



Governors State
UNIVERSITY

An Illinois Public University

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



2026

ANNUAL SECURITY & FIRE SAFETY REPORT

Crime Statistics Security Report, Fire Safety
and On-Campus Student Housing Report



DEAR CAMPUS COMMUNITY



A Message from the Executive Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police

At Governors State University (GovState), safety is a priority and partnership.

Our students, faculty, staff, police officers, and campus partners all play an important role in creating an environment where teaching, learning, research, and community can thrive. Through awareness, preparedness, communication, and collaboration, we work together to identify concerns, respond to emergencies, prevent crime, and support the well-being of our campus community.

Education and awareness are important components of effective crime prevention. We encourage every member of the GovState community to remain informed, practice personal safety, and become familiar with available emergency resources and procedures. The University provides a range of safety resources, including 24-hour police services, safety escorts, emergency telephones, emergency notifications, emergency preparedness resources, and tools for reporting safety concerns.

The 2026 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report is published in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act. The report provides information about campus security policies, crime prevention and reporting procedures, emergency preparedness and notification, and crime and fire statistics.

We encourage you to take time to review the data in these pages carefully. Understanding how to report an incident, how to receive emergency notifications, where to find assistance, and what to do during an emergency can help you make informed decisions and contribute to the safety of others. Members of the GovState community should also ensure that their contact information is current so they can receive important emergency notifications when needed.

Thank you for taking the time to review this report and for doing your part to help keep Governors State University a safe, welcoming, and vibrant place to live, work, learn, and study.

Sincerely,

James R. McGee

Executive Director/Chief of Police

Copies of this publication can be obtained by contacting the Governors State University Police Department at **708.534.4900**.

In addition, an electronic version of the report is published on the [GovState Campus Safety Webpage](#).

GOVSTATE SECURITY REPORT

Individuals who wish to report crimes for inclusion in the campus security document may contact the Governors State University Police Department at 708.534.4900. In seeking to maintain a safe, secure and educational setting, the Governors State University Police Department encourages the reporting of crimes and other emergencies. Individuals who report crimes are not compelled to seek criminal prosecution of suspects.

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Governors State University Police Department, part of the GovState Department of Public Safety (DPS), is here to help all members of the University community. The Governors State University Police Department, located in Building C1375 on GovState's campus, serves as the administrative office



responsible for law enforcement on the Governors State campus. University police officers are on duty 24 hours a day, every day of the year. The Governors State University Police Department has full arrest powers, and its officers are responsible for enforcing all state and federal laws on campus. University police receive their arrest powers through the Illinois Compiled Statutes.

The Governors State University Police Department consists of a full-time chief and full-time commissioned officers, community service officers and dispatchers. All police officers have completed the required training by the Illinois Training and Standards Board. All officers are required to maintain certifications in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR), including the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) and first aid, mental health awareness, firearms and annual update training through the Illinois Training and Standard Board. The officers also attend additional specialized training, such as active-shooter training and cultural diversity training, as it becomes available. The department patrols consist of marked units, bicycle, ATV, and foot patrols for the GovState campus.

The Governors State University Police Department maintains a 24-hour dispatch center to answer all calls for service and immediate assistance. Upon receiving a request for assistance, an officer, along with appropriate personnel, will be immediately dispatched to the location. In cases involving criminal activity, University police officers will respond and conduct an investigation. Information regarding all arrests made by the University Police Department for criminal violations on campus is forwarded to the Office of the Dean of Students. The Governors State University Police Department maintains a liaison with the University Park Police Department for any crimes committed by a student off campus; these violations also are reported to the Office of the Dean of Students on campus. The Governors State University Police Department also maintains an excellent relationship with all local police agencies, Illinois State Police and all federal agencies. If the need for additional police officers arises, these agencies may be called for assistance.

When necessary, physical evidence is processed by the Illinois State Police Crime Laboratory or the FBI Laboratory Division. University police officers regularly use the National Crime Information Center to assist in the investigation of criminal offenses, giving them access to more than 20 million files.

ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY FACILITIES

Most University buildings and facilities, other than residence housing, are accessible to members of the University community, their guests and visitors during normal hours of business (which are Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM-5:00 PM, on days when the University is open), during designated hours on weekends and holidays, and at other times when University events and activities may be taking place outside normal business hours.

Academic, administrative and recreational buildings are locked each night at the conclusion of activities and classes. Unauthorized individuals are not permitted to be inside the buildings during these times. Individuals

who need to enter after hours may request special access from the Governors State University Police Department. University police maintains a list of individuals who receive permission to be admitted after hours. Proper identification must be presented to the University Police Department for admittance to closed buildings.

The Governors State University Police Department has adopted a Community- Oriented Policing approach in all campus buildings on all shifts to provide high officer visibility and access. These regular foot patrols act as a deterrent to criminal activity and enable students, staff and visitors to get to know the officers.

REPORTING CRIMES

Campus Security Authorities

Campus Security Authorities (CSAs) are individuals at GovState who are mandatory crime reporters specified under the Clery Act. If they witness or become aware of suspected or actual Clery crimes occurring on or within GovState's Clery geography, they are required to report those crimes in a timely manner to the GovState Police Department. GovState has identified its CSAs in accordance with the Clery Act and using guidance from the U.S. Department of Education. Some examples of CSAs at GovState are:

- All employees of the Department of Public Safety
- Student Affairs leadership, including the Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, the Dean of Students, and the Assistant Dean of Students.
- University Housing Officials, including the Director of University Housing, residence hall directors, resident advisors, and Prairie Place front desk staff.
- Community Standards (Student Conduct) team members.
- Student Engagement officials, including the Director of Student Engagement and Intercultural Programs, Coordinator of Greek Life, and student organization and club advisors.
- Title IX Office Team members, including the Title IX Coordinator and the Deputy Title IX Coordinators.
- Athletics Department officials, including the Athletic Director, athletics team coaches, and assistant coaches.

When reporting a crime to a GovState CSA, members of the University community should provide the CSA with as much pertinent information related to the incident as possible, such as where it occurred, when it occurred, who was involved, and what happened.

When a CSA is made aware of a possible Clery crime, they are required to report it to the GovState Police Department. CSAs need to gather information that would provide sufficient detail to properly classify the possible crime. CSAs should not investigate the crime or attempt to determine whether a crime, in fact, took place.

