

Key Terms

Title IX

The federal law that protects people from discrimination based on sex in any educational program or activity.

Know the Difference

Title IX and GVSU's Interim Policy are not the same thing! While closely related, the university policy is created by GVSU using Title IX as it's guide.

GVSU Interim Policy Prohibiting Harassment, Discrimination, Retaliation, & Sexual Misconduct

This university policy is derived from Title IX law, and is structured around GVSU's specific needs.

COVID-19 Virtual Misconduct

The university's sexual misconduct policy, sexual or gender-based harassment policy, and antiharassment policy are available online and apply to behaviors that occur in person between members of the university community, but also apply to online and virtual misconduct. Any behavior that is prohibited by policies is also likely prohibited in cyber-forms, including cyber harassment that is sex-based, and cyber-stalking.

Consent

Informed, freely given, and active demonstration through words or actions to engage in any sexual activity. Someone cannot consent when they are unconscious or when they are incapacitated from drinking alcohol or taking drugs.

Amnesty

Students are able to report an incident in which minor policy violations occurred without fear of being reprimanded. These minor policy violations include things such as alcohol or drug use. For example, if a sexual assault occurred while under the influence of alcohol while underage, a student is able to report the assault without fear of violating the "alcohol policy at GVSU"

Employee

All persons employed by the university.

Complainant

A person bringing forward a complaint of a GVSU policy violation. Ex. In victim advocacy this term refers to the person who is a victim/survivor.

Respondent

A person who is alleged to have violated GVSU's policy.

Advisor

May be a friend, mentor, family member, attorney, or any other individual a party chooses to advise, support, or consult with.

Supportive Measure

Restoring or preserving access to educational programs or activities
Ex. alternative housing arrangements, counselling services, academic support, etc.