

At NIU, "directory" information includes the following: a student's name, address, telephone listing(s), date and place of birth, e-mail address (Z-ID@students.niu.edu, alias address or other), electronic or photographic picture

or image, major field of study, classification, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, full or part time status, degrees and awards received and most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student.

Any student that does not want the above information publicly disclosed should access their MyNIU account. From the Student Center under Personal Information select "Privacy Settings." Then click the "Edit FERPA/Directory Restrictions" bar to restrict release of your information.

For more information, visit [niu.edu/registration-records](https://niu.edu/registration-records).



## Confidentiality

The university will keep confidential the information contained within sexual misconduct reports and complaints, including the identity of the reporting party, the victim, the accused, and any witnesses, except when disclosure is permitted under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), as required by law, or to carry out the university's obligations under Title IX, including the university's formal grievance process. For example, throughout the course of an investigation, the identity of the victim, the accused, and any witnesses may be disclosed during interviews to assist in the gathering of information and evidence.

The university will maintain as confidential any supportive measures provided to a student or employee, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the university to provide the supportive measures. For example, if a requested supportive measure is the issuance of a campus no contact order, the alleged offender will be notified of the order and who requested it.

The university does not publish the name of crime victims or other personally identifying information regarding victims in any publicly available recordkeeping, such as the daily crime log, the annual security report, timely warnings, emergency notifications or in the annual crime statistics.

## Education and Prevention and Awareness Programs Programs and Campaigns

The university engages in activities, to include programming, initiatives, strategies and campaigns, intended to prevent and end dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking that are comprehensive, intentional, integrated, culturally relevant, inclusive of diverse communities and identities, sustainable, responsive to community needs, and informed by research or assessed for value, effectiveness, or outcome; and consider environmental risk and protective factors as they occur on the: individual, relationship, institutional, community and societal levels.

The activities that NIU develops and implements include both primary prevention and awareness programs directed at incoming students and new employees, and ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns directed at students and employees. These activities include, at a minimum, the following:

1. A statement that NIU prohibits sexual misconduct (i.e., dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking).
2. The definitions of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking in the State of Illinois.
3. The definition of consent, in reference to sexual activity, in the State of Illinois.

4. A description of safe and positive options for bystander intervention, which are safe and positive options that may be carried out by an individual or individuals to prevent harm or intervene when there is a risk of sexual misconduct. Bystander intervention includes recognizing situations of potential harm, understanding institutional structures and cultural conditions that facilitate violence, overcoming barriers to intervening, identifying safe and effective intervention options, and taking action to intervene.
5. Information on risk reduction, defined as options designed to decrease perpetration and bystander inaction, and to increase empowerment for victims in order to promote safety and to help individuals and communities address conditions that facilitate violence.
6. Procedures victims should follow if a crime of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking has occurred.
7. Information about how the university will protect the confidentiality of victims and other necessary parties.
8. A statement that the university will provide written notification to students and employees about existing counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid, and other services available for victims, both within the university and in the community.
9. A statement that the university will provide written notification to victims about options for, available assistance in, and how to request changes to academic, living, transportation, and working situations or protective measures. The university must make such accommodations or provide such protective measures if the victim requests them and if they are reasonably available, regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to campus police or local law enforcement.
10. An explanation of the procedures for university disciplinary action in cases of alleged dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
11. A statement that, when a student or employee reports to the university that the student or employee has been a victim of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, whether the offense occurred on or off campus, the university will provide the student or employee a written explanation of the student's or employee's rights and options.

### Primary Prevention and Awareness Programs

Primary prevention programs include programming, initiatives, and strategies informed by research or assessed for value, effectiveness, or outcome that are intended to stop dating violence, domestic violence,

sexual assault, and stalking before they occur through the promotion of positive and healthy behaviors that foster healthy, mutually respectful relationships and sexuality, encourage safe bystander intervention, and seek to change behavior and social norms in healthy and safe directions.

Awareness programs include community-wide or audience-specific programming, initiatives, and strategies that increase audience knowledge and share information and resources to prevent violence, promote safety, and reduce perpetration.

New employees and incoming students are required to complete sexual misconduct awareness and prevention training upon hire or the beginning of the semester.

The sexual misconduct awareness and prevention training provided to incoming students and new employees is compliant with the Illinois Preventing Sexual Violence in Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 155), the Illinois State Officials and Employee Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430), and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. § 1681).

#### **Ongoing Prevention and Awareness Campaigns**

Ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns includes programming, initiatives, and strategies that are sustained over time and focus on increasing understanding of topics relevant to and skills for addressing dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, using a range of strategies with audiences throughout the institution.

Employees are required to complete sexual misconduct awareness and prevention training on an annual basis. Returning students are encouraged to complete this training each year. Employees who are both students and NIU employees complete both student-based and employee-based sexual misconduct awareness and prevention training. The university also conducts ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns throughout the year on topics such as active bystander intervention, sexual assault, consent, domestic and dating violence, stalking and healthy relationships.

#### **Ongoing Prevention and Awareness Campaigns During Calendar Year 2023**

The university offered the following ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns in 2023:

##### **Active Bystander Workshop for Students**

This active bystander workshop encourages students to engage in healthy campus culture surrounding violence and sexual misconduct. During this workshop, students learn about the basics of sexual misconduct and the ways to help fellow students be active bystanders. Peer advocacy, resources and ways to report misconduct are also discussed.

##### **Active Bystander Intervention for Employees Workshop**

This active bystander workshop encourages employees to contribute to creating a safe and respectful workplace environment. Employees gain tools to safely address and stop workplace harassment and discrimination. During the workshop, employees think about and evaluate cultural norms that influence the experiences they and their colleagues have within the work setting.

##### **Behind the Post: Relationships Don't Just Live Online**

This workshop illuminates the impact of technology and social media on relationships. The ways technology and social media can be used to control a partner or disguise an unhealthy relationship are discussed.

##### **Stalking: Know it. Name it. Stop it.**

This program focuses on signs and types of stalking behavior such as following, tracking, calling, texting, spreading rumors, property damage or sharing private images. Participants have an open conversation about how to recognize and stop stalking behaviors to protect themselves and their friends and family.

##### **Love Shouldn't Hurt**

This program includes an open discussion about what domestic violence is, how to prevent it and how to help fellow students speak up as active bystanders or reporters.

##### **Huskies Supporting Huskies**

Friends are often the first people someone will talk to about trauma. During this program, participants learn how to support friends, family and fellow NIU Huskies to create a community of support and safety.

##### **The Scoop on Healthy Relationships**

This one-hour session offers participants the opportunity to gain insight into themselves and reflect on what they want, how they show up and what they value in relationships.

##### **Walk a Mile**

During Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the university collaborated with Safe Passage, a local sexual assault and domestic violence crisis center, for the "Walk a Mile" event. Participants walked one mile around the campus convocation center, some while in high heels, to support sexual assault survivors. Students, employees and community members were in attendance.

##### **Denim Day**

During Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Prevention Education and Outreach conducted a campus wide Denim Day. Individuals wore denim to spread awareness around sexual violence issues, to support survivors and to continue educating ourselves.



### **Take Back the Night**

During Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the university held Take Back the Night to raise awareness of and bring an end to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual abuse, and all other forms of sexual violence. Participants marched across campus and then had a reception and bonfire where survivors shared their experiences and stories.

### **Take Back the Night — Candle Light Vigil**

During Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the university partnered with Safe Passage to conduct a Candle Light Vigil to raise awareness of and bring an end to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual abuse and all other forms of sexual violence. Participants marched across the Egyptian Theatre in downtown DeKalb, had survivors speak out and lit candles in remembrance of those affected by domestic violence.

### **Start By Believing**

This workshop focuses on helping individuals support those who identify as being a victim of harm. It focuses on how individuals can support their friends who disclose to them. They first have to start by believing and then help gain resources.

### **The Intersection of Sexual Assault and Suicide**

This workshop focuses on raising awareness about how sexual violence can lead to suicide ideations, attempts and completions. Effective ways to intervene and support others during these times are provided.

### **Other Outreach**

Tabling events, social media, digital signage and fliers/posters were used to spread awareness across campus throughout the year about sexual assault, stalking, domestic violence and dating violence.