The Governors State University Police Department evaluates all CSA crime reports for inclusion in the daily crime log, to determine if a timely warning or emergency notification should be issued to the GovState community, and whether it is reportable crime in the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report. The GovState Police Department will respond to and investigate a CSA crime report based on the severity of the reported crime, or if there is an indication that the victim wants police assistance.

Community Reports

The University and the Governors State University Police Department strongly encourage faculty, staff, students and guests to report any illegal or suspicious activity in a timely manner to the University police. Those incidents reported to pastoral or professional counselors are not included in campus crime statistics. However, reports of criminal activity that are brought to the attention of GovState CSAs are required to be reported annually and, as such are brought to the attention of the University Police Department either by the victims or by the CSA person receiving the report. Those who report criminal incidents to pastoral or professional counselors are encouraged to report the incident voluntarily to the University Police Department too.

All CSAs shall report all incidents to the Governors State University Police Department:

1 University Parkway, University Park, IL 60484. 708.534.4900.Bldg. C1375 or
<https://www.govst.edu/Report-an-Incident>

Providing safety and security is the primary responsibility of the Governors State University Police Department, and its main goal is to serve and protect the University community. However, the Police Department cannot achieve this goal alone. We need the cooperation of everyone in the community. As members of the University community, we all have a moral responsibility and a personal interest in the maintenance of a safe environment on campus. Taking responsibility and reporting crime and suspicious activities in a timely manner will be beneficial to you, the University, and the entire community.

WHERE TO GET INFORMATION ABOUT CRIME ON CAMPUS

The Daily Crime Logs are records of all the incidents that have occurred within the patrol jurisdiction of the Governors State University Police Department. The Daily Crime Logs are kept in the dispatch area of the Department of Public Safety. Log entries for the most recent 60 days may be viewed by the general public during regular business hours, except when prohibited by law or when disclosure jeopardizes an investigation or the confidentiality of the victim. If a request is made to inspect entries in the Daily Crime Logs that are more than 60 days old, these will be made available within two (2) business days of the request.

Crime statistics, as well as security policies and procedures reports, are available at the Department of Public Safety in the C Building, Room C1375, of the GovState campus. Special alert notifications are posted online at <http://www.govst.edu/> and/or on University bulletin boards across the campus when the need arises.

SAFETY NOTIFICATIONS

Timely Warnings

The Governors State University Police Department will inform the University police chief, the vice president for Administration and Finance and the vice president for Student Affairs about any criminal activity, whether it happens on campus or off, that may present a continuing threat, so that the campus community can take reasonable precautions. A TIMELY WARNING NOTICE will be issued via e-mail, posted on the University website (www.govst.edu) and also posted in all academic buildings and in the residence hall at the discretion of the chief of police.

Emergency Notifications

Notification Methods

GovState currently identifies multiple communication channels:

Notification Method	Purpose
Text message	Rapid notification to mobile phones
Email	Detailed emergency information
Voice/telephone	Emergency notification through telephone systems
GovState website	Public emergency information and updates
Social media	Additional distribution of alerts
Campus communication systems	On-campus notification where available
Emergency Closing Center	Campus closing information distributed to media
Campus Status Hotline	708-534-4909



CRIME PREVENTION AND SECURITY AWARENESS POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Governors State University is committed to providing a safe and secure educational environment for student and employees. Criminal activity exists throughout our society, and college campuses are not exempt from crime. However, in order to maximize security and minimize the opportunity for criminal activity to occur, a number of policies, services and programs have been implemented at Governors State University. All members of the University community share responsibility for reporting crime and for taking precautions to discourage its occurrence.

Possession and Use of Weapons on Campus

The possession or carrying of any weapon by any person is prohibited in University academic buildings, administrative buildings, student residence building, dining facilities, or while attending a sporting, entertainment, recreational or educational event on the University's property. Entry upon University property in violation of this prohibition is expressly forbidden and will result in the individual(s) being directed to remove the weapon immediately from University property; or to have the weapon securely stored at the Department of Public Safety, per the procedures of the Handling and Storage of Firearms Policy. Failure to comply with this directive may result in further disciplinary actions for students or employees.

Residence Hall Safety

Governors State University maintains one co-ed residence hall on campus – Prairie Place. Each floor has one student staff member in residence (a Resident Assistant or RA) who is responsible for monitoring activity, advising and assisting students, and building community. Prairie Place has an emergency telephone located at the front of the building and on each floor. In the event of a campus or building emergency, students will receive messages through the Emergency Notification System. The system will use students' current directory information to alert them of any emergency.

Every effort is made to ensure the safety of campus residents. In order to enter Prairie Place, a student must swipe his/her myONECARD at the entry doors. In Prairie Place, exit doors are equipped with self-contained alarms. In addition, digital video cameras record activity at all building exits, and other public areas.

Student safety is a primary concern. Prairie Place has a number of policies and procedures in place to enhance the security of our residents. Prairie Place is staffed by trained professionals and para-professionals available to respond to students' needs. Office hours for residence hall directors and on-call schedules for RAs are posted in the residence hall.

Fire safety is of paramount importance. Fire extinguishers are placed strategically throughout the building; the building is fully sprinklered and smoke detectors are installed in the sleeping rooms and hallways throughout the building. There are policies in place addressing permitted and prohibited appliances, electrical cords, etc.

The [University Housing Handbook](#) contains important information about living in University Housing, including all applicable policies.

Contact Information

Auxiliary Services & University Housing

Governors State University

1 University Parkway - Room C1330 University Park, IL 60484

Phone: 708.235.7110

Email: housing@govst.edu

Prairie Place - Residence Hall Director Office

708.235.7118

Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday: 8:30 am - 5 pm Saturday and Sunday: Closed

Prairie Place – Reception Desk

708.235.7115

Hours of operation 24/7

Exterior Lighting and Vegetation

Governors State University maintains a strong commitment to campus safety and security. Exterior lighting is an important part of this commitment. Parking areas, pedestrian walkways and building exteriors are well lighted. Surveys of exterior lighting on campus are conducted by University police officers on a regular basis, and the Facilities Management Department gives high priority to maintenance of exterior lights that need to be replaced. Members of the GovState community are encouraged to report any exterior lighting deficiencies to the Department of Public Safety.

