

LIBERTY UNIVERSITY

NEW STUDENT

Parent Packet

2023-24



LIBERTY
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE *of* EQUITY
& COMPLIANCE



WELCOME!

We are excited for your student to join us this fall! Liberty University is committed to fostering an environment where your student feels safe physically, emotionally, and socially, and the Office of Equity & Compliance/ Title IX (OEC) is critical in upholding this important safety commitment.

In this booklet, you'll learn more about the OEC and how we help ensure your student's safety at Liberty — all to give you peace of mind as they take this next step.



WHAT DOES THE OEC DO?

We oversee compliance with several federal laws including [Title IX](#) and the [Jeanne Clery Act](#), which includes compliance with Clery Act-related crimes such as the Violence Against Women Act or VAWA. We also update and enforce the [Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) and [Non-Discrimination & Equal Opportunity Policy](#).



WHAT IS THE CLERY ACT?

The Clery Act is a consumer protection law that requires colleges and universities to report campus crime statistics, support victims of violence, provide prevention programming, and issue an Annual Security Report (ASR) every Oct. 1. For more information on the Clery Act or to view Liberty's ASR, click here: [LU Campus Safety & Security](#).

Learn more about Liberty's safety initiatives and emergency management on our [Office of Security & Public Safety](#) or [Emergency Guidelines](#) webpages. You can also download the new safety app, [Champion Safe](#), which features emergency contacts, crisis alerts, and more.



WHAT IS TITLE IX?

Title IX is a federal civil rights law in the United States that was passed in 1972. This law states, "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."

You may think of Title IX as relating to sports, but it also prohibits sexual misconduct such as:

- Sexual Harassment
- Sexual Assault
- Dating and Domestic Violence
- Stalking
- Sexual Exploitation



WHAT IS THE OEC'S Mission?

We are dedicated to addressing and preventing sexual misconduct within our campus community. We exist to provide:

- A **safe** environment for Liberty University students, staff, and faculty to report incidents of sexual misconduct.
- A **supportive** environment by offering resources and supportive measures.
- A **neutral** and unbiased process to complainants (victim) and respondents (accused).



HOW DOES THE OEC *Address* SEXUAL MISCONDUCT?

1

Often, when a student discloses that they have experienced sexual misconduct, they tell someone they know, such as their Resident Assistant or professor. To effectively address and prevent sexual misconduct, Liberty requires certain employees and student-employees to report incidents of sexual misconduct to the OEC.

For more information on those populations, click here: [Employee Reporting Requirements](#).

2

After a report is submitted to us, a trained OEC staff member will reach out to the complainant — the person who has experienced the reported sexual misconduct. We know that experiencing sexual misconduct can be traumatic, so our first goal is to offer the complainant supportive measures, resources, and an invitation to meet with a staff member, all of whom have been trained in a trauma-informed approach.

For more information on the support we offer and next steps in the process, click here: [OEC Supportive Measures](#) and [Next Steps](#).

3

To ensure students feel supported, we always encourage them to bring an advisor or support person of their choice with them to any meeting with us. This person can be the student's Resident Assistant, friend, family member, or [confidential advocate](#).

4

It is important to remember that any student who has experienced sexual misconduct has the right to file a Formal Complaint and address the misconduct through our Informal or Formal Complaint Resolution processes.

For more information on those processes, visit the [OEC Process Flow Chart](#) or view Liberty's [Sexual Misconduct Policy](#).



HOW DOES THE OEC HELP *Prevent* SEXUAL MISCONDUCT?

Through ongoing educational efforts, we are teaching members of the Liberty community how to identify and reduce the risk of sexual misconduct. Our goal is that all students, staff, and faculty will continue to be *Champions for Christ* and treat one another with respect and dignity.

Below are some of the ways we are educating our community:

1

All residential and commuter students, as well as faculty and staff, are required to take an interactive online course in their first semester that provides information about our office, the complaint resolution process, and how we can all work together to prevent sexual misconduct. This course covers topics such as consent, bystander intervention, risk reduction strategies, safety tips, healthy relationship behaviors, and more.

2

In addition to the training courses, we host events and partner with local agencies to bring attention to specific topics such as stalking, sexual assault, and dating and domestic violence.

3

We also partner with other Liberty departments and student groups to continue talking through these important topics. We want to ensure that we have a collaborative approach to preventing sexual misconduct within our community.

For more information on our training and prevention efforts, please click here: [OEC Prevention, Awareness, & Training](#).



Questions? Contact Us!

OFFICE *of* EQUITY &
COMPLIANCE/TITLE IX

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