## On- and Off-campus Resources

Below is a list of on- and off-campus resources for counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid, and other available services.

On-campus Resources	Types of Services Available	Service Provider	Contact Information
<b>Counseling/Mental Health</b>	Counseling and Mental Health (for students)	<b>NIU Counseling and Consultation Services*</b>	815-753-1206
	Counseling and Mental Health (for employees)	<b>NIU Employee Well-being*</b>	815-753-9191 EmployeeAssistance@niu.edu
	Psychological Services	<b>NIU Psychological Services Center*</b>	815-753-0591 psc@niu.edu
	Couple and Family Therapy	<b>NIU Couple and Family Therapy Clinic*</b>	815-753-1684 familytherapy@niu.edu
<b>Health</b>	Health Services	<b>Northwestern Medicine Student Health Center at NIU*</b>	815-306-2777
<b>Victim Advocacy</b>	Victim Advocacy and Advising	<b>NIU Confidential Advisor*</b>	815-753-8300 studentassistance@niu.edu
<b>Legal Assistance</b>	Consultation, Advocacy and Court Representation Services	<b>NIU Students' Legal Assistance</b>	815-753-1701 studentslegal@niu.edu
<b>Visa and Immigration Services</b>	Advising for International Students and Faculty	<b>NIU International Student and Scholar Services</b>	815-753-1346 iss@niu.edu
	Undocumented Student Support	<b>NIU Office of Undocumented Student Support</b>	815-753-2391 undocumented@niu.edu
<b>Student Financial Aid</b>	Financial Aid	<b>NIU Financial Aid and Scholarship Office</b>	815-753-1395 finaid@niu.edu
<b>Other</b>	Guidance on University Issues	<b>NIU Ombudsperson*</b>	815-753-1414 ombuds@niu.edu
	General Student Assistance	<b>NIU Center for Student Assistance</b>	815-753-8300 StudentAssistance@niu.edu

\*These service providers are confidential.



Off-campus Resources	Types of Services Available	Service Provider	Contact Information
<b>Counseling/Mental Health</b>	Counseling and Other Essential Services	<b>Family Service Agency</b>	815-758-8616 info@fsadekalbcounty.org
	Emotional and Mental Health Services	<b>Northwestern Medicine Behavioral Health Services*</b>	815-748-8334
	Counseling	<b>Safe Passage*</b>	815-756-5228
<b>Health</b>	Health Care and Evidence Collection	<b>Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital</b>	815-756-1521
<b>Victim Advocacy</b>	Victim Advocacy Services	<b>Safe Passage*</b>	815-756-5228
<b>Legal Assistance</b>	Legal Services	<b>Prairie State Legal Services*</b>	800-892-2985
	Legal Services	<b>DeKalb County State's Attorney's Office</b>	815-895-7164 DeKalbSAO@dekalbcounty.org
<b>Visa and Immigration Services</b>	Information Services	<b>United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement Student and Exchange Visitor Program</b>	703-603-3400 sevp@ice.dhs.gov
<b>Student Financial Aid</b>	Financial Aid	<b>Federal Student Aid Office of the United States Department of Education</b>	800-433-3243
<b>Hotlines</b>	Domestic Violence	<b>State of Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline</b>	877-863-6338
	Domestic Violence	<b>National Domestic Violence Hotline</b>	800-799-7233
	Sexual Assault	<b>National Sexual Assault Hotline</b>	800-656-4673
	Suicide	<b>National Suicide Prevention Hotline</b>	800-273-8255



# Annual Crime Statistics

NIU's annual crime statistics for the previous three calendar years include Clery crimes that occurred on NIU's Clery geography. Relevant definitions and policies for preparing and compiling the crime statistics are below.

## Policies for Preparing Annual Crime Statistics

NIU's director of Clery compliance compiles the annual crime statistics in consultation with the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety (NIU Police), Student Conduct, and the Ethics and Compliance Office. The annual crime statistics are disclosed in the university's Annual Security Report (ASR) (see Pages 39-42) and are reported by the director of Clery compliance to the U.S. Department of Education by Oct. 1 each year.

The annual crime statistics include Clery crimes that occurred on or within NIU's Clery geography and were reported to local police agencies or to a campus security authority during the three most recent calendar years.

To compile the annual crime statistics, the director of Clery compliance reviews all NIU Police reports, as well as all reports filed with Student Conduct and the Ethics and Compliance Office. Information is also requested from campus security authorities and local law enforcement agencies. When reports are reviewed by the director of Clery compliance, reports of the same crime are identified to prevent duplication of the same crime statistic.

The director of Clery compliance meets at least annually with campus security authorities who are in confidential positions (such as the Ombudsperson and Confidential Advisor), excluding pastoral or professional counselors, to determine if they have received reports of any Clery crimes that are not already included within the crime statistics.

**Unfounded crimes.** NIU will not withhold, or subsequently remove, a reported crime from its crime statistics based on a decision by a court, coroner, jury, prosecutor, or other similar noncampus official. However, NIU may withhold, or subsequently remove, a reported crime from its crime statistics in the rare situation where sworn or commissioned law enforcement personnel have fully investigated the reported crime and, based on the results of this full investigation and evidence, have made a formal determination that the crime report is false or baseless

and therefore "unfounded." Only sworn or commissioned law enforcement personnel may "unfound" a crime report for purposes of Clery reporting. The recovery of stolen property, the low value of stolen property, the refusal of the victim to cooperate with the prosecution, and the failure to make an arrest do not "unfound" a crime report. NIU will report to the U.S. Department of Education and disclose in its ASR crime statistics the total number of crime reports that were "unfounded" and subsequently withheld from its crime statistics during each of the three most recent calendar years.

**Crimes are recorded by calendar year.** Crime statistics will be recorded for the calendar year in which the crime was reported to local police agencies or to a campus security authority.

**Hate crimes are recorded by category of bias.** For each hate crime recorded, NIU will identify the category of bias that motivated the crime. The categories of bias include the victim's actual or perceived race, gender, gender identity, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, and disability.

**Crimes are recorded by location.** It shall be specified whether each of the crimes recorded occurred: on campus; in or on a noncampus building or property; or on public property. Additionally, of the crimes that occurred on campus, NIU will identify the number that took place in dormitories or other residential facilities for students on campus.

**Recording reports of stalking.** When recording reports of stalking that include activities in more than one calendar year, NIU will record a crime statistic for each and every year in which the course of conduct is reported to a local police agency or to a campus security authority. NIU will record each report of stalking as occurring at only the first location within its Clery geography in which (A) a perpetrator engaged in the stalking course of conduct, or (B) a victim first became aware of the stalking.



**Identification of the victim or the accused.** The compiled crime statistics as presented in the ASR and provided to the U.S. Department of Education will not contain personally identifiable information of the victim or person accused of committing the crime.

**Pastoral and professional counselor.** NIU will not include statistics for crimes reported to a pastoral or professional counselor.

### Using the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program and the Hierarchy Rule.

1. Crime statistics for murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, liquor law violations, drug law violations, and illegal weapons possession must be compiled using the definitions of those crimes from the "Summary Reporting System (SRS) User Manual" from the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, as provided in 34 CFR Pt. 668, Subpt. D, App. A.
2. Crime statistics for fondling, incest, and statutory rape must be compiled using the definitions of those crimes from the "National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) User Manual" from the FBI's UCR Program, as provided in 34 CFR Pt. 668, Subpt. D, App. A.
3. Crime statistics for the hate crimes of larceny-theft, simple assault, intimidation, and destruction/damage/vandalism of property must be compiled using the definitions provided in the "Hate Crime Data

Collection Guidelines and Training Manual" from the FBI's UCR Program, as provided in 34 CFR Pt. 668, Subpt. D, App. A.

4. Crime statistics for dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking must be compiled using the definitions provided in 34 CFR § 668.46(a).
5. In counting crimes when more than one offense was committed during a single incident, NIU will conform to the requirements of the Hierarchy Rule in the "Summary Reporting System (SRS) User Manual" from the FBI's UCR Program.
6. If arson is committed, NIU will always record the arson in its statistics, regardless of whether or not it occurs in the same incident as another crime.
7. If rape, fondling, incest, or statutory rape occurs in the same incident as a murder, NIU will record both the sex offense and the murder in its statistics.