Police officers and the Facilities Management Department also monitor the growth of vegetation on campus. If any member of the campus community believes that the height of vegetation may cause a hazard, he/ she is encouraged to report it to either the Department of Public Safety or Facilities Management.

Crime Prevention Programs

Program	Target Audience
Personal Safety	Students/Employees
Theft Prevention	Entire Campus
Vehicle Burglary Prevention	Commuter Students/Employees
Residence Hall Safety	Residents/RAs
Active Threat Awareness	Entire Campus
Workplace Violence Prevention	Faculty/Staff
Identity Theft & Fraud	Students/Employees
Sexual Assault/Stalking Prevention	Students
Emergency Notification Awareness	Entire Campus
Safety Escort Awareness	Entire Campus
Suspicious Activity Reporting	Entire Campus
CPTED Safety Assessments	Departments/Facilities
Crime Prevention Through Data	DPS/University Leadership

GovState has created two booklets of important crime prevention and emergency safety information to educate the GovState community and help keep individuals on campus safe:

- [Crime Prevention and Safety Tips Booklet](#)
- [Campus Safety Booklet](#)

Both booklets are available to download from the GovState [Campus Safety Webpage](#).

GOVSTATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND EVACUATION PROCEDURES

GENERAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE

During an emergency:

1. **Remain calm.**
2. **Follow instructions from DPS, ERT, emergency responders, or other authorized university officials.**
3. **Call 911 when immediate emergency assistance is required.**
4. **Monitor GovState Alerts for official instructions and updates.**
5. **Do not interfere with emergency responders.**
6. **Do not enter restricted or evacuated areas.**
7. **Assist individuals who may need help when it is safe to do so.**
8. **Do not spread unverified information through social media or other communication channels.**
9. **Do not return to an evacuated building until an authorized all-clear is issued.**

GovState Alerts can provide emergency information by phone, text, email, and other communication methods.

EVACUATION PROCEDURES

An evacuation may be ordered because of a fire, hazardous-material release, gas leak, explosion, bomb threat, utility emergency, severe building damage, or other dangerous condition.

When instructed to evacuate:

DO

- Immediately stop what you are doing and evacuate.
- Use the nearest safe emergency exit.
- Know at least two ways out of your area.
- Walk—do not run or panic.
- Use handrails when using stairways.
- Keep to the right and allow emergency personnel to pass.
- Follow instructions from DPS and emergency responders.
- Move to the designated assembly/reunification area.
- Help others when it is safe to do so.
- Remain at the assembly area until released or given further instructions.

OVERVIEW OF ALCOHOL AND ILLEGAL DRUGS POLICIES AT GOVSTATE

Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prohibition and Prevention

The health and well-being of GovState students, faculty, and staff are critical components of the overall health of our university community. Consequently, GovState seeks to maintain a campus environment that is free from the illegal use of alcohol and drugs. Consistent with its mission as a public institution of higher education, the University is committed to educating the students, faculty, and staff on the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse, and to establishing standards of conduct that maintain a campus environment in which such abuse is prohibited. These standards are following the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act of 1989 (DFSCA).

In compliance with the DFSCA (20 U.S.C. § 1011i(a)(2)), the Counseling and Wellness Center authors a biennial report of institutional policies and practices that includes the effectiveness and the consistency of the enforcement of sanctions. The biennial report is published each Fall in even-numbered years and focuses on the previous two academic years (i.e., 2022-23 and 2023-24). Please see GovState's [Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Biennial Review \(Academic Years 2022-23 and 2023-24\)](#), the most recent biennial report, for more information.

GovState also annually distributes to all employees and students (in accordance with 20 U.S.C. § 1011i(a)(1)):

1. Standards of conduct and lists of institutional sanctions for alcohol and drug related violations.
2. Lists of legal sanctions related to unlawful use, possession, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol.
3. Descriptions of health risks associated with drug and alcohol use and abuse.
4. Referral sources for drug and alcohol programs that are available to students and employees.

See copies of the 2026 Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Materials for Students and the 2026 Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Materials for Employees on the GovState [Consumer Information Webpage](#) (under "Campus Health, Safety, and Wellbeing") for more information.

Alcohol Policies

Under the GovState Student Code of Conduct (University Policy 4), students are prohibited from using, possessing, manufacturing, selling, and distributing alcoholic beverages (except as expressly permitted by law and University regulations). Alcoholic beverages may not, under any circumstances, be used by, possessed by, or distributed to any person under 21 years of age. Public intoxication is also prohibited. The University Housing Handbook contains restrictions on the possession and consumption of alcohol by residents of the GovState on-campus student residence, Prairie Place, who are over 21 years of age, and it contains a complete prohibition on the possession and consumption of alcohol by Prairie Place residents under 21 years of age. Any violation of those prohibitions and restrictions will result in the imposition of one or more of the disciplinary sanctions listed in that policy in accordance with appropriate procedures.

Under GovState's Board of Trustees Regulations § II.C.4 (the Drug-Free Workplace Regulation), employees are prohibited from the unlawful possession, use, sale, manufacture, or distribution of alcohol on University premises or property or the abuse of alcohol on University premises or property or in connection with any University activity. A violation of that prohibition will result in the imposition of disciplinary sanctions in accordance with GovState policy and procedures.

The University and the Governors State University Police Department strictly enforce Illinois underage drinking laws.

Illegal Drugs Policies

Governors State University does not permit the use or possession of illegal drugs on campus. The University and the Governors State University Police Department strictly enforce all state and federal laws concerning illegal drugs. Anyone who is apprehended by the Governors State University Police Department while in possession of, using, or offering for sale or selling illegal drugs is subject to arrest and referral for disciplinary sanctions.

Under the GovState Student Code of Conduct (University Policy 4), students are prohibited from using, possessing, manufacturing, selling, and distributing illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia, including marijuana, heroin, narcotics, and other controlled substances, in accordance with state and federal law. Prescription and over-the-counter medication or other substances being used in a manner other than its intended purpose are also prohibited. Any violation of those prohibitions will result in the imposition of one or more of the disciplinary sanctions listed in that policy in accordance with appropriate procedures.

