# 2022 Annual Safety and Security Report

## (Information for the 2022-2023 Academic Year)

This information is provided for Northern Illinois University main campus (DeKalb) and the Lorado Taft, Rockford, Naperville and Chicago campuses. This information is provided in compliance with federal law, known as the Clery Act, HEOA, the Illinois Campus Security Enhancement Act and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

## Read this Report Online

The full text of this 2022 Annual Safety and Security Report is available online at [niu.edu/clery](https://niu.edu/clery/).

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## Introduction

Northern Illinois University’s main campus is located in DeKalb, Illinois, and is home to 15,649 students and 3,070 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.

Northern Illinois University (“NIU” or the “university”) is committed to promoting the safety and security of the campus community. The annual publication of the Annual Security Report (“ASR” or “Report”) fulfills the requirements of the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (“Clery Act”). This report provides NIU’s policies related to safety and security, alcohol and drugs, sexual misconduct, crime prevention, and the reporting of crimes. It also includes crime, arrest, and referral 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.

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 the report is also made to all prospective students and employees. The report is available at [niu.edu/clery](https://www.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 the ASR are also available upon request to the director of Clery compliance via email [CleryCompliance@niu.edu](mailto:CleryCompliance@niu.edu).

All members of the NIU community are encouraged to read this report. While the 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.

## Preparing the Annual Security Report

NIU’s director of Clery compliance, housed in the Ethics and Compliance Office, prepares the ASR in consultation with the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety (“NIU Police”) and other departments, including, but not limited to: the Division of Student Affairs; Student Conduct; the Division of Academic Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; and Human Resource Services. These departments provide updated information on their educational efforts and programs or other information as required by the Clery Act.

NIU’s annual crime, arrest, and referral statistics for the previous three calendar years include Clery-reportable crimes (see Pages 23-24 for definitions) 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 — (1) Any building or property owned or controlled by an institution within the same reasonably contiguous geographic 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 (2) Any building or property that is within or reasonably contiguous to the area identified 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 — (1) Any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the institution; or (2) Any building or property owned or controlled by an institution that is 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.

To determine annual statistics, the director of Clery compliance reviews all police reports received by the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety, as well as all reports filed with other university offices, such as Student Conduct and the Ethics and Compliance Office. Information is also requested from identified Campus Security Authorities and numerous local law enforcement agencies, including:

* DeKalb Police Department;
* DeKalb County Sheriff’s Office;
* Naperville Police Department;
* Ogle County Sheriff’s Office;
* Rockford Police Department;
* Other applicable local law enforcement agencies.

All the statistics are gathered, compiled, and reported to the university community via this report, which is published by NIU. NIU submits the annual crime 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. Incident information that appears in the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety Daily Crime Log and in this report, as well as data that is sent to the U.S. Department of Education, does not contain personally identifiable information.

The policies in this report apply to all NIU campus locations (DeKalb, Lorado Taft, Naperville, and Rockford) unless otherwise stated in a particular section of the report. The crime statistics in this report are presented in separate crime statistics charts for each campus.

## Letter from the President

The well-being, safety and even health of our Huskie community requires involvement from our entire Huskie pack. This is true in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, and at all times. Together we are stronger when we work collaboratively to maintain a safe and respectful community in which to live, work and study.

NIU’s Office 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 hours a day, seven days a week, interacting with the campus community and patrolling the surrounding neighborhoods. They also provide a broad range of self-defense training, education and outreach programs that can help all of us better protect ourselves and those around us.

Our Office of Prevention Education and Outreach, a department within Academic Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, also works to keep campus safe by coordinating training devoted to prevention of sexual violence, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking. Our Title IX office also participates in working with those who fall victim to such crimes, providing resources and individualized support to help them through the difficult aftermath of such events.

This annual security report summarizes useful statistics, safety-related services and resources, and key policies and procedures. For more information on how we strive to keep campus safe, I encourage you to visit our website at [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 helping us create a campus environment that is safe, respectful and supportive for all students, faculty, staff and guests.

Dr. Lisa C. Freeman  
President, Northern Illinois University

## Reporting Crimes and Other Emergencies

Campus safety depends upon the prompt reporting of crimes, public safety-related incidents and other emergencies by members of the NIU community. NIU encourages all members of the NIU community to report all crimes and emergencies to the police.

Prompt reporting to the police or other Campus Security Authorities (CSAs), as described below, allows the university to evaluate whether there is a serious or continuing threat to the university community for the purpose of issuing a timely warning (see Page 15) or emergency notification (see Page 14) and promotes accurate tracking and reporting of crime statistics.

### Reporting to Law Enforcement

Individuals are encouraged to promptly and accurately report all crimes and public safety-related incidents to the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety or the appropriate local police agency, including when the victim elects to, or is unable to, make such a report. Such reports assist NIU in compiling the annual statistical disclosure and making assessments about whether it is necessary to issue a timely warning to the campus community. A report with law enforcement may be made using one of the following options:

#### DeKalb Campus

Emergency 911

Nonemergency Phone: 815-753-1212

Email: niupd@niu.edu

In person: 295 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

### Reporting to Campus Security Authorities

Campus Security Authorities (CSAs) are required to report in a timely manner Clery-reportable crimes they witness or become aware of that occurred on or within NIU Clery geography. Clery-reportable crimes and Clery geography are defined on Pages 23-24.

If an individual reports a Clery-reportable crime to a CSA, the CSA will report it to the university. If the reported crime or incident involves an emergency, the CSA should immediately call 911. Such reports assist NIU in compiling the annual statistical disclosure and making assessments about whether it is necessary to issue a timely warning to the campus community.

The Clery Act identifies four categories of individuals and organizations who may qualify as CSAs:

1. A campus police department or a campus security department of an institution.
2. Any individual or individuals who have responsibility for campus security but who do not constitute a campus police department or a campus security department, such as an individual who is responsible for monitoring entrance into institutional property.
3. Any individual or organization specified in an institution’s statement of campus security policy as an individual or organization to which students and employees should report criminal offenses.
4. An official of an institution who has significant responsibility for student and campus activities, including, but not limited to, student housing, student discipline and campus judicial proceedings. If such an official is a pastoral or professional counselor, they are not considered a CSA when acting as a pastoral or professional counselor. However, they are encouraged to inform persons they are counseling of procedures to report crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in the annual disclosure of crime statistics. Because they are not CSAs, the university is not required to issue a timely warning with respect to crimes reported to pastoral and professional counselors.

While NIU has identified a multitude of CSAs, 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.
* Faculty and staff advisors to student organizations.
* NIU Department of Police and Public Safety.

The university offers an online and in-person CSA training program that covers the duties and responsibilities of CSAs and how to report crimes.

### Reporting Confidentially

If an individual wants to report a crime on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in this report, but does not want to pursue action with the university or the criminal justice system, they may contact NIU’s confidential advisor within the Center for Student Assistance, Campus Life Building 150, 815-753-8300.

Reports of crime can also be filed anonymously with the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety 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](htpps://go.niu.edu/tipline).

### Response to a Reported Crime

The NIU Department of Police and Public Safety personnel 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 in an effort to identify the responsible party. When appropriate, crime suspects may be adjudicated through the criminal justice system and/or university system.

The daily crime log is available electronically on the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety website at [niu.edu/publicsafety](https://niu.edu/publicsafety) under Resources or at the Records Unit located at the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety, 395 Wirtz Drive, DeKalb, Illinois. The crime log contains information concerning reported crimes and includes case numbers, classification of the crime, date reported, date and time occurred, general location and disposition of the crime.

## Campus Police Authority and Jurisdiction

The NIU Department of Police and Public Safety 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) in any county wherein the university and any of its branches or properties are located. Their primary jurisdiction includes all property owned or controlled by the university, as well as streets adjacent to and running through campus. The NIU Department of Police and Public Safety has

36 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. All sworn officers are certified, or will be certified as Emergency Medical Technicians. Several officers are also certified paramedics.

In addition to its sworn police officers, the Department of Police and Public Safety also employs seven security guards and contracts with a third-party security company to provide additional security guards for the campus community. The 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 Department of Police and Public Safety maintains intergovernmental agreements and working relationships with the city of DeKalb Police Department, DeKalb County Sheriff’s Office, Illinois State Police, as well as other local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

**Collaborative Policing**: By mutual agreement with the city of DeKalb, university police assist DeKalb Police by patrolling specific neighborhoods surrounding the main campus. The agreement formalizes the city’s request for university police officers to prevent and respond to crimes in progress and take proactive law enforcement action to support community safety.