**Statistics from police agencies.** NIU will make a reasonable, good-faith effort to obtain statistics for crimes that occurred on or within its Clery geography and may rely on the information supplied by a local or State police agency.

The annual crime statistics are presented separately for each NIU campus.

In the event of any reporting errors, NIU will update the ASR, republish it, and redistribute it. NIU will also update its reporting to the U.S. Department of Education.

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## Clery Crime Definitions

Clery crimes fall into four different categories: primary crimes, Violence Against Women Act crimes, hate crimes, and arrests and referrals for disciplinary action.

### Primary Crimes

**Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter:** The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.

**Manslaughter by Negligence:** The killing of another person through gross negligence.

**Sex Offenses:** Any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

- **Rape:** The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.
- **Fondling:** The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of their temporary or permanent mental incapacity.

- **Incest:** Sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- **Statutory Rape:** Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

**Robbery:** The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force, violence and/or by putting fear in the victim.

**Aggravated Assault:** An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. It is not necessary that injury result from an aggravated assault when a gun, knife or other weapon is used which could and probably would result in a serious personal injury if the crime were successfully completed.

**Burglary:** The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft. For reporting purposes this definition includes: unlawful entry with intent to commit a larceny or a felony, breaking and entering with intent to commit a

larceny, housebreaking, safecracking and all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned.

**Motor Vehicle Theft:** The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. (Classify as motor vehicle theft all cases where automobiles are taken by persons not having lawful access even though the vehicles are later abandoned — including joyriding.)

**Arson:** Any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.

## Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Offenses

**Dating Violence:** Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the reporting party's statement and with consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. For the purposes of this definition, dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse. Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

**Domestic Violence:** A felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim; by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common; by a person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with, the victim as a spouse or intimate partner; by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred.

**Stalking:** Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to (A) fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or (B) suffer substantial emotional distress. For the purposes of this definition: (i) Course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property; (ii) Reasonable person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim; (iii) Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

## Arrests and Referrals for Disciplinary Action

This category includes if an individual is arrested or referred for university discipline related to liquor law violations, drug law/abuse violations, or illegal weapons possession under the laws of Illinois, or local ordinances.

**Liquor Law Violations:** The violation of State or local laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, or use of alcoholic beverages, not including driving under the influence and drunkenness.

**Drug Law/Abuse Violations:** The violation of laws prohibiting the production, distribution, and/or use of certain controlled substances and the equipment or devices utilized in their preparation and/or use. The unlawful cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, use, possession, transportation, or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance. Arrests for violations of State and local laws, specifically those relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing, and making of narcotic drugs.

**Illegal Weapons Possession:** The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, concealment, or use of firearms, cutting instruments, explosives, incendiary devices, or other deadly weapons.

## Hate Crimes

A crime reported to local police agencies or to a campus security authority that manifests evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator's bias against the victim. The categories of bias include the victim's actual or perceived race, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin and disability.

Hate crimes are recorded for all crimes listed under the Primary Crimes category, and for the crimes of larceny-theft, simple assault, intimidation and destruction/damage/vandalism of property. Statistics for hate crimes are counted in each specific Clery crime category and therefore are part of the overall statistics each year, except for larceny-theft, simple assault, intimidation and destruction/damage/vandalism of property.

**Larceny-Theft (except motor vehicle theft) (when motivated by bias):** The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. Attempted larcenies are included. Embezzlement, confidence games, forgery, worthless checks, etc., are excluded.

**Simple Assault (when motivated by bias):** An unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration or loss of consciousness.



**Intimidation (when motivated by bias):** To unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct, but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack.

**Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property (when motivated by bias):** To willfully or maliciously destroy, damage, deface or otherwise injure real or personal property without the consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it.

## Clery Geography Definitions

The annual crime statistics include Clery crimes that occurred on NIU's Clery geography, which includes on campus, in or on noncampus buildings or property, or on public property, as those terms are defined in the Clery Act. The Clery Act defines those terms as follows:

**Campus:** Any building or property, owned or controlled by an institution within the same reasonably contiguous

geographical area and used by the institution in direct support of, or in a manner related to, the institution's educational purposes, including residence halls; and any building or property that is within or reasonably contiguous to the area described above, that is owned by the institution but controlled by another person, is frequently used by students, and supports institutional purposes (such as a food or other retail vendor).

**Noncampus Building or Property:** Any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the institution; or any building or property owned or controlled by an institution that is being used in direct support of, or in relation to, the institution's educational purposes, is frequently used by students, and is not within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the institution.

**Public Property:** All public property, including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities, that is within the campus, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus.





# Clery Act Crime Statistics

\*Residence Hall numbers are also included in the On-Campus category.

NIU DEKALB	2021					2022					2023				
	On-Campus		Public Property	Non-Campus	Total	On-Campus		Public Property	Non-Campus	Total	On-Campus		Public Property	Non-Campus	Total
	On-Campus	Residence Hall				On-Campus	Residence Hall				On-Campus	Residence Hall			
PRIMARY CRIMES															
Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	6	4	0	1	7	16	14	0	4	20	17	17	0	2	19
Fondling	0	0	0	0	0	7	5	0	0	7	21	8	0	1	22
Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	3	11	6	0	3	14
Burglary	8	7	0	0	8	1	1	0	1	2	13	9	0	0	13
Motor Vehicle Theft	2	0	0	0	2	5	0	0	0	5	1	0	0	1	2
Arson	1	1	0	0	1	3	3	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	1
VAWA OFFENSES															
Domestic Violence	28	22	0	0	28	37	32	0	2	39	72	47	3	2	77
Dating Violence	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	1	3	6	6	0	0	6
Stalking	0	0	0	0	0	7	3	0	0	7	20	9	1	1	22
ARRESTS															
Weapons	0	0	2	0	2	3	2	0	0	3	6	3	2	0	8
Drugs	1	0	7	0	8	1	0	3	0	4	1	1	9	1	11
Alcohol	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	2
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS															
Weapons	9	8	0	0	9	5	5	0	0	5	2	2	0	0	2
Drugs	21	21	0	0	21	19	13	0	0	19	20	18	0	0	20
Alcohol	25	22	0	0	25	23	16	0	0	23	52	39	1	1	54

## Unfounded Clery Act Crimes

2023: Four unfounded crimes.

2022: No unfounded crimes.

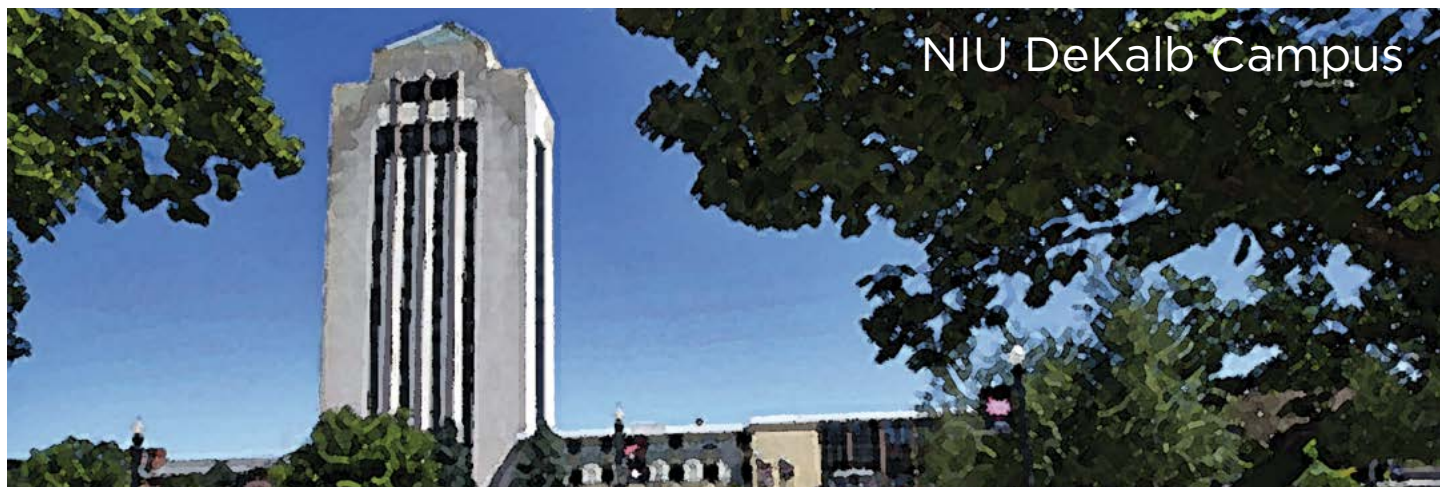
2021: Two unfounded cases.