Under GovState's Board of Trustees Regulations § II.C.4 (the Drug-Free Workplace Regulation), employees are prohibited from the unlawful possession, use, sale, manufacture, or distribution of controlled substances, including illicit drugs and marijuana, on University premises or property, and the possession of drug paraphernalia or marijuana on University premises or property. Any violation of that prohibition will result in the imposition of disciplinary sanctions in accordance with GovState policy and procedures. That Regulation does not prohibit employees from the lawful use and possession of prescribed medications.

Recreational marijuana/cannabis, while legal in Illinois, is not legal under federal law, and is prohibited by the University. Possession, use, manufacture, distribution, or sale of marijuana/cannabis in any form, including but not limited to tinctures, edibles, and topicals, and related drug paraphernalia is prohibited on University property and at any University-sponsored activity. There are no medical exemptions regarding cannabis use on campus.

Health Risks of Alcohol and Drug Abuse

The abuse or illegal use of alcohol and the illegal use of controlled substances can seriously injure the health of employees and students, adversely impair the performance of their duties and their academic achievements, and endanger the safety and well-being of fellow employees, students, and others. Substance abuse may involve not only controlled substances and illegal drugs but also alcohol and other substances that pose a health risk. When drugs are combined, their negative effects on the mind and body are often multiplied beyond the effects of the same drugs taken singly, which can be deadly.

Support Services

The GovState Counseling and Wellness Center provides counseling and substance use assessments designed to assist GovState students in examining their use of alcohol and/or other drugs in a judgment-free and confidential environment. An assessment will provide students with a structured opportunity to assess their own risk, identify potential changes that could work for them, and help them to reduce their risk for developing future problems. Students may also be referred to appropriate community treatment programs for a more in-depth assessment and treatment if required.

Drug abuse and/or alcohol abuse assessment, counseling and referral to treatment or rehabilitation or reentry programs are available to GovState employees through the State of Illinois' Employee Assistance Program (EAP). The EAP counselor will assist employees in identifying the appropriate services/facilities available to them under the employee's medical insurance plan.

Information on the EAP is available through the Illinois Department of Central Management Services' [EAP Webpage](#).

GovState also encourages students and employees to reach out to the following resources:

- 24-Hour Addiction and Alcohol Hotline at 844.244.3171
- Illinois Helpline for Opioids and Other Substances at **833.234.6343** or text “**HELP**” to **833234**
 - Visit the [Illinois Helpline's Website](#) for additional information.
- SAMHSA's National Helpline at **800.662.HELP (4357)**
 - Visit the [SAMHSA Helpline's Website](#) for additional information.

In the event of an alcohol or drug related emergency, people are urged to contact emergency services, whether on or off campus, by calling 911.

If you have a problem...

The University offers programs for drug and alcohol education. It provides programs that include counseling, education, self-development, substance-free activities and support groups. It also provides an assessment and intervention component designed to assist those who may be harmful to themselves because of alcohol or drug abuse. Staff there will provide referrals and information on other resources and organizations.

OVERVIEW OF SEXUAL ASSAULT, DATING VIOLENCE, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, & STALKING POLICIES AT GOVSTATE

Sexual Misconduct Policies

GovState strictly prohibits acts of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking as part of its broad prohibition against all unlawful sexual harassment set out in the University's three policies covering sexual misconduct (“Sexual Misconduct Policies”):

- GovState's Title IX Policy and Procedures, adopted in accordance with the federal Title IX statute and regulations (20 U.S.C. § 1681, 34 C.F.R. Part 106), prohibit all unlawful sexual harassment, including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking, occurring under the University's education programs and activities in the United States, as prescribed by Title IX and the Illinois Preventing Sexual Violence in Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 155). GovState's collected Title IX Policy and Procedures include:
 - Anti-Sex Discrimination (Title IX) Policy, also known as Policy 78
 - Title IX Administrative Procedures, Part A - Definitions
 - Title IX Administrative Procedures, Part B - Reporting Procedures
 - Title IX Administrative Procedures, Part C - Response Procedures
 - Title IX Administrative Procedures, Part D - Grievance Procedures
 - Title IX Administrative Procedures, Part E - Recordkeeping Procedures

[Policy 78](#) is available on the GovState [Policies Webpage](#). The Title IX Procedures, all parts, are available to download from the GovState [Title IX Webpage](#).

- GovState's Student Code of Conduct, adopted as part of GovState's Community Standards Program to foster a safe and secure learning, working, and living environment and to promote the core values of civility, integrity, responsibility, and social justice, prohibits sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, intimate partner violence (dating violence and domestic violence), and stalking. The Student Code of Conduct is applicable to misconduct (including sexual misconduct, which is a type of non-academic misconduct prohibited under the Code) both on- and off-campus, including University premises and University-sponsored activities, and through the use of any electronic media. The Student Code of Conduct is outlined in [University Policy 4](#) and published in full each academic year in the University's [Student Handbook](#).

- GovState's Anti-Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation Policy, also known as Policy 52, adopted in accordance with applicable federal and state anti-discrimination and harassment laws as part of GovState's commitment to maintaining a community in which students and employees can learn and work together in an atmosphere free from all forms of unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation on the basis of an individual's actual or perceived membership in one or more protected classes under state and federal law, prohibits unlawful harassment, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence and domestic violence, and stalking. [Policy 52](#) is available on the GovState [Policies Webpage](#).

Applicable Definitions

Each of GovState's Sexual Misconduct Policies includes definitions important to understanding the policy's scope and application to allegations of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking. Further, many of the acts prohibited by the GovState Sexual Misconduct Policies are also crimes under Illinois state criminal laws, and those laws include important definitions as well.

TITLE IX POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Below are the University's definitions of sexual violence (including sexual assault), dating violence, domestic violence, stalking and consent used in the Title IX Policy and Procedures:

Sexual Violence: Physical sexual acts attempted or perpetrated against an individual without that individual's consent or when that individual is incapable of giving consent, including without limitation rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sexual abuse, sexual coercion, and all other offenses classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Dating Violence: Violence committed by an individual:

- Who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and
- Where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors: the length of the relationship; the type of relationship; and the frequency of interaction between the individuals involved in the relationship.