**DeKalb County Special Operations Team**: By mutual agreement with the DeKalb County Sheriff’s Office, the NIU Police Department provides personnel, equipment and other resources to respond and mitigate dangerous incidents that present significant risk to the public and law enforcement.

**DeKalb County Major Case Squad**: By mutual agreement with the DeKalb County Sheriff’s Office, the NIU Police Department provides personnel, equipment and other resources to investigate serious or expansive incidents of crime that occur within DeKalb County.

**Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm (ILEAS) System**: By mutual agreement with the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System, the NIU Police Department provides local law enforcement across Illinois with assistance for emergency response to natural disasters, civil unrest and terrorism prevention.

NIU operates nonresidential education centers in Naperville and Rockford. While the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety maintains primary law enforcement jurisdiction at these centers, the local municipal police departments where each center is located will in all likelihood be the first responders should an emergency occur. The NIU Lorado Taft Outdoor Education Center in Oregon, Illinois, is a popular field trip destination for many local school districts and supplements the biology and outdoor ecology science curriculum at the elementary and middle school levels. Lorado Taft Outdoor Education Center operates as our other facility with a residential facility. The Ogle County Sheriff’s Office will in all likelihood be the first responders at this location as well should an emergency occur.

### Access to and Security of Campus Facilities and Residence Halls

The NIU campus is located within the city of DeKalb and is generally open to the public. Except as restricted in individual cases, the academic and administrative buildings are open to the public, at a minimum, during normal business hours. Most facilities have individual hours, and the hours may vary at different times of the year. Access to some of these buildings is controlled by proximity card access after normal business hours, and all of these buildings have varied levels of access.

Officers patrol the academic and administrative buildings on a regular basis. For information about the access protocol for a specific building, contact the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety at 815-753-1212.

NIU Department of Police and Public Safety officers patrol the residence halls on a regular basis. Access to residence halls is restricted to residents, their approved guests and other approved members of the university community. Residents gain entry by presenting their proximity cards (NIU OneCard) to the proximity card readers and using their university-issued residence hall key. Residents are cautioned against permitting strangers to enter the buildings and are urged to require individuals seeking entry to use their own personal access cards. Community advisors and hall directors also maintain security measures in the halls and work with residents to achieve a community respectful of individual and group rights and responsibilities.

### Maintenance of Campus Facilities

Facilities and landscaping are maintained in a manner designed to minimize the potential for hazardous conditions. The NIU Department of Police and Public Safety officers regularly patrol the campus and report malfunctioning lights and other unsafe physical conditions to Facilities Management and Campus Services for correction. Campus lighting typically meets or exceeds the industry standard for pedestrian walkways, and parking lots are well-lit and routinely patrolled by the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety officers. It is helpful when other members of the university community report equipment problems to the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety or Facilities Management and Campus Services. Safety concerns for lighting, locks and shrubbery blocking clear sight lines can be reported by contacting Facilities Management and Campus Services at [WorkOrder@niu.edu](mailto:workorder@niu.edu) or calling 815-753-1741. More information is available at [go.niu.edu/report-concerns](https://go.niu.edu/report-concerns).

### Sex Offender Registration

The federal Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act, enacted Oct. 28, 2000, went into effect Oct. 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.state.il.us/sor](https://isp.state.il.us/sor).

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

## Crime Prevention and Security Awareness Programs

The NIU Department of Police and Public Safety takes a proactive approach to preventing crimes. The goal of crime prevention and security awareness programs is to minimize or eliminate criminal opportunities whenever possible. Typically during new student summer orientation, students and their families are informed about the types of crimes that occur on campus and prevention resources offered by the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety.

Programs are offered year-round. During the 2021 calendar year, the NIU Police Department conducted 31 programs. Programs typically include general crime prevention and security awareness programs such as safety education forums, programs and discussions about topics such as alcohol abuse and domestic violence, Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) training, ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) training, S.A.F.E (Self-Defense, Awareness, Familiarization, Exchange) Training, fire safety, emergency response and evacuation procedures, sexual assault prevention and theft prevention. Also included are classes in CPR. In these programs, students and employees are encouraged to be responsible for their own security and the security of others.

For a list of Safety Services and Training see [niu.edu/publicsafety](https://niu.edu/publicsafety).

### NIU Safe App

The NIU Safe app, [go.niu.edu/NIUSafe](https://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 get where you’re going.
* Virtual Walk to send NIU Department of Police and Public Safety Dispatch Center your location. The dispatcher will be notified if you don’t reach your destination.
* A Mobile Blue Light button that behaves like an Emergency Call Box to have NIU Police dispatched immediately.
* Ability to report a tip anonymously to NIU Police.

NIU Safe also has the ability to display campus maps showing the user’s location, access instructions on what to do in various emergencies, contact Huskie Safe Walk and link to the Huskie Line bus tracker. It also provides phone numbers for campus support services such as sexual misconduct prevention, health services and campus mental health resources.

### Community Oriented Policing Strategies (COPS) Unit

The NIU Community Oriented Policing Strategies Unit (COPS) is a specialized team that uses proactive and hands-on measures to maintain and ensure the safety of our students. We use the latest innovations and insights to mitigate criminal activity around the NIU campus and surrounding areas.

Members of the COPS Unit also work to create collaborative partnerships with key members of the university community and provide crime prevention education and safety awareness presentations to the community. The presentations develop a transparent understanding of the police role in the community and how to meet safety goals with the community’s help. These efforts help us to remain proactive about the safety of our students, staff and faculty while also helping to develop relationships with the surrounding community members.

## Safety in Residence Halls and Campus Buildings

The university has implemented a structure with the protection of students in residence halls being a top priority. The elements of this system include:

* Security personnel.
* Door peepholes.
* Locked entrance doors.
* Proximity Card/Key access 24/7 for floor doors and elevators in high-rise residence halls.
* Information about steps students can take to maintain their safety, which is also discussed at floor meetings and outlined in the Housing Handbook.
* Requirement that residents show identification and use their proximity card (NIU OneCard) for entry between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.
* Residents are permitted one registered guest for no more than 72 hours consecutively. All guests are required to present photo identification and register.

The university places restrictions on guests, building access and actions that may have a detrimental effect on student security. Such restrictions include:

* Building entrance only through designated areas.
* Prohibition on assisting others to gain unauthorized entry.
* Prohibition on propping doors open.
* Guest registration procedures when guests are permitted.
* Prohibitions on duplicating or giving a room key to another person.
* Prohibition on any activity that would endanger the safety of others.

If a student is found in violation of any of the above restrictions, the university may impose sanctions or fines on the student. Additional information can be found in the Safety and Security section of the Housing Handbook. It is available online at [niu.edu/housing/halls/handbook](https://niu.edu/housing/halls/handbook).

## Off-campus Crime

The DeKalb Police Department has primary jurisdiction for law enforcement services to off-campus residences —including noncampus sorority and fraternity houses. NIU Department of Police and Public Safety officers routinely respond and assist the DeKalb Police Department at these off-campus locations. Off-campus student violations of the law or university policy may be addressed by Student Conduct or the Ethics and Compliance Office.

### Criminal Activity at Noncampus Locations of Student Organizations Officially Recognized by NIU

NIU Department of Police and Public Safety officers have primary jurisdiction over university-owned or leased properties within the city limits of DeKalb. The DeKalb Police Department routinely responds to calls for service as they may be closer to the incident. The DeKalb Police Department also monitors and records criminal activity at noncampus locations of student organizations officially recognized by NIU. They work cooperatively with the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety, Student Conduct, the Ethics and Compliance Office, and the Division of Student Affairs to address problems as they arise. NIU Department of Police and Public safety 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.

## Emergency Preparedness

As required by state and federal law, Northern Illinois University has a comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan that details immediate response and evacuation procedures. The NIU Department of Police and Public Safety 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 Department of Police and Public Safety 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.

NIU Department of Police and Public Safety 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 campus community, the first responders to the scene will typically be members of the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety with assistance as needed from the DeKalb Police Department, Sycamore Police Department, DeKalb Fire 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.

## NIU Safety Notifications

The purpose of NIU Safety Notifications is to notify the campus community of important information to enhance personal safety.

NIU students have the ability to register up to two additional contacts to receive safety notifications. These contacts can be parents, guardians, spouses, family members or anyone else the student chooses. There are three types of NIU safety notifications that may be issued: NIU Alerts, Safety Warnings and Community Awareness Messages.

### NIU Alerts

First responders will confirm with their supervisors that there is, in fact, a significant emergency or dangerous situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety to the campus community.