## Hate Crime Reporting

2023: No hate crimes reported.

2022: Two hate crimes reported.

2021: One hate crime reported.



NIU DeKalb Campus

# Clery Act Crime Statistics

There are no residential facilities on this campus.

NIU NAPERVILLE	2021					2022					2023				
	On-Campus		Public Property	Non-Campus	Total	On-Campus		Public Property	Non-Campus	Total	On-Campus		Public Property	Non-Campus	Total
	On-Campus	Residence Hall				On-Campus	Residence Hall				On-Campus	Residence Hall			
PRIMARY CRIMES															
Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VAWA OFFENSES															
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ARRESTS															
Weapons	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drugs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alcohol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS															
Weapons	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drugs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alcohol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Unfounded Clery Act Crimes

2023: No unfounded crimes.

2022: No unfounded crimes.

2021: No unfounded crimes.

## Hate Crime Reporting

2023: No hate crimes reported.

2022: No hate crimes reported.

2021: No hate crimes reported.



# Clery Act Crime Statistics

There are no residential facilities on this campus.

NIU ROCKFORD	2021					2022					2023				
	On-Campus		Public Property	Non-Campus	Total	On-Campus		Public Property	Non-Campus	Total	On-Campus		Public Property	Non-Campus	Total
	On-Campus	Residence Hall				On-Campus	Residence Hall				On-Campus	Residence Hall			
PRIMARY CRIMES															
Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VAWA OFFENSES															
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ARRESTS															
Weapons	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drugs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alcohol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS															
Weapons	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drugs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alcohol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Unfounded Clery Act Crimes

2023: No unfounded crimes.

2022: No unfounded crimes.

2021: No unfounded crimes.

## Hate Crime Reporting

2023: No hate crimes reported.

2022: No hate crimes reported.

2021: No hate crimes reported.



NIU Rockford Campus



# Clery Act Crime Statistics

\*Residence Hall numbers are also included in the On-Campus category.

NIU LORADO TAFT	2021					2022					2023				
	On-Campus		Public Property	Non-Campus	Total	On-Campus		Public Property	Non-Campus	Total	On-Campus		Public Property	Non-Campus	Total
	On-Campus	Residence Hall				On-Campus	Residence Hall				On-Campus	Residence Hall			
PRIMARY CRIMES															
Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VAWA OFFENSES															
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ARRESTS															
Weapons	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drugs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alcohol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS															
Weapons	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drugs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alcohol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Unfounded Clery Act Crimes

2023: No unfounded crimes.

2022: No unfounded crimes.

2021: No unfounded crimes.

## Hate Crime Reporting

2023: No hate crimes reported.

2022: No hate crimes reported.

2021: No hate crimes reported.



# Annual Fire Safety Report

## Introduction

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) became public law 110-315 in August 2008, requiring all institutions of higher education that provide on-campus student housing facilities to develop an annual fire safety report. Contents of this report reflect the requirements outlined in HEOA and include fire prevention policies and practices, fire safety educational programs, descriptions of fire safety systems in on-campus student housing facilities, emergency evacuation procedures, fire safety statistics, and proposed plans for future improvements to the on-campus student housing fire safety program.

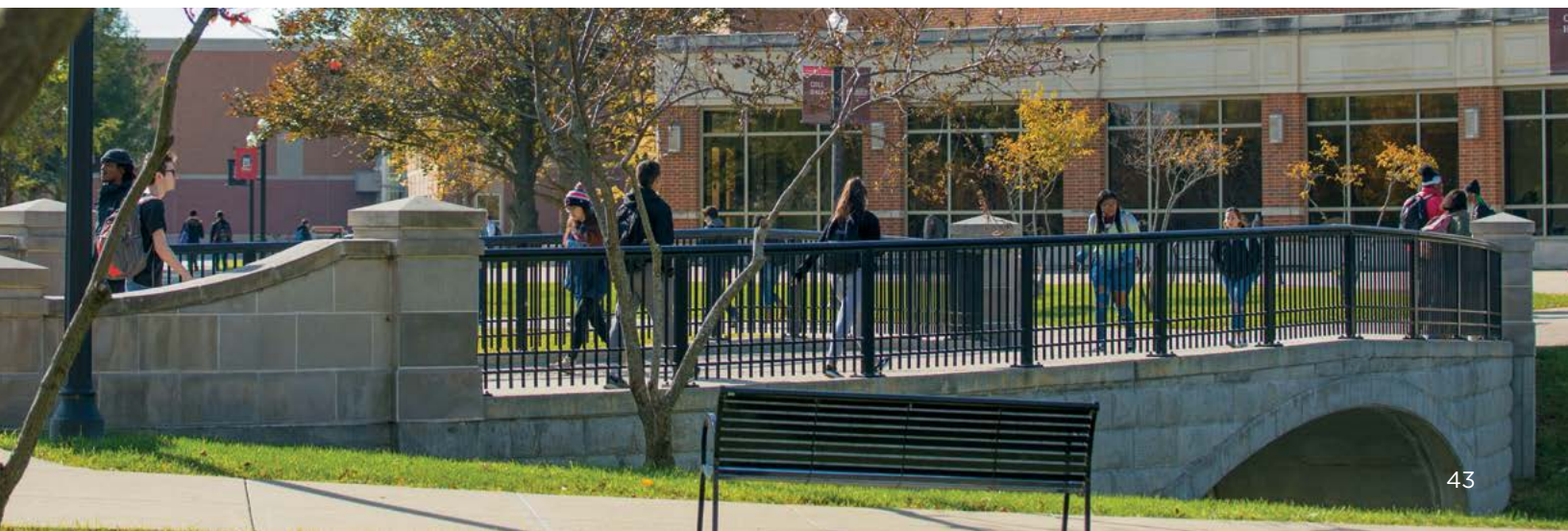
This public disclosure is intended to inform current and prospective students and employees of our fire safety program, and the institution's state of readiness to detect and respond appropriately to fire-related emergencies in on-campus student housing facilities. The Annual Fire Safety Report (AFSR) and associated Fire Log ([go.niu.edu/ehs-firelog](http://go.niu.edu/ehs-firelog)) are available online or by contacting the Department of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) at [ehs@niu.edu](mailto:ehs@niu.edu). A hard copy is also available by visiting the EH&S located in the Dorland Building at 180 West Stadium Drive in DeKalb, Illinois.

All policy statements in this AFSR apply to the DeKalb and Lorado Taft campuses unless otherwise stated therein.

## Objectives

Northern Illinois University (NIU) is committed to protecting the health and safety of our NIU community (students, staff, faculty, guests, etc.) as well as the environment. This is achieved through interdisciplinary collaboration and shared governance to ensure appropriate compliance with applicable fire safety statutory requirements which is a shared responsibility among the NIU community. Therefore, it is essential that members of the NIU community take an active role in this shared vision by initiating appropriate measures to ensure compliance and promote fire prevention associated with activities/operations under their direction. Such measures may include the following:

- Take steps to minimize (and eliminate where possible) foreseeable fire hazards.
- Comply with applicable fire safety rules and regulations.
- Complete fire safety training (if required).
- Maintain personal accountability for engaging in safe behaviors and practices in the interest of fire prevention.
- Report fires, fire hazards and potential violations.
- Recommend improvements to support the university fire safety program.
- Be prepared for emergencies that may occur on campus.
- Require those who do business with NIU to perform their work in a manner that protects the university from foreseeable fire hazards.



