



TITLE IX

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS, PREVENTION & REPORTING

It is the goal of Lake Area Technical Institute to maintain an environment that is free from any type of sexual assault. To that end, Lake Area Tech will educate students using a variety of best practices aimed at educating the entire Lake Area Tech community in a way that decreases violence and maintains a culture where sexual assault and acts of violence are not tolerated.

DEFINITION

RAPE: Sexual intercourse that is perpetrated against the will of the victim or without the victim's consent. This definition applies whether the assailant is a stranger to, or is known by the victim.

SEXUAL ASSAULT: An intentional sexual contact, physical threat, or the abuse of authority when the victim does not or cannot consent.

Sexual assault may include the following forms of contact: intentional touching, either of the victim or when the victim is forced to touch directly or through clothing another person's genitals, breasts, groin or buttocks; attempted rape; sodomy, sexual penetration with an object.

Lack of consent exists when one or more of the following factors are present: force; intimidation or threat; temporary or permanent mental incapacity on the part of the victim; temporary or permanent physical helplessness on the part of the victim; incapacity to consent due to the youth of the victim; silence or an absence of resistance does not imply consent.

RAPE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT ARE ACTS OF VIOLENCE

PREVENTION/ RED FLAGS

Approximately 83% of victims know their attacker. Alcohol and/or other substance use is generally a contributing factor. Trust your instincts and be alert if the person you are with:

- Ignores, interrupts, or makes fun of you
- Sits or stands too close to you or stares at you
- Drinks too much alcohol or uses drugs
- Pressures you to drink alcohol or take drugs
- Tries to touch or kiss you, or gets into your "personal space" without your consent
- Tries to separate you from your friends
- Pressures you to be alone with him/her
- Gets angry, sulks, or becomes manipulative if he/she does not get his/her way
- Pressures you to have sex or tries to make you feel guilty for saying "no"

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE SEXUALLY ASSAULTED

- **SAFETY FIRST:** Get to a place where you will be safe from further attack. For your own protection, call the police immediately, especially if the assailant is nearby. The police will help you whether or not you choose to prosecute the assailant. Prosecution can be determined later.
- Call a friend.
- Get medical attention immediately. The primary purpose of a medical examination following a rape/sexual assault is to check for physical injury. The secondary purpose of a medical examination is to aid in the police investigation and legal proceedings.
- Do not shower, bathe or douche. You may be washing away valuable evidence. Wait until medical personnel have examined you.

- Do not brush your teeth or gargle, eat or drink anything, use the restroom or shower, or put on makeup.
- Save your clothing. Don't remove, change, throw away, or wash any clothes worn during the sexual assault. If you have already changed or must change clothes, place each item of clothing in a separate paper bag (plastic destroys evidence).
- Do not clean or straighten up the scene.
- If you choose not to notify the police, please seek medical attention and contact any of the support resources listed. **Lake Area Tech can also assist you with contacting any of these supporting agencies.**

REPORTING PROCEDURE

Victims are encouraged to report any sexual assault, rape, or any sexual offense to the police (911), whether forcible or non-forcible.

If the incident occurred on Lake Area Tech's campus, or involves Lake Area Tech students please also contact staff at (605) 882-5284.

HELPING A FRIEND WHO IS A VICTIM

- Remain calm
- Believe the victim, and give them control
- Encourage the victim to seek medical attention
- Remember the victim did nothing wrong
- Let the victim express feelings
- Encourage counseling
- Be supportive without being judgmental: don't ask for details, don't ask probing questions, don't tell them what they need to do, don't gossip

UNDERSTANDING PHYSICAL & EMOTIONAL EFFECTS

These may be short-term or lasting. Some common effects are:

- Shock or denial about the assault
- Muscle tension and headaches
- Change in sleeping and eating habits
- Nausea and vomiting
- Feelings of fear, shame or guilt
- Anger, irritability and anxiety
- Nightmares and flashbacks
- Sense of worthlessness, helplessness or loss of control
- Withdrawal from others and loss of interest in usual activities
- Loss of interest in sex

BECOMING A SURVIVOR

Remember, sexual assault is never your fault. Recognize that healing takes time. Seek help from available resources.

Know that it's never too late to ask for help. Additional resources are available at <https://www.notalone.gov/>.

CONTACTS & RESOURCES

Police: 911

LAKE AREA TECH

Title IX Coordinator

Diane.Stiles@lakeareatech.edu
605-882-5284 ext. 225

Counseling (Free & Confidential)

Jessi.Whetsel@lakeareatech.edu
605-882-5284, ext. 216

RAPE CRISIS CENTER

The Beacon Center
605.886.4300
1.800.660.8014.

EMERGENCY HOTLINES

Helpline Center 24/7
Dial 211

MEDICAL FACILITIES

Prairie Lakes Healthcare
605-882-7000
info@prairielakes.com

FAMILY PLANNING

Watertown Family Medical
605-882-1852