If the threat occurs within the primary jurisdiction of another law enforcement agency, the chief of police or designee will contact the respective department’s designee to confirm the threat and draft the content of the notice in order to provide appropriate information; provided that the process does not impede the timeliness of the alert being issued as required by the Clery Act.

Upon confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees occurring on campus, an NIU Alert will be issued to expedite emergency response and/or evacuation procedures. The goal of an NIU Alert is to notify as many people as possible, as rapidly as possible, through a variety of channels with adequate follow-up information as needed. The NIU Department of Police and Public Safety has the ability to distribute information through a variety of methods as shown in the table below. Most buildings on campus are equipped with weather radios to warn campus officials of dangerous weather. Emergency sirens are located on and around campus. Some or all of these methods of communication will be used to provide follow-up information to the NIU community. Face-to-face communication may also be used in some circumstances. Updates and follow-up information will also be posted on [niu.edu/safetynotification](https://go.niu.edu/safetynotification). All NIU email addresses are automatically enrolled in the university’s emergency notification system. In order to receive text messages (when that method of delivery is appropriate), you need to provide your mobile phone number through MyNIU. You can also download the [NIU Safe app (go.niu.edu/NIUSafe)](https://www.niu.edu/publicsafety/emergency/register/index.shtml#app) to receive NIU Alerts on your mobile device.

The local news media may be utilized to disseminate emergency information to members of the larger community including neighbors, parents and other interested parties. The larger community can also access emergency information via the NIU homepage and/or social media.

NIU will, without delay, and taking into account the safety of the community, determine the content of the notification and initiate the emergency 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 entire campus community will be notified anytime an NIU Alert is disseminated. There will be a continuing assessment of the situation and follow-up information will be provided to the entire campus community as needed. NIU Alerts are issued for incidents such as an active threat/shooter, major hazardous materials release, major fire, infectious disease outbreak or a tornado that would directly impact campus.

NIU has implemented a formal process that gives the chief of police or designee the authority to confirm a significant emergency or dangerous situation, to develop the content, to determine the appropriate segment(s) of the campus community to receive the notification and to initiate the Emergency Notification System to send a message to the campus community. NIU police officers and local first responders on the scene of a critical incident or dangerous situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of the campus community will assist those preparing the emergency notification with determining the content and what segment or segments of the campus community should receive the NIU Alert.

### NIU Alerts Channel and Administrators

* Text message and/or phone call to students and employees – texts will come from 23-7233 (BE SAFE).
  + Primary Message Creator — NIU Sergeants
  + Backup Message Creator — NIU Commander
  + Authority for Approving and Sending Messages — NIU Chief/Deputy Chief
  + Primary Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Dispatcher
  + Backup Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Commander
* AlertUs desktop notification to employee workstations.
  + Primary Message Creator — NIU Sergeants
  + Backup Message Creator — NIU Commander
  + Authority for Approving and Sending Messages — NIU Chief/Deputy Chief
  + Primary Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Dispatcher
  + Backup Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Commander
* Message broadcast via fire panels/loud speakers in campus buildings.
  + Primary Message Creator — NIU Sergeants
  + Backup Message Creator — NIU Commander
  + Authority for Approving and Sending Messages — NIU Chief/Deputy Chief
  + Primary Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Dispatcher
  + Backup Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Commander
* Push notification via NIU Safe app.
  + Primary Message Creator — NIU Sergeants
  + Backup Message Creator — NIU Commander
  + Authority for Approving and Sending Messages — NIU Chief/Deputy Chief
  + Primary Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Dispatcher
  + Backup Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Commander
* Message on the NIU homepage.
  + Primary Message Creator — NIU Sergeants
  + Backup Message Creator — NIU Commander
  + Authority for Approving and Sending Messages — NIU Chief/Deputy Chief
  + Primary Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Dispatcher
  + Backup Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Commander
* Information posted on the Safety Notifications webpage.
  + Primary Message Creator — NIU Sergeants
  + Backup Message Creator — NIU Commander
  + Authority for Approving and Sending Messages — NIU Chief/Deputy Chief
  + Primary Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Dispatcher
  + Backup Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Commander
* Email sent to all niu.edu email addresses.
  + Primary Message Creator — NIU Sergeants
  + Backup Message Creator — NIU Commander
  + Authority for Approving and Sending Messages — NIU Chief/Deputy Chief
  + Primary Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Dispatcher
  + Backup Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Commander
* NIU Police and Public Safety on Facebook.
  + Primary Message Creator — NIU Sergeants
  + Backup Message Creator — NIU Commander
  + Authority for Approving and Sending Messages — NIU Chief/Deputy Chief
  + Primary Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Dispatcher
  + Backup Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Commander
* @NIUPolice on Twitter.
  + Primary Message Creator — NIU Sergeants
  + Backup Message Creator — NIU Commander
  + Authority for Approving and Sending Messages — NIU Chief/Deputy Chief
  + Primary Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Dispatcher
  + Backup Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Commander

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

#### Safety Warnings

In the event that a Clery Act crime is reported to a campus security authority, local police agency, or NIU Department of Police and Public Safety that has occurred within the NIU Clery geography or extended patrol area and is considered by NIU to represent a serious or continuing threat to students and employees, a Safety Warning will be issued to the entire campus community in a manner that is timely, that withholds the names and other identifying information of victims as confidential, and that will aid in the prevention of similar crimes. The patrol sergeant and commander will work with the deputy chief to develop the content. Safety Warnings will be issued to the campus community via email blast to all NIU assigned email accounts. Safety Warnings may also be issued using some or all of the systems listed below. For a list of Clery Act crimes, see Definitions of Reportable Crimes and Other Associated Terms on Page 26 of this publication.

All incidents are considered on a case-by-case basis by the chief of police or designee after reviewing the facts, the amount of information known by the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety and deciding whether there is a serious or continuing threat to the campus community. For example, if an assault occurs between two students who have a disagreement, there may be no ongoing threat to other NIU community members, and a Safety Warning would not be distributed. Cases involving sexual assault are often reported long after the incident occurred, thus there is no ability to distribute a “timely” warning notice to the community.

#### Safety Warning Channel and Administrators

* Push notification via NIU Safe app.
  + Primary Message Creator — NIU Sergeants
  + Backup Message Creator — NIU Commander
  + Authority for Approving and Sending Messages — NIU Chief/Deputy Chief
  + Primary Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Dispatcher
  + Backup Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Commander
* Information posted on the Safety Notifications webpage.
  + Primary Message Creator — NIU Sergeants
  + Backup Message Creator — NIU Commander
  + Authority for Approving and Sending Messages — NIU Chief/Deputy Chief
  + Primary Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Dispatcher
  + Backup Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Commander
* Email to students and employees.
  + Primary Message Creator — NIU Sergeants
  + Backup Message Creator — NIU Commander
  + Authority for Approving and Sending Messages — NIU Chief/Deputy Chief
  + Primary Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Dispatcher
  + Backup Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Commander
* NIU Police and Public Safety on Facebook.
  + Primary Message Creator — NIU Sergeants
  + Backup Message Creator — NIU Commander
  + Authority for Approving and Sending Messages — NIU Chief/Deputy Chief
  + Primary Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Dispatcher
  + Backup Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Commander
* @NIUPolice on Twitter.
  + Primary Message Creator — NIU Sergeants
  + Backup Message Creator — NIU Commander
  + Authority for Approving and Sending Messages — NIU Chief/Deputy Chief
  + Primary Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Dispatcher
  + Backup Message Sender/Distributor — NIU Commander

#### Community Awareness Messages

The chief of police or designee may issue Community Awareness Messages to the NIU campus community, for other incidents that may impact the NIU campuses. A Community Awareness Message is a notification that is initiated to disseminate information about important topics that are in the interest of the well-being of the community. The intent of a Community Awareness Message is to advise the campus community about health and safety issues (crime prevention, traffic and weather info) so people can make informed decisions. This information is shared with the NIU community to promote public safety. Community Awareness Messages are not required by law. The decision to issue a Community Awareness Message is at the discretion of the chief of police or designee.

## Emergency Response Planning

Planned fire drills are conducted at least once per year in each residence hall at the DeKalb campus, and participation is mandatory. Students learn the locations of the emergency exits in the buildings and are provided guidance about the direction they should travel when exiting each facility.

The purpose of evacuation drills is to prepare building occupants for an organized evacuation in case of an emergency. Evacuation drills are used as a way to educate and train occupants on issues specific to their building. During the drill, occupants “practice” drill procedures and familiarize themselves with the location of exits and the sound of the fire alarm. In addition, the process provides the university an opportunity to test the operation of fire alarm system components.