Domestic Violence: Felony or misdemeanor crimes committed by an individual who:

- Is a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim under the family or domestic violence laws of the State of Illinois, or a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim;
- Is cohabitating, or has cohabitated, with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;
- Shares a child in common with the victim; or
- Commits acts against a youth or adult victim who is protected from those acts under the family or domestic violence laws of the State of Illinois.

Stalking: Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific individual that would cause a reasonable person to:

- Fear for the individual's safety or the safety of others; or
- Suffer substantial emotional distress.

Consent: A freely, voluntarily, and knowingly given agreement to engage in sexual activity; and:

- Consent is demonstrated through mutually understandable words and/or actions that clearly indicate a willingness to engage freely in sexual activity.
- Lack of verbal or physical resistance or submission resulting from the use of force or threat of force does not constitute consent.
- An individual's manner of dress does not constitute consent.
- An individual's consent to past sexual activity does not constitute consent to future sexual activity. An individual's consent to engage in sexual activity with one person does not constitute consent to engage in sexual activity with another.
- An individual can and may withdraw consent at any time.
- An individual cannot consent to sexual activity if that individual is unable to understand the nature of the activity or give knowing agreement due to circumstances such as, but not limited to: (a) the individual is incapacitated due to the use or influence of alcohol or drugs, (b) the individual is asleep or unconscious, (c) the individual is underage, or (d) the individual is incapacitated due to a mental disability.
- When consent is withdrawn or can no longer be given, sexual activity must stop.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Below are the University's relevant definitions used in the Student Code of Conduct:

Sexual Misconduct: Any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that is committed without consent, by force, or using intimidation, coercion, or manipulation. This includes, but is not limited to sexual harassment, sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking, under Title IX and Policy 78.

Sexual Assault: Any of the following specific offenses:

1. Sex Offenses, Forcible: Any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the complainant, including instances in which the complainant is incapable of giving consent.
2. Forcible 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.
3. Forcible Sodomy: Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, forcibly, and/or against that person's will (non-consensually), or not forcibly or against the person's will in instances in which the complainant is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
4. Sexual Assault with an Object: The use of an object or instrument to penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, forcibly, and/or against that person's will (non-consensually), or not forcibly or against the person's will in instances in which the complainant is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
5. Forcible Fondling: The touching of the private body parts of another person (buttocks, 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 in which the complainant is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
6. Sex Offenses, Non-forcible:
 - a. Incest: Non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by Illinois.
 - b. Statutory Rape: Non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent of 17 years of age.

Dating Violence: Violence, on the basis of sex, committed by a person, who is in 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 the complainant's statement and with consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. For the purposes of this definition dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse. Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

Domestic Violence: Violence, on the basis of sex, 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, or by a person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with, the complainant as a spouse or intimate partner, or by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the complainant under the domestic or family violence laws of Illinois or 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 Illinois.

Stalking: Engaging in a course of conduct, on the basis of sex, directed at a specific person, that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person's safety, or the safety of others; or suffer emotional distress. For the purposes of this definition, course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the respondent directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, or threatens a person, workplace, or school, engages in other conduct, or interferes with or damages a person's property or pet. A course of conduct may include contact via electronic communications. Reasonable person means a person in the complainant's circumstances with the complainant's knowledge of the respondent and the respondent's prior acts. Emotional distress means significant mental suffering, anxiety, or alarm.

Sexual Exploitation: Taking advantage of the sexuality of another person, without consent, or in a manner that extends the bounds of consensual sexual activity without the knowledge of the other individual for any purpose, including sexual gratification, financial gain, personal benefit, or any other non-legitimate purpose. Examples of sexual exploitation include: non-consensual video or audio-taping of sexual activity; going beyond the boundaries of consent (such as letting others hide in the closet to watch you having consensual sex); engaging in voyeurism; knowingly transmitting an STD or HIV to another person; exposing one's genitals in non-consensual circumstances; or inducing another to expose their genitals.

Consent: The Student Code of Conduct does not specifically define this term, so the definition stated in the Title IX Policy and Procedures (see above), which meets the requirements of the Illinois Preventing Sexual Violence in Higher Education Act (110 ILCS 155), is used.

POLICY 52

Below is the University's relevant definition used in Policy 52:

Harassment: Any unwelcome conduct on the basis of a person's actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital or civil union status, order of protection status, disability, military or veteran status, arrest record, pregnancy, unfavorable discharge from military service, arrest record, or citizenship status or any other basis prohibited by law that has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with that person's work or academic performance or creating an intimidating, offensive, or hostile environment. By way of illustration, and not as a limitation, the following types of conduct could amount to harassment if based on a person's actual or perceived protected status: Offensive jokes; Slurs; Epithets or name calling; Physical assault(s); Threats; Intimidation, ridicule or mockery; Insults or put-downs; Offensive objects or pictures; Deliberate touching, leaning over, or cornering; Offensive looks or gestures; or Letters, telephone calls, personal e-mails, texts, or other materials of an offensive nature.

Sexual Assault: Policy 52 does not use or define this term, but conduct that falls under the definition of "sexual violence" (including sexual assault) in the Title IX Policy and Procedures (see above) is recognized as falling within the definition of prohibited harassment under Policy 52.

Dating Violence: Policy 52 does not use or define this term, but conduct that falls under the definition of "dating violence" in the Title IX Policy and Procedures (see above) is recognized as falling within the definition of prohibited harassment under Policy 52.

Domestic Violence: Policy 52 does not use or define this term, but conduct that falls under the definition of "domestic violence" in the Title IX Policy and Procedures (see above) is recognized as falling within the definition of prohibited harassment under Policy 52.

Stalking: Policy 52 does not use or define this term, but conduct that falls under the definition of "stalking" in the Title IX Policy and Procedures (see above) is recognized as falling within the definition of prohibited harassment under Policy 52.

Consent: Policy 52 does not use or define this term, so the definition stated in the Title IX Policy and Procedures (see above) is used when necessary.

ILLINOIS STATE CRIMINAL LAWS

As stated above, many of the acts prohibited by GovState's Sexual Misconduct Policies are also crimes under Illinois state law. Below are excerpted definitions from the relevant Illinois criminal laws related to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and consent. The complete (and most current) versions of these laws can be found through the [Illinois General Assembly](#).