# Definition of Terms

**Cause of fire:** The factor or factors that give rise to a fire. The causal factor may be, but is not limited to, the result of an intentional or unintentional action, mechanical failure or act of nature.

**Fire:** Any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.

**Fire drill:** A supervised practice of a mandatory evacuation of a building for a fire.

**Fire-related injury:** Any instance in which a person is injured as a result of a fire, including an injury sustained from a natural or accidental cause, while involved in fire control, attempting rescue or escaping from the dangers of a fire. The term “person” may include students, faculty, staff, visitors, firefighters or any other individuals.

**Fire-related death:** Any instance in which a person (1) is killed as a result of a fire, including death resulting from a

natural or accidental cause while involved in fire control, attempting rescue or escaping from the dangers of a fire or (2) dies within one year of injuries sustained as a result of a fire.

**Fire-safety system:** Any mechanism or system related to the detection of a fire, the warning resulting from a fire or the control of a fire. This may include sprinkler systems or other fire extinguishing systems; fire detection devices; stand-alone smoke alarms; devices that alert one to the presence of a fire, such as horns, bells or strobe lights; smoke-control and reduction mechanisms; and fire doors and walls that reduce the spread of a fire.

**Value of property damage:** The estimated value of the loss of the structure and contents, in terms of the cost of replacement in like kind and quantity. This estimate should include contents damaged by fire and related damages caused by smoke, water and overhaul; however, it does not include indirect loss, such as business interruption.

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## Fire Prevention Policies and Guidelines

Applicable campus policies and guidance documents noted below as well as other applicable college and university fire safety guidelines were referenced in the development and periodic update of the AFSR.

- NIU Health and Safety Policy ([go.niu.edu/policies-health-safety](https://go.niu.edu/policies-health-safety)).
- Housing Handbook ([niu.edu/housing/\\_pdf/halls/housing-handbook.pdf](https://niu.edu/housing/_pdf/halls/housing-handbook.pdf)).
- NIU Emergency Response Guide ([go.niu.edu/emergency-response](https://go.niu.edu/emergency-response)).
- Fire Prevention Program ([go.niu.edu/fire-prevention](https://go.niu.edu/fire-prevention)).

Housing and Residential Services, NIU Department of Police and Public Safety (NIU Police), and the EH&S periodically review these policies and guidelines and revise them as necessary to fit the needs of the operations therein. Applicable excerpts are listed below:

### Holiday Decorations

Decorating the interior of on-campus student housing facilities is allowed provided such decorations are installed in a manner consistent with the following requirements:

- Decorations are prohibited in the stairwells as well as both sides of the stairwell doors.
- Wall decorations and general postings in corridors shall not be concentrated to one specific area. They shall be spread out covering no more than twenty percent of the surface and not be any closer than 24 inches from the ceiling in all areas.

- Decorations shall not obstruct or otherwise impede emergency evacuation plans posted on the inside of each student room door. Decorations shall also not conceal room numbers or stairwell identification signage. This information needs to be visible and readily identifiable for first responders.
- Decorative displays shall be compact. Garlands, streamers or displays that extend down a corridor shall not be used because of their potential to spread fire, increase the fuel load, and impede egress. Displays shall be limited to offices, lobbies, and common areas.
- All decorations and ornaments must be of fire-resistant or noncombustible material, listed by Underwriters Laboratory (UL) or Factory Mutual (FM) and approved for use.
- The use of live Christmas trees, wreathes, boughs or other decorations constructed from the branches of natural trees is prohibited. Decorative materials including artificial snow, decorative sprays, ceiling/wall tapestries, cotton cobwebs, bales of hay, and other highly flammable materials is also prohibited.
- Artificial trees made of fire-retardant materials or noncombustible materials labeled with UL or FM approval ratings are allowed. Metallic trees may create electrical hazards when placed close to the electrical supply; therefore, the use of electric lights on metallic trees is prohibited.
- Artificial trees and other decorations must be located so as not to obstruct exit corridors or the operation



of fire safety systems. Trees shall also not be placed in any manner that could present a fall or trip hazard, impede egress or block emergency egress from any room.

- Electric light strings shall be UL or FM approved and labeled accordingly. These lights shall be checked for fraying, bare wires, loose connections, and cracked plastic parts. Use of miniature electric lights is encouraged since they are both cooler and more energy efficient than regular size lighting. Electric lights or electrically operated ornaments shall not be used on metal, aluminum, or any other similar metal, which could induce an electric shock. Light strings shall not be placed in any manner that could present a fall or trip hazard, impede egress, block emergency egress from any room or restrict access to fire safety systems. Light strings shall not be routed through doorways, under rugs or loose carpeting or across walkways.
- Extension cords are prohibited except for the university-issued heavy-duty extension cord assigned to support the university-issued microwave/refrigerator/freezer.
- “Daisy chaining” surge protectors is prohibited.
- Multi-plug adapters are prohibited. Use surge protectors with a fuse or integral circuit breaker when extra outlets are needed.
- All holiday decorations shall be removed before leaving campus for the holidays and at the end of each semester.

## Open Flame Devices

The use of open flame devices can substantially increase the risk of a fire resulting in serious consequences when not used appropriately. Therefore, open flame devices are strictly prohibited in on-campus student housing facilities. Such devices include, but are not limited to candles, incense burners, potpourri pots, scented oil/wax warmers, tiki torches, sterno pots, Bunsen burners, fireworks, or any other portable flame-producing device. Candles can be displayed in menorahs and other religious articles but may not be used and should remain unlit with the wicks removed. Battery operated candles listed by UL or FM serve as an acceptable substitute.

## Portable Electrical Equipment and Appliances

Due to the current residential room electrical configuration, no more than eight (8) amps can be used per electrical outlet in a student room.

- Acceptable appliances (UL approved) include computers, phone chargers, gaming systems, TVs, CD players, DVD players, stereos, razors, fans, etc. Some hairdryers/curling irons/flat irons may require additional power and need to be used in the public area bathrooms rather than individual resident rooms to avoid tripping circuit breakers.
- Use surge protectors for all electronics, particularly computers, gaming systems, televisions, DVD players,

stereo equipment, and clock radios. Lightweight extension cords and multiple outlets plugs without surge protectors create a safety hazard and are prohibited.

- Personal routers and/or wireless access points are prohibited.
- Open-ended heating elements and electrical appliances, such as hot plates, hot pots, electric or contact grills, and unauthorized space heaters are prohibited.
- Electrical appliances with an enclosed heating element (e.g., popcorn makers and coffee pots) shall only be used under continual supervision.
- Every room is furnished with a microwave/refrigerator/freezer appliance. Other microwave ovens and refrigerators are prohibited.
- University-issued microwaves shall be used under continual supervision.
- Personal air conditioners are prohibited.

## Prohibited Items

Items that create danger to persons, damage to university property, a fire/safety hazard and/or a public nuisance must not be used, possessed, or stored in on-campus student housing facilities (including student rooms).

These include:

- Internal combustion engines, acids, automobile batteries, gasoline, torches, lava lamps, halogen desk lamps, and multi-headed lamps.
- Charcoal and other fire starter materials. Residents may store grills in their rooms but may not use them indoors. The storage of combustible lighting fluids in student rooms is prohibited. Barbecue grills must be located at least 100 feet from any campus building when in use.
- The use or possession of hover boards, electric scooters, or any self-balancing transportation device, is not allowed in on-campus student housing facilities.

## Tampering of Fire Safety Systems

Residents are strictly prohibited from tampering with fire safety systems. Examples include:

- Disconnecting, covering, or otherwise tampering with a smoke/detector, failure to report a malfunctioning device, or other related negligence subjects residents to student conduct charges, civil charges and, in the event of fire, payment for related damages to the building and the property of others. Residents are, however, encouraged to test their smoke detectors each month by pushing the button on the smoke detector and/or seeking guidance from the Community Advisor.
- Activating fire alarm pull stations with malicious intent.
- Discharging fire extinguishers with malicious intent.
- Hanging objects from or otherwise obstructing smoke detectors, sprinkler heads and associated piping.
- Removing sprinkler head cover plates.