Evacuation drills are monitored by the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety, Environmental Health and Safety, and Housing and Residential Services to evaluate egress and behavioral patterns. If any deficient equipment is identified, a report will be prepared so that repairs can be made immediately. Recommendations for improvements are also submitted to the appropriate departments for consideration.

Residential students receive information about evacuation and shelter-in-place procedures during their first floor meetings and during other educational sessions that they can participate in throughout the year. Housing staff members are trained in evacuation procedures as well as emergency response procedures.

As a part of the comprehensive emergency operation plan for the university, announced and unannounced drills, exercises and follow-through activities (i.e., tests of the emergency response plans) are conducted annually. Minimally, tabletop exercises are conducted for various campus units identified as having emergency response responsibilities in order to test response and evacuation procedures. All exercises are documented to include: a description of the exercise, the date, time and whether it was announced or unannounced and appropriate

after-action reports are completed pursuant to the Illinois Campus Security Enhancement Act. After-action reports are completed detailing lessons learned, and follow-up items are identified with responsibilities assigned to appropriate campus entities.

The campus publicizes an Emergency Response Guide which provides a summary of the emergency response and evacuation procedures via NIU Today and the Department of Police and Public Safety website at least once each year in conjunction with a test (exercise and drill) that meets all of the requirements of the Higher Education Opportunity Act. Housing staff reviews such procedures with students at floor meetings throughout the year. This guide is reviewed each year by the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety.

### Notification of a Missing Student

If a member of the university community has reason to believe that a student is missing they shall immediately notify the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety (“the police”) by dialing 911 or calling the nonemergency 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 are 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 police will investigate the report and, if the facts determine that student is missing, the police will generate a report by entering relevant student data into an appropriate database, and notify additional law enforcement agencies, if necessary.

Within 24 hours after determination that a student is missing, the police shall notify the student’s missing person contact(s). Every student has the ability to identify missing person contact(s) via MyNIU ([myniu.niu.edu](https://myniu.niu.edu)). This 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 designated contact person, within 24 hours of the determination that the student is missing. Regardless of whether the student has identified a contact person, is above the age of 18, or is an emancipated minor, the 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.

## 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 Department of Police and Public Safety, Housing Staff members, 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 in to NIU Department of Police and Public Safety 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 Department of Police and Public Safety 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 Department of Police and Public Safety 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.

## NIU Policies Pertaining to Alcohol and Illegal Drugs

The Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 as well as the policies of Northern Illinois University prohibit the unlawful possession, use and/or distribution of controlled substances and alcohol on property owned, operated or controlled by Northern Illinois University, or in association with any university-related duties or activities. The NIU Department of Police and Public Safety enforces all state and federal drinking and drug laws including underage drinking.

As an institution of higher education, Northern Illinois University 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.

Northern Illinois University 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, Northern Illinois University 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.

Northern Illinois University 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 on Page 19. Northern Illinois University does not endorse any particular off-campus provider, and invites individuals seeking assistance to utilize the local yellow pages for additional providers.

Northern Illinois University may impose disciplinary sanctions 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. Northern Illinois University 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.

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 10 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](https://www.niu.edu/conduct/_pdf/code-of-student-conduct.pdf) and, without limitation, may include the following:

* + Expulsion, suspension, or probation.
  + Referral to Counseling and Consultation Services for a Substance Use Assessment and/or Substance Use Education and Intervention Program.
  + Referral to Office of Student Academic Success.
  + Referral for action under policies relating to residence halls.
  + Student conduct fine.
  + Parental notification.

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 [niu.edu/policies/policy-documents/drug-free-schools-communities-act.shtml](http://niu.edu/policies/policy-documents/drug-free-schools-communities-act.shtml). NIU’s Student Code of Conduct is available at [niu.edu/conduct/process](http://niu.edu/conduct/process).

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 [niu.edu/student-affairs/\_pdf/biennial-academic-review.pdf](http://niu.edu/student-affairs/_pdf/biennial-academic-review.pdf).

### Abuse and Neglect Reporting

Illinois Public Act 097-0711 was signed into law with an immediate effective date of June 27, 2012. The “Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act” was amended to include institutions of higher education personnel, athletic program or facility personnel requiring a duty to report when they have “reasonable cause to believe a child known to them in their professional or official capacity may be an abused child or a neglected child…” The DCFS Hotline is 1-800-25ABUSE (22873). If you have questions regarding these requirements you can contact the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety at 815-753-1212 for assistance. New hires and rehires at NIU complete the Abuse and Neglect Reporting training as part of the online onboarding process. The information is communicated to employees and posted on the Department of Police and Public Safety’s website [go.niu.edu/dcfs](https://go.niu.edu/dcfs).

### Student Conduct

Any member of the university community may document a situation which may be a violation of institutional policy. The documentation method involves completion of an incident report, located online at [niu.edu/conduct/incident-reporting](https://niu.edu/conduct/incident-reporting).

Completion of an incident report notifies the Student Conduct office of a potential incident with copies provided to other appropriate university offices, including, but not limited to: NIU Department of Police and Public Safety, Housing and Residential Services, and Environmental Health and Safety. Filing an incident report does not constitute filing a police report or making an official report to another office on campus. The incident report serves as a mechanism for notifying appropriate institutional offices of an incident.

Completion of an incident report notifies the Student Conduct office of a potential incident with copies provided to other appropriate university offices, including, but not limited to: NIU Department of Police and Public Safety, Housing and Residential Services, and Environmental Health and Safety. Filing an incident report does not constitute filing a police report or making an official report to another office on campus. The incident report serves as a mechanism for notifying appropriate institutional offices of an incident.

The completion of an incident report to document a situation in Student Conduct does not constitute a Student Conduct referral for Clery purposes. A referral for Clery reporting occurs, if the incident reported meets the definition of a crime reportable under the Clery Act and a disciplinary action which may result in the imposition of a sanction is initiated.

The Student Code of Conduct outlines the process under which all student conduct incidents are investigated and adjudicated as appropriate. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct ([go.niu.edu/code-of-conduct](https://go.niu.edu/code-of-conduct)) for further information on the process.

#### Emergency Contact Information

Put ICE (In Case of Emergency) in your cell phone, with a name and telephone number of an emergency contact to help emergency services personnel in the event of an emergency.

### 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  
[niu.edu/counseling](https://www.niu.edu/counseling)

#### Faculty and Staff

Employee Assistance Program   
815-753-9191  
[go.niu.edu/employee-assistance](https://niu.edu/employee-assistance)

#### Community Resources

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

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

### Letter from the Chief of Police

Dear Campus Community:

Thank you for taking the time to review our 2022 Annual Security Report (ASR). At the 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 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 commit to fulfilling our responsibilities with integrity, compassion and respect.

The ASR, provided to you in accordance with the Jeanne Cleary Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, 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 the university and in identifying tips for keeping yourself and others safe.

Together, we continue to endure the impact of COVID-19 on our lives, on our family and friends, and on our campus. Our police officers, security guards and dispatchers continued to protect and serve our students on campus 24/7 during the pandemic. I am proud of the dedication and resiliency of our staff during this public health crisis. As we face these ongoing challenges together, we ask for patience, tolerance and understanding with each other during this difficult time.

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 the remaining living spaces on campus.

I would be remiss if I didn’t speak to the challenges facing law enforcement today. While this has been a difficult year for policing, I want our students, faculty and staff to know that we at Northern Illinois University 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 the community that we serve through policy, training, transparency and accountability. All our police officers receive Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) and Racial Intelligence Training and Engagement (RITE) to recognize and reduce implicit bias and enhance our skills to de-escalate encounters with law enforcement. Also, in collaboration with the Office of Academic Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, many of our police officers have been trained as facilitators for Conversations on Diversity and Equity (CODE) 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 the community that 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 key 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 NIUPD, we hope you have a safe and successful school year.

Go Huskies!

Darren Mitchell  
Acting Chief of Police  
Northern Illinois University

## Clery Act Reporting

Publication of this annual report is required by the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (“the Clery Act”), a federal law. The annual crime statistics were compiled by the director of Clery Compliance in conjunction with the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety with information from the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety, Student Conduct, Ethics and Compliance Office, Human Resource Services, Campus Security Authorities and relevant local and state police agencies. Requests for Clery-reportable crimes were made in good faith; however, some agencies did not respond or could not provide the statistics as requested. The university’s yearly crime statistics are compiled on a calendar-year basis. The report includes statistics for the previous three years concerning crimes that occurred within the geography outlined by the Clery Act for each campus and were reported to the NIU Department of Police and Public Safety or designated campus officials. Additionally, these statistics include people referred for campus disciplinary action for categories required under the Clery Act. Referrals occur when a person is not arrested for weapons, drug abuse or liquor law violations, but is instead referred for campus disciplinary action. Statistical information for certain off-campus locations or property owned or controlled by the university, as well as public property within or immediately adjacent to and accessible from campus, are collected or requested from local police departments. For statistical purposes, crime statistics reported to any of these sources are recorded in the calendar year in which the crime was reported.