DEFINITIONS RELATED TO SEXUAL ASSAULT

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: (1) commits an act of sexual penetration with a victim who is under 9 years of age; or (2) 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) 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 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.

Sexual Conduct (720 ILCS 5/11-0.1): Any knowing touching or fondling by the victim or the accused, either directly or through clothing, of the sex organs, anus, or breast of the victim or the accused, or any part of the body of a child under 13 years of age, or any transfer or transmission of semen by the accused upon any part of the clothed or unclothed body of the victim, for the purpose of sexual gratification or arousal of the victim or the accused.

Sexual Penetration (720 ILCS 5/11-0.1): Any contact, however slight, between the sex organ or anus of one person and an object or the sex organ, mouth, or anus of another person, or any intrusion, however slight, of any part of the body of one person or of any animal or object into the sex organ or anus of another person,

including, but not limited to, cunnilingus, fellatio, or anal penetration. Evidence of emission of semen is not required to prove sexual penetration.

DEFINITIONS RELATED TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Definitions under the Illinois Domestic Violence Act of 1986 (750 ILCS 60)

Domestic Violence (750 ILCS 60/103(1), (3)): 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.

Family or Household Members (750 ILCS 60/103(6)): 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.

Harassment (750 ILCS 60/103(7)): 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.

Interference with Personal Liberty (750 ILCS 60/103(9)): 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.

Intimidation of a Dependent (750 ILCS 60/103(10)): 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.

Physical Abuse (750 ILCS 60/103(14)): Includes sexual abuse and means any of the following:

1. knowing or reckless use of physical force, confinement or restraint;
2. knowing, repeated and unnecessary sleep deprivation; or
3. knowing or reckless conduct which creates an immediate risk of physical harm.

Willful Deprivation (750 ILCS 60/103(15)): Willfully 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.

DEFINITIONS UNDER THE ILLINOIS CRIMINAL CODE OF 2012 (720 ILCS 5)

Domestic Violence (720 ILCS 5/12-3.6(a)): For purposes of committing the crime of disclosing the location of a domestic violence victim, means attempting to cause or causing abuse of a family or household member or high-risk adult with disabilities, or attempting to cause or causing neglect or exploitation of a high-risk adult with disabilities which threatens the adult's health and safety. "Family or household member" means a spouse, person living as a spouse, parent, or other adult person related by consanguinity or affinity, who is residing or has resided with the person committing domestic violence.

Domestic Battery (720 ILCS 5/12-3.2): 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

DEFINITIONS RELATED TO DATING VIOLENCE

Dating Violence: Illinois law does not define this term, but the definition of "family or household members" for purposes of Illinois domestic violence laws (see above) include "persons who have or have had a dating or engagement relationship." Accordingly, the Illinois domestic violence laws protect any person abused by someone with whom they have or have had a dating or engagement relationship (see 750 ILCS 60/201(a)).

DEFINITIONS RELATED TO STALKING

Stalking (720 ILCS 5/12-7.3): (a) A person commits stalking when he or she knowingly engages in a course of conduct directed at a specific person, and he or she knows or should know that this course of conduct would cause a reasonable person to:

1. fear for his or her safety or the safety of a third person; or
2. suffer other emotional distress.

(a-3) A person commits stalking when he or she, knowingly and without lawful justification, on at least 2 separate occasions follows another person or places the person under surveillance or any combination thereof and:

1. at any time transmits a threat of immediate or future bodily harm, sexual assault, confinement or restraint and the threat is directed towards that person or a family member of that person; or
2. places that person in reasonable apprehension of immediate or future bodily harm, sexual assault, confinement or restraint to or of that person or a family member of that person.

(a-5) A person commits stalking when he or she has previously been convicted of stalking another person and knowingly and without lawful justification on one occasion:

1. follows that same person or places that same person under surveillance; and
2. transmits a threat of immediate or future bodily harm, sexual assault, confinement or restraint to that person or a family member of that person.

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

Course of Conduct (720 ILCS 5/12-7.3(c)(1)): 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.

Electronic Communication (720 ILCS 5/12-7.3(c)(2)): 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.

Emotional Distress (720 ILCS 5/12-7.3(c)(3)): Significant mental suffering, anxiety or alarm.

Family Member (720 ILCS 5/12-7.3(c)(4)): 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.

Follows Another Person (720 ILCS 5/12-7.3(c)(5)): 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.

Non-consensual Contact (720 ILCS 5/12-7.3(c)(6)): 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.

Places a Person under Surveillance (720 ILCS 5/12-7.3(c)(7)): 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.

Reasonable Person (720 ILCS 5/12-7.3(c)(8)): A person in the victim's situation.

Transmits a Threat (720 ILCS 5/12-7.3(c)(9)): A verbal or written threat or a threat implied by a pattern of conduct or a combination of verbal or written statements or conduct.

Aggravated Stalking (720 ILCS 5/12-7.4): (a) A person commits aggravated stalking when he or she commits stalking and:

1. Causes bodily harm to the victim;
2. Confines or restrains the victim; or
3. Violates a temporary restraining order, an order of protection, a stalking no contact order, a civil no contact order, or an injunction prohibiting the behavior described in subsection (b)(1) of Section 214 of the Illinois Domestic Violence Act of 1986.

(a-1) A person commits aggravated stalking when he or she is required to register under the Sex Offender Registration Act or has been previously required to register under that Act and commits the offense of stalking when the victim of the stalking is also the victim of the offense for which the sex offender is required to register under the Sex Offender Registration Act or a family member of the victim.

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.

Anxiety (720 ILCS 5/12-7.5)(c)(0.5)): Excessive worry and apprehensive expectations, occurring more days than not for at least 6 months, about a number of events or activities, such as work or school performance and is associated with 3 or more of the following 6 symptoms with at least some symptoms present for more days than not for the past 6 months: (1) restlessness or feeling keyed up or on edge; (2) easily fatigued; (3) difficulty concentrating or mind going blank; (4) irritability; (5) muscle tension; and (6) sleep disturbance such as difficulty falling or staying asleep, or restless and unsatisfying sleep. The anxiety, worry, or physical symptoms cause clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning.