Tampering with fire safety systems subjects the violator to a \$100 fine, university disciplinary action, and additional charges for any resulting repairs and/or cleaning including a \$100 charge if city fire trucks are called unnecessarily.

### Regularly Scheduled Fire Safety Inspections

Staff from Housing and Residential Services, Physical Plant, and the EH&S may enter student rooms to conduct scheduled safety inspections. During these inspections, staff evaluate the operation of fire safety systems, (e.g., smoke detectors, sprinkler heads, fire alarm devices, etc.) and may also observe safety hazards including:

- Non-approved extension cords.
- Non-UL listed equipment.
- Surge protectors or multiple outlets without circuit breakers.
- Daisy-chained power strips.
- Improperly installed microwave/refrigerator/freezer units.
- Unapproved electrical appliances.
- Use of nonmetal trash cans.
- Decorations inconsistent with fire safety guidelines.
- Clearly observable room damage.
- Unauthorized furnishings.
- Obvious violations of university policy.
- Candles with burned wicks.
- Tampering with fire safety systems.

Housing and Residential Services staff will assist students in removing identified fire hazards in accordance with the Housing Handbook and applicable student conduct policies.

### On-Campus Student Housing Smoking Policy

Smoking is prohibited on campus including all on-campus

student housing facilities in accordance with the NIU Smoke Free Campus Policy ([niu.edu/drug-free](http://niu.edu/drug-free)).

### Rental and Property Insurance

To provide peace of mind for students and their families, students are encouraged to carry personal property insurance, as Housing and Residential Services and NIU are not responsible for damage to student's property. Students and their families are strongly encouraged to review their homeowners' policy and consult with an insurance agent as needed to determine whether purchasing rental insurance to protect their possessions is appropriate.

## Fire Safety Education Programs

Staff from Housing and Residential Services in collaboration with the EH&S provide fire safety educational programs for students assigned as Community Advisors each year. Additional educational programming is also available to students upon request. Topics and exercises (depending upon time and available resources) may include:

- Fire prevention policies and guidelines listed therein.
- Internal fire alarm response procedures.
- Clery fire reporting requirements.
- Basic description of various types of fire safety systems.
- Emergency evacuation procedures and associated exercise.
- Fire extinguisher training exercise.
- Mock residence hall room inspection exercise.



# Fire Safety Systems in On-campus Student Housing Facilities

NIU's DeKalb and Lorado Taft campuses both have on-campus student housing facilities. Information on the fire safety systems at each of these locations is included below.

## DeKalb Campus

The following table provides a summary of the fire safety systems contained in each on-campus student housing facility at the DeKalb campus.

### Fire Safety Systems at DeKalb Campus

On-campus Student Housing Facility with Street Address	Fire Alarm Monitoring On Site by NIU Police	Partial Sprinkler System <sup>1</sup>	Full Sprinkler System <sup>2</sup>	Smoke Detection	Fire Extinguishers	Emergency Evacuation Plans	Number of Fire Drills per Previous Calendar Year
Gilbert Hall 383 Gilbert Drive	X	0	X	X	X	X	2
Grant North (C and D Towers) 1250 Grant Drive North	X	0	X	X	X	X	2
Neptune North 750 Lucinda Avenue <sup>3</sup>	X	0	X	X	X	X	0
Neptune East 740 Lucinda Avenue	X	0	X	X	X	X	2
Neptune West 800 Lucinda Avenue	X	0	X	X	X	X	2
Northern View Community (Building 2) 2 Northern View Circle	X	0	X	X	X	X	2
Northern View Community (Building 3) 3 Northern View Circle	X	0	X	X	X	X	2
Northern View Community (Building 4) 4 Northern View Circle	X	0	X	X	X	X	2
Northern View Community (Building 5) 5 Northern View Circle	X	0	X	X	X	X	2
Northern View Community (Building 6) 6 Northern View Circle	X	0	X	X	X	X	2
Patterson Hall East <sup>4</sup> 501 N. Annie Glidden Road	X	0	X	X	X	X	2
Patterson Hall West <sup>4</sup> 1175 Lincoln Drive North	X	0	X	X	X	X	2
Stevenson North (C and D Towers) 1350 Stevenson Drive North	X	0	X	X	X	X	2
Stevenson South (A and B Towers) 420 Stadium Drive West	X	0	X	X	X	X	2
Hotel in Holmes Student Center <sup>5</sup> 340 Carroll Avenue	X	0	0	X	X	0	0

<sup>1</sup>Partial Sprinkler System is defined as having sprinklers in the common areas only.

<sup>2</sup>Full Sprinkler System is defined as having sprinklers in both the common areas and individuals rooms.

<sup>3</sup>Neptune North was vacant during the 2022-2023 calendar year.

<sup>4</sup>New Residence Hall East was renamed to Patterson Hall East and New Residence Hall West was renamed to Patterson Hall West in the fall of 2022.

<sup>5</sup>The Hotel in Holmes Student Center, which is located within the Holmes Student Center, was utilized as a residential facility temporarily on various dates throughout 2022.

Fire safety systems that serve to detect, warn, or control a fire in addition to the systems listed in the table above include:

- Kitchen hoods are protected by special hazard UL-listed wet chemical suppression systems in the connected dining facilities. These systems are monitored by the building fire alarm system.
- Dry standpipes are located in each stairwell at Stevenson Towers (A, B, C, and D Towers), Grant C and D Towers, and the Hotel in Holmes Student Center.
- Emergency alert systems.



- Fire pumps in Stevenson Towers, Grant C and D Towers and Patterson Hall East and West.
- Elevators, magnetically propped open fire-rated door assemblies and air handling units are integrated with the fire alarm system.
- Stairwell doors in Stevenson Towers and Grant C and D Towers are integrated with the fire alarm system to automatically unlock and self-close upon activation of the fire alarm system.
- Fire-rated door assemblies include, but are not limited to student rooms, stairwells, laundry rooms, custodial closets, mechanical rooms, electrical vaults and storage rooms.

### Lorado Taft Campus

The Lorado Taft Field Campus located in Oregon, Illinois, provides resident outdoor education programs to elementary and middle school students on weekdays and serves as a conference center on the weekends. Participants (both students and adults) may reside in any one of the three on-campus student housing facilities (Heckman, Grover and Clarkson) for up to five days/four nights at a time.

The following table provides a summary of the fire safety systems contained in each on-campus student housing facility at the Lorado Taft campus.

Fire Safety Systems at Lorado Taft Campus (Oregon, IL)							
On-campus Student Housing Facility with Street Address <sup>1</sup>	Fire Alarm Monitoring Off Site by Per Mar Security Service	Partial Sprinkler System <sup>2</sup>	Full Sprinkler System <sup>3</sup>	Smoke Detection	Fire Extinguishers	Emergency Evacuation Plans	Number of Fire Drills per Calendar Year
Heckman	X	0	0	X	X	X	1
Grover	X	0	0	X	X	X	1
Clarkson	X	0	0	X	X	X	1

<sup>1</sup>The address for the Lorado Taft Field Campus is 1414 North River Road, Oregon, IL. Clarkson, Grover and Heckman do not have individual street addresses.

<sup>2</sup>Partial Sprinkler System is defined as having sprinklers in the common areas only.

<sup>3</sup>Full Sprinkler System is defined as having sprinklers in both the common areas and individual rooms.

The fire alarm panel located in the main office of Clarkson monitors and receives fire alarm signals from all three on-campus student housing facilities. This panel is monitored on a continual basis by Per Mar Security Service.

Fire-rated door assemblies include, but are not limited to dorm rooms, stairwells, custodial closets, mechanical rooms, electrical vaults and storage rooms.

## Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Fire Safety Systems

The EH&S administers the inspection, testing and maintenance of the fire safety systems (e.g., sprinkler systems, standpipe systems, fire pumps, fire extinguishers and special hazard fire suppression systems) in on-campus student housing facilities in accordance with applicable National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards. Licensed and/or qualified fire protection contractors inspect, test, and maintain fire suppression systems in on-campus student housing facilities at both the DeKalb and Lorado Taft campuses.

The Physical Plant Electrical Shop administers all aspects of the campus fire alarm program in accordance with applicable NFPA standards. Trained and qualified electricians service, install, inspect, test and maintain fire alarm systems in on-campus student housing facilities at both the DeKalb and Lorado Taft campuses.