The crime statistics tables are reflective of the requirements mandated by the Clery Act for compiling this report. NIU reports the crimes required by the Clery Act that occurred on or within the institution’s Clery Geography that were reported to a Campus Security Authority or local police agency.

### Classifying Crime Statistics

The statistics on the following pages are published in accordance with the standards and guidelines used by the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook and the Clery Act.

The number of victims involved in a particular incident is indicated for the following crime classifications: murder/ non-negligent manslaughter, manslaughter by negligence, sex offenses (rape, fondling, incest, statutory rape) and aggravated assault. For example, if an aggravated assault occurs and there are three victims, this would be counted as three aggravated assaults in the crime statistics.

The number of incidents involving a particular offense is indicated for the following crime categories (includes one offense per distinct operation): robbery, burglary and arson. For example, if five students are walking across campus together and they are robbed, this would count as one instance of robbery in the crime statistics chart.

In cases of motor vehicle theft, each vehicle stolen is counted.

In cases involving weapons, drug abuse or liquor law violations, each person who was arrested is indicated in the arrest statistics. The statistics captured under the “Judicial Referrals” section for weapons, drug abuse and liquor law violations indicate the number of people who were referred to Student Conduct for violating those specific laws.

Statistics for hate crimes are counted in each specific Clery–reportable crime category and therefore are part of the overall statistics reported for each year. The only exception to this is the addition of a bias-motivated larceny, simple assault, intimidation and destruction/damage/vandalism of property; the law requires that this statistic be reported as a hate crime even though there is no requirement to report the crime in any other area of the compliance document.

### Definitions of Reportable Crimes and Other Associated Terms

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

**Negligent Manslaughter**: 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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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. For the purposes of this section, the categories of bias include the victim’s actual or perceived race, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, and disability.

**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.

**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 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 Law 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.

**Unfounded Crimes**: An institution 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 reporting under this section. 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.

**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).

**On-Campus Student Housing Facilities**: Property owned or controlled by the institution used to provide housing for the institution’s students.

**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.

### Criminal Offenses - NIU DeKalb

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

2019

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criminal Offense | On-Campus | Residence Hall | Public Property | Non-Campus | Total |
| Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manslaughter by Negligence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rape | 10 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 13 |
| Fondling | 6 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Incest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Statutory Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Aggravated Assault | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| Burglary | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| VAWA Offenses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Violence | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| Dating Violence | 21 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 21 |
| Stalking | 4 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Arrests |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| Drugs | 2 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 6 |
| Alcohol | 4 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 8 |
| Judicial Referrals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 5 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Alcohol | 85 | 63 | 0 | 2 | 87 |

2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criminal Offense | On-Campus | Residence Hall | Public Property | Non-Campus | Total |
| Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manslaughter by Negligence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rape | 4 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| Fondling | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| Incest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Statutory Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Aggravated Assault | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| Burglary | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Arson | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| VAWA Offenses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Violence | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Dating Violence | 13 | 11 | 0 | 1 | 14 |
| Stalking | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Arrests |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 5 |
| Drugs | 2 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 6 |
| Alcohol | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Judicial Referrals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Alcohol | 12 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 13 |

2021

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criminal Offense | On-Campus | Residence Hall | Public Property | Non-Campus | Total |
| Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manslaughter by Negligence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rape | 6 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 7 |
| Fondling | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Incest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Statutory Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Aggravated Assault | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary | 8 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Arson | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| VAWA Offenses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Violence | 21 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 28 |
| Dating Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stalking | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arrests |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Drugs | 1 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 8 |
| Alcohol | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Judicial Referrals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 9 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 21 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 21 |
| Alcohol | 25 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 25 |

Unfounded Clery Act Crimes

2021: Two unfounded cases.   
2020: Two unfounded cases.   
2019: Two unfounded crime.

Hate Crime Reporting

2021: One hate crime reported.   
2020: One hate crime reported.   
2019: No hate crimes reported.

### Criminal Offenses - NIU Naperville

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

2019

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criminal Offense | On-Campus | Residence Hall | Public Property | Non-Campus | Total |
| Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manslaughter by Negligence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fondling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Incest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Statutory Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aggravated Assault | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| VAWA Offenses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dating Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stalking | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arrests |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Judicial Referrals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criminal Offense | On-Campus | Residence Hall | Public Property | Non-Campus | Total |
| Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manslaughter by Negligence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fondling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Incest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Statutory Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aggravated Assault | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| VAWA Offenses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dating Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stalking | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arrests |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Judicial Referrals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

2021

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criminal Offense | On-Campus | Residence Hall | Public Property | Non-Campus | Total |
| Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manslaughter by Negligence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fondling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Incest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Statutory Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aggravated Assault | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| VAWA Offenses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dating Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stalking | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arrests |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Judicial Referrals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Unfounded Clery Act Crimes

2021: No unfounded cases.  
2020: No unfounded cases.  
2019: No unfounded cases.

Hate Crime Reporting

2020: No hate crimes reported.   
2020: No hate crimes reported.   
2019: No hate crimes reported.

### Criminal Offenses - NIU Hoffman Estates

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

2019

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criminal Offense | On-Campus | Residence Hall | Public Property | Non-Campus | Total |
| Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manslaughter by Negligence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fondling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Incest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Statutory Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aggravated Assault | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| VAWA Offenses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dating Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stalking | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arrests |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Judicial Referrals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criminal Offense | On-Campus | Residence Hall | Public Property | Non-Campus | Total |
| Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manslaughter by Negligence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fondling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Incest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Statutory Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aggravated Assault | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| VAWA Offenses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dating Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stalking | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arrests |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Judicial Referrals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

2021

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criminal Offense | On-Campus | Residence Hall | Public Property | Non-Campus | Total |
| Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manslaughter by Negligence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fondling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Incest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Statutory Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aggravated Assault | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| VAWA Offenses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dating Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stalking | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arrests |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Judicial Referrals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Unfounded Clery Act Crimes

2021: No unfounded cases.  
2020: No unfounded cases.  
2019: No unfounded cases.

Hate Crime Reporting

2020: No hate crimes reported.   
2020: No hate crimes reported.   
2019: No hate crimes reported.

Criminal Offenses – NIU Rockford  
Residence Hall numbers are also included in the On-Campus category.

2019

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criminal Offense | On-Campus | Residence Hall | Public Property | Non-Campus | Total |
| Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manslaughter by Negligence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fondling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Incest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Statutory Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aggravated Assault | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| VAWA Offenses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dating Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stalking | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arrests |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Judicial Referrals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criminal Offense | On-Campus | Residence Hall | Public Property | Non-Campus | Total |
| Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manslaughter by Negligence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fondling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Incest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Statutory Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aggravated Assault | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| VAWA Offenses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dating Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stalking | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arrests |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Judicial Referrals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

2021

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criminal Offense | On-Campus | Residence Hall | Public Property | Non-Campus | Total |
| Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manslaughter by Negligence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fondling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Incest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Statutory Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aggravated Assault | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| VAWA Offenses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dating Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stalking | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arrests |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Judicial Referrals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Unfounded Clery Act Crimes

2021: No unfounded cases.  
2020: No unfounded cases.  
2019: No unfounded cases.

Hate Crime Reporting

2020: No hate crimes reported.   
2020: No hate crimes reported.   
2019: No hate crimes reported.

Criminal Offenses – Lorado TaftResidence Hall numbers are also included in the On-Campus category.

2019

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criminal Offense | On-Campus | Residence Hall | Public Property | Non-Campus | Total |
| Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manslaughter by Negligence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fondling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Incest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Statutory Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aggravated Assault | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| VAWA Offenses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dating Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stalking | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arrests |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Judicial Referrals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criminal Offense | On-Campus | Residence Hall | Public Property | Non-Campus | Total |
| Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manslaughter by Negligence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fondling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Incest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Statutory Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aggravated Assault | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| VAWA Offenses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dating Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stalking | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arrests |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Judicial Referrals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

2021

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criminal Offense | On-Campus | Residence Hall | Public Property | Non-Campus | Total |
| Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Manslaughter by Negligence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fondling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Incest | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Statutory Rape | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aggravated Assault | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| VAWA Offenses |  |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dating Violence | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stalking | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arrests |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Judicial Referrals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Alcohol | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Unfounded Clery Act Crimes

2021: No unfounded cases.  
2020: No unfounded cases.  
2019: No unfounded cases.