Course of Conduct (720 ILCS 5/12-7.5)(c)(1)): 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.

Electronic Communication (720 ILCS 5/12-7.5)(c)(2)): 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.

Electronic Communication Device (720 ILCS 5/12-7.5)(c)(2.1)): An electronic device, including, but not limited to, a wireless telephone, personal digital assistant, or a portable or mobile computer.

Electronic Monitoring Software or Spyware (720 ILCS 5/12-7.5)(c)(2.2)): 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.

Emotional Distress (720 ILCS 5/12-7.5)(c)(3)): Significant mental suffering, anxiety or alarm.

Harass (720 ILCS 5/12-7.5)(c)(4)): To engage in a knowing and willful course of conduct directed at a specific person that alarms, torments, or terrorizes that person.

Non-consensual Contact (720 ILCS 5/12-7.5)(c)(5)): 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.

Reasonable Person (720 ILCS 5/12-7.5)(c)(6)): A person in the victim’s circumstances, with the victim’s knowledge of the defendant and the defendant’s prior acts.

Third Party (720 ILCS 5/12-7.5)(c)(7)): Any person other than the person violating these provisions and the person or persons towards whom the violator’s actions are directed.

DEFINITIONS RELATED TO CONSENT

Consent (720 ILCS 5/11-0.1): 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 (720 ILCS 5/11-0.1): Includes, but is not limited to, when the victim was asleep, unconscious, or unaware of the nature of the act such that the victim could not give voluntary and knowing agreement to the sexual act. “Unable to give knowing consent” also 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. “Unable to give knowing consent” also includes when the victim has taken an intoxicating 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, but the accused did not provide or administer the intoxicating substance. 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.

Defenses with Respect to Offenses described in Sections 11-1.20 through 11-1.60 (720 ILCS 5/11-1.70): (a) It shall be a defense to any offense under Section 11-1.20, 11-1.30, 11-1.40, 11-1.50, or 11-1.60 of this Code where force or threat of force is an element of the offense that the victim consented.

(b) It shall be a defense under subsection (b) and subsection (c) of Section 11-1.50 and subsection (d) of Section 11-1.60 of this Code that the accused reasonably believed the person to be 17 years of age or over.

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

Prevention Programs

GovState offers and engages in comprehensive, intentional, and integrated programming, initiatives, strategies, and campaigns intended to end sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking that are culturally relevant, inclusive of diverse communities and identities, and sustainable; responsive to community needs, and informed by research or assessed for value, effectiveness, or outcome; and consider environmental risk and protective factors as they occur on the individual, relationship, institutional, community, and societal levels. These programs to prevent dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking include both primary prevention and awareness programs directed at incoming students and new employees and ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns directed at students and employees. Collectively, these prevention programs:

- Clearly state that GovState prohibits the crimes of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and other forms of sexual harassment and sexual misconduct;
- Define “dating violence,” “domestic violence,” “sexual assault,” and “stalking”;
- Define “consent,” in reference to sexual activity;
- Describe safe and positive options for bystander intervention (“bystander intervention” means safe and positive options that may be carried out by an individual or individuals to prevent harm or intervene when there is a risk of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking; and includes recognizing situations of potential harm, understanding institutional structures and cultural conditions that facilitate violence, overcoming barriers to intervening, identifying safe and effective intervention options, and taking action to intervene);
- Provide information on 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 that facilitate violence);
- State procedures victims should follow if a crime of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking has occurred;
- Provide information about how the institution will protect the confidentiality of survivors and other necessary parties;
- Notify 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;
- Notify survivors about options for, available assistance in, and how to request changes to supportive measures (including academic, living, transportation, and working situations or protective measures), which supportive measures GovState must make or provide if the survivor requests them and if they are reasonably available, regardless of whether the survivor chooses to report the crime to DPS or local law enforcement;
- Explain GovState’s procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking; and
- State that, when a student or employee reports to GovState that the student or employee has been a victim of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, whether the offense occurred on or off campus, GovState will provide the student or employee a written explanation of the student’s or employee’s rights and options.

PRIMARY PREVENTION AND AWARENESS PROGRAMS

As part of its sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking prevention efforts, GovState offers and engages in primary prevention and awareness 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.

Various aspects of GovState’s primary prevention programs are overseen by the Title IX Coordinator, the Dean of Students, and the Director of Compliance. During Calendar Year 2025, such primary prevention programs included:

- Publication of the Student Code of Conduct and Title IX Policy and Procedures, and related Title IX/survivor resources on the [GovState Website](#).

- Dissemination of the written Title IX Policy and Procedures directly to all students and employees (including new students and new employees) via email during the Fall 2025 Semester.
- Mandatory new employee and annual (during the Fall 2025 Semester) online harassment and discrimination prevention training for employees that discusses the prohibition on sexual harassment.
- Required annual (during the Fall 2025 Semester) online, survivor-centered, trauma-informed sexual assault prevention training for undergraduates and graduate/doctoral students (including new students) that covers awareness, prevention, consent, and bystander intervention.

ONGOING PREVENTION AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

GovState also offers and engages in ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns, including programming, initiatives, and strategies that are sustained over time and focus on increasing understanding of topics relevant to and skills for addressing sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking, using a range of strategies with audiences throughout the University. These ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns are primarily run by the GovState Advocating for Sexual Assault Prevention (ASAP) team, which is a group of GovState employees, students, and community partners committed to creating a campus culture that promotes sexual and relationship health through education and training on the prevention of sexual violence (see the [ASAP Team Webpage](#) for more information).