## Emergency Evacuation Protocol

General information on emergency evacuation, as well as information specific to the DeKalb and Lorado Taft campuses, is included below.

### DeKalb Campus

All residents are expected to evacuate on-campus student housing facilities any time the fire alarm sounds, including during drills. Failure to evacuate during a fire alarm may result in disciplinary action.

Planned fire drills are conducted at least once per year at the DeKalb campus, and participation is mandatory. The purpose of evacuation drills is to prepare building occupants to safely evacuate the building in the event of a fire related emergency. Evacuation drills may be monitored by NIU Police, DeKalb Fire Department, EH&S, and Housing and Residential Services to evaluate egress and behavioral patterns.

Upon activation of a fire alarm, designated Housing and

Residential Services staff initiates the fire alarm response procedure while NIU Police Dispatch contacts the DeKalb Fire Department. Designated staff meet with first responders at the fire alarm panel in the building lobby to identify the location of the activated fire alarm device. If a fire is discovered upon further investigation, designated staff activate the nearest fire alarm pull station to initiate a building evacuation. During evacuation, staff knock on student doors on each floor and assist in clearing the building if it is safe to do so. First responders initiate firefighting, emergency medical assistance, and crowd control procedures as needed. Students are directed to remain at designated assembly points until the “all clear” is given by first responders.

After every fire alarm activation, the hall director on duty is responsible for promptly submitting a Maxient report to Housing and Residential Services, Physical Plant and the EH&S. Upon receipt, the EH&S reviews and records reported fires in the Fire Log in accordance with HEOA protocols.

Housing and Residential Services staff are also responsible for notifying the EH&S of fire conditions (e.g., discharged extinguisher, etc.) that may not activate the fire alarm. Follow-up investigation is required to determine root cause and whether the condition meets the definition of a “fire” as noted in the “Definition of Terms” section and subsequent recording purposes.

## Lorado Taft Campus

Upon receipt of a general fire alarm during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Per Mar Security Services, a third-party security alarm monitoring service, contacts Ogle County Emergency Services to report a possible fire condition at the Lorado Taft Campus. Per Mar Security Services also contacts the main office at the Lorado Taft Campus to confirm that trained staff on site have initiated an investigation to evaluate the status of the fire alarm activation. Should trained staff determine a fire condition exists, they will initiate evacuation procedures.

Upon receipt of a general fire alarm after hours, Per Mar Security Services contacts Ogle County Emergency Services to report a possible fire condition at the Lorado Taft Campus. Per Mar Security Services will also contact the Lorado Taft manager-on-duty and/or the Campus Director. The Lorado Taft Manager-on-duty and/or the Campus Director will initiate an investigation to evaluate the status of the fire alarm activation. Should the Lorado Taft manager-on-duty and/or the campus director determine a fire condition exists, they will initiate evacuation procedures. Occupants are not allowed to re-enter until given the “all clear” by first responders.

The Lorado Taft manager-on-duty and/or the campus director is responsible for notifying the EH&S so the fire can be recorded in the Fire Log in accordance with HEOA protocols.

## General Emergency Evacuation Guidelines

What to do upon discovery of a fire:

**Rescue** or remove yourself and others in immediate danger or proximity to the emergency.

**Activate** the fire alarm by pulling a nearby fire alarm pull box or shout for help. Once in a safe location call or have someone call 911.

**Contain** the fire and smoke by closing doors as you leave the area. No matter what the emergency, fire or other, closed doors will give additional time for escape or rescue by restricting movement of the fire or emergency through the area.

**Escape** or **extinguish** the fire if it is safe to do so.

### Fire Response Dos and Don'ts

- **DO** treat every fire alarm as an emergency. If the fire alarm sounds, exit the building immediately, closing doors behind you. During evacuation, remember to feel doors with the back of your hand before opening them to be sure that there is no fire danger on the other side.
- **DO** remain in the room with the door closed if heat or smoke is impeding safe egress from the building. Call **911** immediately and provide the dispatcher with the exact location and wait for further instructions. If smoke is entering around the door, stuff the openings with sheets, clothes or blankets. If possible, open the window and wave a brightly colored garment or towel from the window to draw attention to first responders.
- **DO** enter the designated “area of rescue assistance” location if physically disabled and activate the call stations located therein to notify the first responders of your location. Remain in place and wait for further instructions.
- **DO** stay low (if entering a smoke-filled hallway), keeping one hand on the wall to avoid disorientation and crawl to the nearest exit, keeping your head near the floor.
- **DO** proceed to the designed “assembly area” once outside and wait for instructions from Housing and Residential staff. If able to do so, call **911** and provide the dispatcher with detailed information pertaining to the nature of the fire.
- **DO** call **911** to report all fires, even those which have been extinguished. Contact the EH&S to report all fires that meet the definition as listed in the “Definition of Terms” section.
- **DON'T** assume that a fire alarm is a drill or test. All fire safety systems are tested as required by law, but these tests are announced in advance.
- **DON'T** waste time collecting personal valuables. Take your keys so that you can re-enter your room if exit from the building is not possible.
- **DON'T** use an elevator during a fire emergency; always use the stairwells.

If you **must** use a fire extinguisher, always activate the fire alarm pull station first to initiate the evacuation process. To operate a fire extinguisher, use the **“PASS”** technique:

- **P**ull the safety pin on the valve handle.
- **A**im the nozzle at the base of the fire.
- **S**queeze the top and bottom valve handle together.
- **S**weep the nozzle side-to-side at the base of the fire.

### Emergency Evacuation Assistance

NIU in partnership with the DeKalb Fire Department operates the Premise Alert Program at the DeKalb campus. Housing and Residential Services, NIU Police

and the DeKalb Fire Department collaborate to maintain a list of individuals who may need assistance during an emergency evacuation situation. The list is located inside the fire alarm panels behind the front desk at each on-campus student housing facility for immediate access by first responders. To participate in this program, students must complete and submit the **Premise Alert Program Form**.

## Fire Safety Statistics

The data presented in the following tables summarize the reported fires that occurred in on-campus student housing facilities for the last three calendar years (2021, 2022 and 2023). Police and Public Safety, the director of Clery compliance, and/or on-campus student housing facility staff notify the EH&S (via email, Maxient reports or Fire Alarm Response Reports) of reported fires that occur in on-campus student housing facilities. The EH&S evaluates the reports and records in the Fire Log within two days of occurrence. This process may also involve consultation with the director of Clery compliance as needed.

DeKalb Campus 2021				
On-campus Student Housing Facility with Street Address	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries that Require Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire
Gilbert Hall 383 Gilbert Drive	0	0	0	0
Grant North (C and D Towers) 1250 Grant Drive	0	0	0	0
Neptune North <sup>1</sup> 750 Lucinda Drive	0	0	0	0
Neptune East 740 Lucinda Drive	0	0	0	0
Neptune West 800 Lucinda Drive	0	0	0	0
New Residence Hall - East 501 N. Annie Glidden Road	0	0	0	0
New Residence Hall - West 1175 Lincoln Drive	Unintentional — microwave fire.	0	0	\$0-99
Northern View (Building 2) 2 Northern View Circle	Unintentional — cooking/grease fire.	0	0	\$1,000-9,999
Northern View (Building 3) 3 Northern View Circle	0	0	0	0
Northern View (Building 4) 4 Northern View Circle	Unintentional — cooking/grease fire.	0	0	\$1,000-9,999
Northern View (Building 5) 5 Northern View Circle	1 — Unintentional — candle/wax fire.	0	0	\$1,000-9,999
	2 — Unintentional — oven fire/burnt food.	0	0	\$0-99
Northern View (Building 6) 6 Northern View Circle	0	0	0	0
Stevenson North (C and D Towers) 1350 Stevenson Drive	0	0	0	0
Stevenson South (A and B Towers) 420 Stadium Drive	Unintentional — cooking/grease fire.	0	0	\$0-99

<sup>1</sup> Neptune North was vacant in 2021.