Hate Crime Reporting

2020: No hate crimes reported.   
2020: No hate crimes reported.   
2019: No hate crimes reported.

## Annual Fire Safety Report

The Environmental Health and Safety Department (EHSD) compiles and maintains a fire safety log and Annual Fire Safety Report for the university, in compliance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act.

The Annual Fire Safety Report for the 2021-2022 academic year can be found at [niu.edu/ehs/resources/fire-log.shtml](https://www.niu.edu/ehs/resources/fire-log.shtml). Copies may also be obtained by calling 815-753-0404 or at the Environmental Health and Safety Office located in Room 200 of the Dorland Building located at 180 West Stadium Drive on the main NIU campus.

## Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence 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](https://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 or not forcibly or against the person’s will (non-consensually) 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 or not forcibly or against the person’s will (non-consensually) 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,

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. A personal 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 at least 13 years of age but 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:

1. creating a disturbance at petitioner’s place of employment or school;
2. repeatedly telephoning petitioner’s place of employment, home or residence;
3. repeatedly following petitioner about in a public place or places;
4. 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;
5. 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
6. 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.

**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**: (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 domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking has occurred, the below procedures are encouraged for victims to follow.

**1. Go to a Safe Place**

• Call 9-1-1 to connect with local law enforcement agencies or medical professionals.

**2.** **Talk to Someone you Trust**

**3.** **Seek Medical Attention and Evidence Preservation**

• It is recommended that you seek medical attention as soon as you are able to do so. Seeking medical attention allows for the treatment of injuries and allows evidence to be preserved. It is important to preserve evidence that may assist in proving that the alleged criminal offense occurred or may be helpful in obtaining a protection order. For immediate medical attention and evidence preservation, go to the Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital at 1 Kish Hospital Drive, DeKalb, IL, 815-756-1521. Completing evidence preservation/forensic examination does not require you to file a police report.

• To best preserve evidence, it is advisable not to bathe, wash your hands, use the restroom, drink, smoke, change clothing or brush your teeth after a crime occurs. If you do change clothes, you may bring them unwashed to the hospital in a paper bag. Under Illinois law, the cost of a forensic examination for a sexual violence survivor that is not covered by private insurance or public aid will be covered by the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, and should not be billed to the patient. Therefore, you will not have to pay out-of-pocket for the exam.

You are also encouraged to preserve evidence by saving text messages, phone call logs, other communications, pictures, and other copies of documents related to what occurred.

**4. Report the Incident**: You have several options for reporting the incident, if you choose to do so. You may directly notify one of the following law enforcement agencies:

• NIU Department of Police and Public Safety (for on-campus crimes), 395 Wirtz Drive, DeKalb, IL, 815-753-1212.

The NIU Department of Police and Public Safety personnel are trained to receive, document and investigate all reported crimes. An officer will work with individuals to obtain information and evidence, identify potential witnesses and conduct a thorough investigation in an effort to identify the responsible party. When appropriate, crime suspects may be adjudicated through the criminal justice system and/or university system.

• DeKalb Police Department (for off-campus crimes), 700 W. Lincoln Highway, DeKalb, IL, 815-748-8400

In addition to contacting local law enforcement, you may also file a complaint with the university. A university complaint (Sexual Misconduct Complaint) may be submitted electronically at [go.niu.edu/file-misconduct](https://go.niu.edu/file-misconduct) or by contacting the Title IX Coordinator at 815-753-5560 or [TitleIXCoordinator@niu.edu](mailto:TitleIXCoordinator@niu.edu). More information about the university’s procedures for investigating and resolving a Sexual Misconduct Complaint are found later in this Report.

If you would like assistance in notifying a law enforcement agency or filing a complaint with the university, you may contact the university’s Confidential Advisor at 815-753-8300.

The following resources can receive a confidential complaint wherein disclosure of a crime does not result in an official investigation and communications are considered privileged, i.e. not disclosed to others including law enforcement or the Title IX Coordinator, unless you consent to a disclosure. The following are entities designated to assist you in making reports to law enforcement or university offices:

• Safe Passage (off campus, free and for all),  
815-756-5228, 24-hour hotline.

• Counseling Services (on-campus, free and for students)  
Counseling and Consultation Services,   
Campus Life 200, 815-753-1206, [niu.edu/counseling](https://niu.edu/counseling)

• Employee Assistance Program (On-campus, free and for employees)  
Holmes Student Center 7th Floor, 815-753-9191  
[go.niu.edu/eap](https://niuits-my.sharepoint.com/personal/a10klw1_mail_niu_edu/Documents/ECO/https;/go.niu.edu/eap)

Ultimately, it is your choice whether or not to make a report and to decline to notify any of the above-described entities.

**5. 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 or protective measures. Examples include:

* Transferring to a different section of a class, or withdrawing and taking a class at another time.
* Moving do a different residence hall room.
* 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 supportive measures if the victim requests them, if 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.

To request supportive measures, contact the Title IX Coordinator at 815-753-5560 or [TitleIXCoordinator@niu.edu](mailto:TitleIXCoordinator@niu.edu). If you wish to receive assistance in requesting a supportive measure, please call the Center for Student Assistance at 815-753-8300 to be referred to the NIU Confidential Advisor, Safe Passage at 815-756-5228 or the Employee Assistance Program at 815-753-9191.

**6. Consider obtaining a protection order.** Victims of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking have the right to request a protection order, whether through the university or the court system.

University “no contact” orders. The university may issue an institutional “no contact” order between members of the campus community. A “no contact” order may be issued regardless of whether a formal sexual misconduct complaint has been filed with the university. If the university receives a report that an institutional no contact order has been violated, the university will initiate disciplinary proceedings appropriate to the status of the accused (student, employee, etc.) and will 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 at [TitleIXCoordinator@niu.edu](mailto:TitleIXCoordinator@niu.edu),   
815-753-5560, or stop by the Ethics and Compliance Office on the 2nd floor of the Health Services Building.

Court protection orders. An order of protection, restraining order, stalking no contact order, and other similar protection orders may also be petitioned for in criminal, civil or tribal court. Northern Illinois University complies with Illinois law in recognizing such protection orders by providing the resources to comply with protection orders and assist victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. Any person who obtains a protection order from Illinois or any reciprocal state should contact the Center for Student Assistance at 815-753-8300 for more information on or to be referred to an advocate who can work with police and the Title IX Coordinator to coordinate services and additional assistance to the victim. This information will be shared with additional persons only at the request of the victim.

To learn more about protection orders and how to obtain one through the court system, there are several options:

1. Contact NIU’s Confidential Advisor to learn more about different protection orders and how to obtain one. The university cannot apply for a protection order for a victim.
2. Contact Safe Passage and an advocate can discuss if you qualify to file a protection order, how you can go about obtaining the order, and talk about additional resources and support that the agency offers.
3. Go online and petition for a protective order. (It is advised that the individual work with the NIU Confidential Advisor or Safe Passage for assistance with filing the order. Contacting an advocate is not mandatory to obtain an order but is strongly advised.)
4. Go to the DeKalb County State’s Attorney’s Office and an advocate in their office will provide options for filing the order.

**7. Consider developing a Safety Action Plan.** You can meet with an the NIU Confidential Advisor, s Safe Passage advocate and/or the NIU Police to develop a Safety Action Plan, which is a plan for campus police and you to have in place to provide you options and resources to travel to and from campus safely. This plan may include, but is not limited to: escorts, special parking arrangements, providing a temporary cellphone, changing classroom location or allowing a student to complete assignments from home, etc.

### 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 sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, 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 may 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 page 40 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, then contacts the victim via email within two business days offering to confidentially meet 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 of 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. Periodic updates about the grievance process will be provided to the complainant and respondent throughout the investigation. 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.

After gathering all reasonably available evidence, the investigator will prepare an Evidentiary Report to be distributed to the complainant and respondent. This report will contain 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 the report. After a review of submitted written responses, the investigator will incorporate the additional information into a final Investigative 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 Investigative Report and provide a written response. The final Investigative Report serves as a basis for the hearing. Before the hearing takes places, 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 Investigative 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.).
* No contact (direct or indirect) with the complainant or involved party.
* 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.
* 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.
* Simultaneously 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.