### Lorado Taft Campus 2021

On-campus Student Housing Facility with Street Address <sup>1</sup>	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries that Require Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire
Clarkson (Lorado Taft Campus)	0	0	0	0
Grover (Lorado Taft Campus)	0	0	0	0
Heckman (Lorado Taft Campus)	0	0	0	0

<sup>1</sup>The address for the Lorado Taft Campus is 1414 North River Road, Oregon, Illinois. Clarkson, Grover and Heckman do not have individual street addresses.

### DeKalb Campus 2022

On-campus Student Housing Facility with Street Address	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries that Require Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire
Gilbert Hall 383 Gilbert Drive	0	0	0	0
Grant North (C and D Towers) 1250 Grant Drive	Intentional — papers lit in trash can.	0	0	\$0-99
Neptune North <sup>2</sup> 750 Lucinda Drive	0	0	0	0
Neptune East 740 Lucinda Drive	0	0	0	0
Neptune West 800 Lucinda Drive	Intentional — piece of paper ignited and tossed into toilet.	0	0	\$0-99
Northern View (Building 2) 2 Northern View Circle	0	0	0	0
Northern View (Building 3) 3 Northern View Circle	Unintentional — stove fire.	0	0	\$0-99
Northern View (Building 4) 4 Northern View Circle	Unintentional — cooking grease fire in kitchen.	0	0	\$0-99
Northern View (Building 5) 5 Northern View Circle	0	0	0	0
Northern View (Building 6) 6 Northern View Circle	1 — Unintentional — cooking fire on stovetop. 2 — Unintentional — bathroom fire from cooking in kitchen.	0	0	\$0-99
			0	\$1,000-9,999
Patterson Hall - East <sup>3</sup> 501 N. Annie Glidden	0	0	0	0
Patterson Hall - West <sup>4</sup> 175 Lincoln Drive	1 — Intentional — lit paper on fire from lit candle. 2 — Unintentional — blanket caught on fire from lit candle.	0	0	\$0-99
				\$0-99
Stevenson North (C and D Towers) 1350 Stevenson Drive	0	0	0	0
Stevenson South (A and B Towers) 420 Stadium Drive	0	0	0	0
Hotel in Holmes Student Center <sup>5</sup> 340 Carroll Avenue	0	0	0	0

<sup>2</sup>Neptune North was vacant in 2022.

<sup>3</sup>New Residence Hall East was renamed to Patterson Hall East in the fall of 2022.

<sup>4</sup>New Residence Hall West was renamed to Patterson Hall West in the fall of 2022.

<sup>5</sup>The Hotel in the Holmes Student Center was utilized as on-campus student housing temporarily on various dates throughout 2022-2023.

## Lorado Taft Campus 2022

On-campus Student Housing Facility with Street Address <sup>1</sup>	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries that Require Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire
Clarkson (Lorado Taft Campus)	0	0	0	0
Grover (Lorado Taft Campus)	0	0	0	0
Heckman (Lorado Taft Campus)	0	0	0	0

<sup>1</sup>The address for the Lorado Taft Campus is 1414 North River Road, Oregon, Illinois. Clarkson, Grover and Heckman do not have individual street addresses.

## DeKalb Campus 2023

On-campus Student Housing Facility with Street Address	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries that Require Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire
Gilbert Hall 383 Gilbert Drive	0	0	0	0
Grant North (C and D Towers) 1250 Grant Drive	Unintentional — burnt food in oven.	0	0	\$100-999
Neptune North <sup>2</sup> 750 Lucinda Drive	0	0	0	0
Neptune East 740 Lucinda Drive	0	0	0	0
Neptune West 800 Lucinda Drive	Unintentional — trash can due to smoldering cigarette butt.	0	0	\$0-99
Northern View (Building 2) 2 Northern View Circle	0	0	0	0
Northern View (Building 3) 3 Northern View Circle	0	0	0	0
Northern View (Building 4) 4 Northern View Circle	0	0	0	0
Northern View (Building 5) 5 Northern View Circle	0	0	0	0
Northern View (Building 6) 6 Northern View Circle	Unintentional — bathroom exhaust fan caught on fire.	0	0	\$100-999
Patterson Hall - East 501 N. Annie Glidden Road	Unintentional — burnt microwave.	0	0	\$100-999
Patterson Hall - West 1175 Lincoln Drive	1 — Unintentional — plastic bowl caught on fire due to stove being unsupervised.	0	0	\$0-99
	2 — Unintentional — flat iron caught piece of paper on fire.	0	0	\$0-99
	3 — Unintentional — burnt baseball hat in microwave oven.	0	0	\$0-99
Stevenson North (C and D Towers) 1350 Stevenson Drive	Unintentional — burnt chair while cooking on hot plate.	0	0	\$100-999
Stevenson South (A and B Towers) 420 Stadium Drive	Intentional — burnt clothing in hamper in student's room.	0	0	\$0-99
Hotel in Holmes Student Center <sup>3</sup> 340 Carroll Avenue	0	0	0	0

<sup>2</sup>Neptune North was vacant during the spring of 2023.

<sup>3</sup>The Hotel in the Holmes Student Center was utilized as on-campus student housing temporarily on various dates throughout 2023.

## Lorado Taft Campus 2023

On-campus Student Housing Facility with Street Address <sup>1</sup>	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries that Require Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire
Clarkson (Lorado Taft Campus)	0	0	0	0
Grover (Lorado Taft Campus)	0	0	0	0
Heckman (Lorado Taft Campus)	Unintentional — lint caught fire due to excessive buildup in dryer.	0	0	\$ 100-999

<sup>1</sup>The address for the Lorado Taft Campus is 1414 North River Road, Oregon, Illinois. Clarkson, Grover and Heckman do not have individual street addresses.

## Future Fire Safety Program Improvements in On-campus Student Housing Facilities

NIU continually looks for opportunities to improve and expand fire safety policies, procedures and educational programming for on-campus student housing facilities based upon available resources.

### Contact Information

To report an on-campus emergency, including all fires, please call 911.

To report an extinguished fire, please contact the Department of Environmental Health and Safety at [ehs@niu.edu](mailto:ehs@niu.edu).

### Additional Contact Information

NIU Department of Police and Public Safety Nonemergency.....815-753-1212











## Safety Tips

- Always keep your doors and windows locked. Never leave personal property unattended.
- If possible, let a friend or roommate know where and with whom you'll be and when you'll return.
- Trust your instincts. If you feel uncomfortable about someone near you on the street, in an elevator or getting off a bus, head for a populated place or yell for help.
- Use well-lit and busy sidewalks.
- Avoid walking alone or walking near vacant lots, alleys, construction sites and wooded areas. Use the Huskie Patrol Safe Walk escorts, 815-753-1212.
- Carry a cell phone, whistle or a personal alarm to alert people that you need help.
- Download the NIU Safe App in the Apple Store or Google Play.
- Attend an educational course and learn what can be done to avoid vulnerability to crimes like sexual assault, relationship violence and stalking.
- Try to park in an area that will be well-lit and heavily traveled when you return.
- Lock your car doors and roll up the windows completely, even if you're only running a quick errand. Do not leave valuables in plain view.
- If you choose to drink, drink legally and responsibly. Remember that your ability to respond is diminished by over-consumption of alcohol.
- Stay alert at all times and call the police immediately to report suspicious activity.
- Follow all rules of the road when driving a car, riding a bike or using other forms of personal transportation such as rollerblades, skateboards or scooters.
- Create ICE (In Case of Emergency) as a contact in your cell phone and include a name and telephone number of a loved one in the contact profile to enable emergency services personnel to contact your family in the event of an emergency.
- Listening to loud music, wearing headphones or using your cell phone distracts you from being alert to potential safety issues. Unplug yourself and tune in to your immediate environment.
- Utilize crosswalks at all times and obey the signals at intersections when walking. Under Illinois law, as a pedestrian, you DO NOT have the right of way until you establish yourself in the crosswalk. If you are crossing at any location other than a crosswalk, you MUST yield to vehicular traffic.
- When driving, be aware of pedestrians and bicyclists and yield to them when required by law.
- Sign up for NIU Safety Notifications at [niu.edu/publicsafety/emergency/register](https://niu.edu/publicsafety/emergency/register).