### Confidentiality Statement

The university protects the identity of individuals who report having been victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence or stalking to the best of its ability. All reports and information concerning conduct related to the Sexual Misconduct Policy will be handled with privacy and shared when there is a need-to-know basis within the university, or investigation or adjudication of a report/complaint.

The university does not publish the name of crime victims or other identifiable information regarding victims on the Daily Crime Log or in the annual crime statistics that are disclosed in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act. Furthermore, if a Timely Warning Notice is issued on the basis of a report of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking, the name of the victim and other personally identifiable information about the victim will be withheld.

Any student that does not want directory 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. Regardless of whether a student has opted-out of allowing the university to share “directory information,” personally identifiable information about the student and other necessary parties will be treated as confidential and only shared with persons who have a specific need-to-know, i.e., those who are investigating/adjudicating the report or those involved in providing supportive measures to the involved parties. By only sharing personally identifiable information with individuals on a need-to-know basis, the institution will maintain as confidential, any supportive measures provided to the involved party to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the institution to provide the supportive measure.

### 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 constitutes retaliation. Retaliation should be reported immediately to the Title IX Coordinator at 815-753-5560 or [TitleIXCoordinator@niu.edu](mailto:TitleIXCoordinator@niu.edu).

### Know Your Rights

* Be informed of all reporting options.
* Be free from pressure to make a criminal report.
* Have any allegations of sexual misconduct, including sexual assault, harassment, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking, investigated and adjudicated by the appropriate campus, criminal and/or civil authorities.
* Be notified of existing campus and community medical services, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration support, student financial aid assistance, order of protection support, counseling and mental health services, whether or not the incident is reported to campus, criminal and/or civil authorities.
* Receive, when required, the full prompt cooperation of campus personnel when obtaining, securing and preserving evidence.
* Be informed of options for, available assistance in, and how to request changes to academic, living, dining, transportation and working situations as well as protective measures offered by NIU.

### Education and Prevention Programs

The university engages in comprehensive, intentional and integrated programming, initiatives, strategies and campaigns intended to prevent or end dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking that:

1. Are 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,
2. Consider environmental risk and protective factors as they occur on the individual, relationship, institutional, community and societal levels.

The university provides programs to prevent dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, which include primary prevention and awareness programs directed at incoming students and new employees, and ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns directed at students and employees. 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 included 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. Ongoing prevention programs means 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 university. These programs include, at a minimum,

the following:

1. Identify domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking as prohibited conduct.
2. Definitions of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
3. Definitions of consent to sexual activity under NIU policy and in the State of Illinois.
4. Descriptions of safe and positive options for bystander intervention.
5. Information on risk reduction.
6. Procedures victims should follow if a crime of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking has occurred.
7. Information about how the institution will protect the confidentiality of victims and other necessary parties.
8. A statement that the institution 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 institution and in the community.
9. A statement that the institution 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 institution 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 institutional 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 institution 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 institution will provide the student or employee a written explanation of the student’s or employee’s rights and options.

### Primary Prevention and Awareness Programs

NIU’s Office for Prevention Education and Outreach (PEO) seeks to educate and support efforts to empower the campus and community to prevent violence and discrimination. Through this role of educating and supporting campus efforts PEO encourages awareness and adherence to policies, procedures and laws prohibiting sexual misconduct, discrimination, and harassment. While providing prevention programming, PEO also promotes safety and inclusivity in campus and community settings.

PEO is a campus resource providing a variety of programs and avenues for students, staff, and faculty to increase awareness of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and non-discrimination as well as, to intervene, prevent violence, limit risk and report concerns. Activities are provided throughout the year with opportunity for student and employee participation.

For employees, Sexual Misconduct Awareness and Prevention training begins in the Human Resources Onboarding process. Each new employee receives a brief description of the required sexual misconduct training. New employees are then added to the university Blackboard system to take the training online before or very soon after they arrive on campus. In the Sexual Misconduct and Nondiscrimination training new employees receive training which includes all forms of sexual misconduct, policies and procedures, penalties for violations and how to be an active bystander. After the training is completed, new employees take a ten-question test and must pass with at least an 80%. Once they pass the test, they will be able to print out a certificate which they present to their department. All new employees are to complete the online Sexual Misconduct and Nondiscrimination training within 30 days of hire.

At the end of each month, PEO receives a list of all new university employees. The list is reviewed and if any employee on the list did not attend orientation and is not signed up for a full Sexual Misconduct and Nondiscrimination training, they are sent an email welcoming them to the NIU family and explaining the requirement and a link to the online registration system. The training is asynchronous. If they do not respond to this email, a follow-up email is sent. If the second email is not responded to in a timely manner, the supervisor is informed of the requirement and asked to assist in ensuring employee availability, sign up and completion.

The Illinois Preventing Sexual Violence in Higher Education Act, 110 ILCS 155 et seq, requires all institutions of higher education in Illinois to provide sexual violence primary prevention and awareness programming for students, staff, and faculty. New students are required to complete an e-learning module including Sexual Misconduct Awareness and Prevention.

Returning students are encouraged to complete the Sexual Misconduct online module each year. The module focuses on definitions of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking as well as active bystander training, healthy and unhealthy relationships, sexual harassment, reporting sexual misconduct and retaliation. Employees are required to complete the annual online Sexual Misconduct Awareness and Prevention training during the spring, typically beginning in February. The online program is produced by NIU and includes all forms of sexual misconduct, reporting procedures, active bystander interventions, available resources and specific NIU expectations of students, staff, and faculty.

PEO provides a wide range of trainings and presentations all over campus, all year long including events every month, to a variety of groups. Some groups request a presentation to improve their awareness, other groups are invited for various reasons and other departments require specific training. The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) requires all athletes and sports administration to complete additional sexual misconduct awareness trainings which are conducted by PEO. PEO works closely with Athletics to also provide active bystander training to all athletes. In addition, Fraternity and Sorority Life participate in Active Bystander training as well as specific training for Presidents and other cabinet members.

In addition to the above trainings specific to Sexual Misconduct and nondiscrimination, PEO provides campus awareness activities for students and employees. For October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month activities included online workshops entitled, “Huskies Supporting Huskies,” “Self-care Isn’t Selfish,” “Workplace Active Bystander Intervention” and “Active Bystander for Students.” Staff and Peer educators also spent time on campus tabling to bring awareness of domestic violence. These events took place in the library and at DuSable Hall. Other in person events took place at Holmes Student Center entitled SurvivArt. Students were invited to attend and take some time to paint and design art projects. Staff collaborated with Safe Passage, the local domestic violence and sexual assault crisis center. In addition, staff partnered with the Gender and Sexuality Resource Center to provide a Womanist Wednesdays event during domestic violence awareness month.

In January, Stalking Awareness Month, PEO utilized digital media to bring awareness of stalking. Messaging was placed on multiple monitors around campus. A two-hour presentation on stalking entitled, “Know It, Name It. Stop It.” was presented.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. PEO collaborates with and conducts workshops and presentations on sexual assault including “Active Bystander for Students”, “Start by Believing,” “Rape Culture IRL,” as well as multiple tabling sites including the Latino Resource Center, Asian American Resource Center and the Gender and Sexuality Resource Center. In addition, staff partnered with the Gender and Sexuality Resource Center to provide a Womanist Wednesdays event and with the Asian American Resource Center to provide “Asian Dating and Domestic Violence.” Collaborations have been key to the success of PEO 2021-2022 programming.

Also, in April, NIU Co-sponsored the in person “Walk a Mile” in her shoes event along with Safe Passage. The event was attended by more than 55 people supporting those who are survivors of sexual assault. Some individuals wore red high heels. The group walked around the campus lagoon in show of solidarity. Students, employees, and community members were in attendance.

Advertising trainings, workshops and awareness activities is conducted in a variety of ways. Each event has its own specific audience with the need for a targeted, multifaceted approach to marketing. One or more of the following marketing strategies are utilized depending on the event/activity: Academic Diversity, Equity and Inclusion website, sexual misconduct website, 49 partner websites, fliers/posters, social media including Facebook and the main NIU page, digital signage via monitors displayed throughout campus, e-mail invitations to previous attendees and specific groups, NIU Today, Northern Star, and the NIU Calendar.

PEO continues to seek new and different ways to ensure all campus and community constituents are aware of the devastating effects of sexual assault/misconduct and provide ways to intervene safely, prevent violence and lower the rate of sexual assaults on campus.

For more information about PEO projects see [niu.edu/prevention-education-outreach](https://www.niu.edu/prevention-education-outreach).

### Risk Reduction

Risk reduction means 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 where there is the potential for violence for potential escalation of violence. With no intent of victim blaming and recognizing that only abusers are responsible for their abuse, the following are some strategies to reduce one’s risk of becoming the victim of violence:

1. **Be aware of your surroundings.** Especially if you are new to campus it is important to know where you are and who is around you. This may help you to find a way to get out of a bad situation.
2. **Avoid giving out your contact information too soon.** Take time to get to know people before giving out private information.
3. **Try to avoid isolated areas.** It is more difficult to get help if no one is around.
4. **Walk with purpose.** Even if you don’t know where you are going, act like you do.
5. **Trust your instincts**. If a situation or location feels unsafe or uncomfortable, it probably isn’t the best place to be. If you see something suspicious, call 911 immediately.
6. **Try not to load yourself down** with packages or bags as this can make you appear more vulnerable.
7. **Make sure your cell phone is with you and charged**. It is a good idea to program emergency numbers into your phone, so you can contact help quickly if necessary.
8. **Don’t allow yourself to be isolated** with someone you don’t trust or someone you don’t know.
9. **Avoid putting music headphones** in both ears so that you can be more aware of your surroundings, especially if you are walking alone.
10. **When you go to a social gathering, go with a group of friends**. Arrive together, check in with each other throughout the evening and leave together. Knowing where you are and who is around you may help you to find a way out of a bad situation.
11. **Don’t leave your drink unattended** while talking, dancing, using the restroom or making a phone call. If you’ve left your drink alone, just get a new one.
12. **Don’t accept drinks from people you don’t know or trust**. If you choose to accept a drink, go with the person to the bar to order it, watch it being poured, and carry it yourself. At parties, don’t drink from the punch bowls or other large, common open containers.
13. **Watch out for your friends, and vice versa**. If a friend seems out of it, is way too intoxicated for the amount of alcohol they’ve had or is acting out of character, get them to a safe place immediately.
14. **If you suspect you or a friend has been drugged, contact law enforcement immediately (local authorities can be reached by calling 911 in most areas of the U.S.**). Be explicit with doctors so they can give you the correct tests (you will need a urine test and possibly others).
15. If you need to get out of an uncomfortable or scary situation here are some things that you can try:
    1. **Remember that being in this situation is not your fault**. You are not to blame; it is the person who is making you uncomfortable who is to blame.
    2. **Be true to yourself**. Don’t feel obligated to do anything you don’t want to do. “I don’t want to” or “no” is always a good enough reason. Do what feels right to you and what you are comfortable with.
    3. **Have a code word** with your friends or family so that if you don’t feel comfortable you can call or text them and communicate your discomfort without the person you are with knowing. Your friends or family can then come to get you or make up an excuse for you to leave.
    4. **Lie**. If you don’t want to hurt the person’s feelings it is better to make up a reason to leave than to stay and be uncomfortable, scared or worse. Some excuses you could use are: needing to take care of a friend or family member, not feeling well, having somewhere else that you need to be, etc.
16. Try to think of an escape route. How would you try to get out of the room? Where are the doors? Windows? Are there people around who might be able to help you? Is there an emergency phone nearby?
17. If you and/or the other person have been drinking, you can say that you would rather wait until you both have your full judgment before doing anything you may regret later..

### How to be an Active Bystander

Prevention Education and Outreach (PEO) conducts Active Bystander training to teach individuals violence prevention and intervention strategies when they are faced with a potential situation involving dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking. Active Bystander training includes recognizing situations of potential harm, overcoming barriers to prevention and intervention, identifying safe and effective prevention and intervention strategies and techniques, and taking action before a situation escalates.

Active bystanders play a critical role in the prevention of sexual and relationship violence. They are “individuals who observe violence or witness the conditions that perpetuate violence. They are not directly involved but have the choice to prevent, intervene, speak up or do something about it.” NIU promotes a culture of community accountability where students and employees alike, take action to prevent and intervene in safe ways. We may not always know what to do when a situation occurs but, there are options to help. Below is a list of some ways to be an active bystander. If you or someone else is in immediate danger, dial 911. This could be when a person is being physically or emotionally abusive toward another, and it is not safe for you to intervene or interrupt. There are many ways you can help by safely taking a stance. Don’t do anything that will put you in danger of harm however, these may be ways you can intervene safely.

* **The Director**: directly intervene or directly address the inappropriate behavior; “Hey, that is not okay to say.”
* **The Distractor**: draw attention away from the situation; fake being sick, tell a joke, ask if they completed the homework assignment.
* **The Delegator**: get help from friends, classmates, coworker, or call 911.

### On and Off-campus Resources

#### On-Campus Resources

#### Counseling/Mental Health

* Counseling and consultation  
  NIU Advocacy Coordinator  
  815-753-1206
* Counseling and mental health  
  NIU Employee Assistance Program   
  815-753-9191   
  [EmployeeAssistance@niu.edu](mailto:EmployeeAssistance@niu.edu)
* Psychological services  
  NIU Psychological Services Center  
  815-753-0591

#### Health

* Health services   
  Northwestern Medicine Student Health Center at NIU  
  815-306-2777

#### Center for Student Assistance

* 815-753-8300 or [studentassistance@niu.edu](mailto:studentassistance@niu.edu)
* Student Emergency Fund
* Pregnancy and childcare
* Food and housing
* Advocacy and victim services
* Transportation
* Mental health
* Military and Veteran Services
* Commuter and Off-campus Programs

#### Respondent Advisor

* Advocacy Services  
  NIU Dean of Students Office  
  815-753-1573   
  [DeanofStudents@niu.edu](mailto:DeanofStudents@niu.edu)

#### Legal Assistance

* Consultation, advocacy and court representation services  
  NIU Students’ Legal Assistance  
  815-0753-1701  
  [studentslegal@niu.edu](mailto:studentslegal@niu.edu)

#### Visa and Immigration Assistance

* International student and faculty advising services  
  NIU International Student and Scholar Services  
  815-753-1346  
  [isfo@niu.edu](mailto:isfo@niu.edu)

#### Student Financial Aid

* Financial Aid   
  NIU Financial Aid and Scholarship Office  
  815-753-1395  
  [finaid@niu.edu](mailto:finaid@niu.edu)

#### Other

* Couple and family therapy   
  NIU Couple and Family Therapy Clinic   
  815-753-1684  
  [familytherapy@niu.edu](mailto:familytherapy@niu.edu)
* Guidance on university issues  
  NIU Ombudsperson  
  815-753-1414  
  [ombuds@niu.edu](mailto:ombuds@niu.edu)

#### Off-campus Resources

#### Counseling/Mental Health

* Counseling and Other Essential Services  
  Family Service Agency  
  815-758-8616  
  [info@fsadekalbcounty.org](mailto:info@fsadekalbcounty.org)
* Emotional and mental health services  
  Northwestern Medicine Behavioral Health Services\*  
  815-756-1521
* Domestic violence victim services  
  State of Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline   
  877-863-6338
* Counseling  
  Safe Passage\*  
  815-756-5228

#### Health

* Hospital   
  Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital   
  815-756-1521

#### Victim Advocacy

* Victim advocacy services   
  Safe Passage\*   
  815-756-5228

#### Legal Assistance

* Prairie State Legal Services\*   
  800-942-3940
* DeKalb County State’s Attorney’s Office   
  815-895-7164  
  [DeKalbSAO@dekalbcounty.org](mailto:DeKalbSAO@dekalbcounty.org)

#### Visa and Immigration Assistance

* Information Services  
  United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement Student and Exchange Visitor Program   
  703-603-3400   
  [sevp@ice.dhs.gov](mailto:sevp@ice.dhs.gov)

#### Student Financial Aid

* Financial Aid   
  Federal Student Aid Office of the United States Department of Education   
  800-433-3243

#### Hotlines

* Suicide   
  National Suicide Prevention Hotline   
  800-273-8255
* Domestic violence   
  National Domestic Violence Hotline   
  800-799-7233
* Sexual assault   
  National Sexual Assault Hotline   
  800-656-4673

\*The service providers listed above with an asterisk are confidential.

Other resources available include:

* [Icasa.org](http://icasa.org/) — Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault, State Sexual Assault Crisis Center
* [rainn.org](http://rainn.org/) — Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network
* [justice.gov/ovw/sexual-assault](https://www.justice.gov/ovw/sexual-assault) — Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network

### 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 Safe Line or Huskie Patrol escorts.
* Learn the locations of all call boxes on campus.
* 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.
* Put ICE (In Case of Emergency) in your cell phone, along with a name and telephone number of a loved one, 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/emergencyinfo/register](https://niu.edu/emergencyinfo/register).