During calendar year 2025, ASAP's efforts included the following ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns on campus targeting students, employees, and the entire campus community:

Program Name	Type/Description	Dates
Resource Tables by the Groundwork Domestic Violence Program from Gaudian Angel Community Services of Will County, IL	Domestic Violence Awareness, Outreach, Information dissemination	Jan. 22, 2025; Apr. 16, 2025; Nov. 18, 2025
Resource Tables by the Crisis Center for South Suburbia of Cook County, IL	Domestic Violence Awareness, Outreach, Information dissemination	Feb. 5, 2025; Mar. 5, 2025; Apr. 9, 2025; Sep. 3, 2025; Nov. 5, 2025; Dec. 3, 2025
Resource Tables by Anew: Building Beyond Violence & Abuse of Cook County, IL	Domestic Violence Awareness, Outreach, Information dissemination	Mar. 7, 2025; Apr. 4, 2025; May 2, 2025; Sep. 5, 2025; Oct. 3, 2025; Nov. 7, 2025; Dec. 5, 2025
Resource Tables by YWCA Metropolitan Chicago of Cook County, IL	Sexual Assault Awareness, Outreach, Information dissemination	Mar. 10, 2025; Mar. 24, 2025; Mar. 27, 2025; Apr. 2, 2025; Apr. 7, 2025; Apr. 15, 2025; Apr. 16, 2025; Apr. 21, 2025; Apr. 29, 2025; Sep. 4, 2025; Sep. 16, 2025; Sep. 23, 2025
Clothesline Project display and resource table	Sexual Assault Awareness	Mar. 28, 2025 – Apr. 30, 2025
Clothesline Project shirt-making event	Sexual Assault Awareness	Apr. 1, 2025
Display in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM)	Sexual Assault Awareness	Apr. 1 – 30, 2025
Panel Discussion in Honor of SAAM	Sexual Assault Awareness, Prevention, Information dissemination	Apr. 1, 2025
#TealTuesdays	Sexual Assault Awareness	Apr. 1, 2025; Apr. 8, 2025; Apr. 15, 2025; Apr. 22, 2025; Apr. 29, 2025
Donuts & Denim Day	Sexual Assault Awareness	Apr. 30, 2025
Clothesline Project and Silent Witness Display and ASAP Resource Table	Domestic Violence Awareness, Prevention, and Information dissemination	Sep. 29, 2025 – Oct. 31, 2025
Opening Event for Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM)	Domestic Violence Awareness	Oct. 1, 2025
#PurpleThursdays	Domestic Violence Awareness	Oct. 2, 2025; Oct. 9, 2025; Oct. 16, 2025; Oct. 23, 2025; Oct. 30, 2025
Resource Fair in Honor of DVAM	Domestic Violence Awareness, Prevention, Outreach, and Information dissemination	Oct. 14, 2025
Panel Discussion in Honor of DVAM	Domestic Violence Awareness, Prevention, Information dissemination	Oct. 14, 2025
SUPERHEROES UNITE: Ending DVAM with Strength and Hope	Domestic Violence Awareness	Oct. 30, 2025
Resource Tables by Guardian Angel Community Services: Sexual Assault Service Center of Will County, IL	Sexual Assault Awareness, Outreach, Information dissemination	Nov. 6, 2025; Nov. 13, 2025

STRATEGIES FOR RISK REDUCTION & BYSTANDER INTERVENTION

RISK REDUCTION TIPS

Risk reduction tips related to sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking can often take a victim-blaming tone, even unintentionally. With no intention to victim-blame, and with recognition that only those who commit sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking are responsible for those actions, these suggestions may nevertheless help members of the GovState community reduce the risk of experiencing a non-consensual sexual act:

- If you have limits, make them known as early as possible.
- Tell a sexual aggressor “NO” clearly and firmly.
- Try to remove yourself from the physical presence of a sexual aggressor.
- Find someone nearby and ask for help.
- Take affirmative responsibility for your alcohol intake/drug use and acknowledge that alcohol/drugs lower your sexual inhibitions and may make you vulnerable to someone who views a drunk or high person as a sexual opportunity.
- Take care of your friends and ask that they take care of you. A real friend will challenge you if you are about to make a mistake. Respect them when they do.

When a person finds themselves in the position of being the initiator of sexual behavior, they owe sexual respect to their potential partner. These suggestions may help members of the GovState community reduce their risk for being accused of sexual misconduct:

- Clearly communicate your intentions to your sexual partner and give them a chance to clearly relate their intentions to you.
- Understand and respect personal boundaries.
- DON'T MAKE ASSUMPTIONS about consent; about someone's sexual availability; about whether they are attracted to you; about how far you can go; or about whether they are physically and/or mentally able to consent. If there are any questions or ambiguity, then you DO NOT have consent.
- Mixed messages from your partner are a clear indication that you should stop, defuse any sexual tension and communicate better. You may be misreading them. They may not have figured out how far they want to go with you yet. You must respect the timeline for sexual behaviors with which they are comfortable.
- Don't take advantage of someone's drunkenness or drugged state, even if they did it to themselves.
- Realize that your potential partner could be intimidated by you, or fearful. You may have a power advantage simply because of your gender or size. Don't abuse that power.
- Understand that consent to some form of sexual behavior does not automatically imply consent to any other forms of sexual behavior.
- Silence and passivity cannot be interpreted as an indication of consent. Read your potential partner carefully, paying attention to verbal and non-verbal communication and body language.

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION TIPS

Bystander intervention is a prevention strategy that encourages witnesses to take safe action when they see a situation involves harassment or that might lead to sexual violence, and to support victims after an incident. This strategy recognizes that bystanders have an active part to play in keeping the community safe. As bystanders, each member of the GovState community can serve a critical role in preventing sexual assault and interpersonal violence.

Bystander intervention works on the principle of: “If you see something, say something.” Bystanders have the ability to intervene and help prevent sexual assault and violence by speaking up when they see something that does not look right. These suggestions may help members of the GovState community safely and effectively intervene as bystanders to prevent or stop sexual assault or violence:

If a situation makes you feel uncomfortable or makes you concerned for the safety of another person, trust your gut feeling.

- Consider whether you can intervene in the situation without risking your personal safety.

- Use the following strategies to intervene in the situation:
 - **Direct:** Use words or actions to stop what is going on by confronting the problematic behavior.
 - **Distract:** Use indirect strategies to disrupt what is going on; try to diffuse the situation by redirecting the attention of the harasser or helping remove the person being targeted.
 - **Delegate:** Involve someone who has social power in that situation or some type of authority (such as the police!) to interrupt and diffuse a situation.
 - **Delay:** Take action after an incident has occurred, such as following up with the person being targeted, if you were unable to intervene or uncomfortable intervening while the situation was unfolding.

Reporting Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, and Stalking

Right to Report. A survivor of an incident of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking has the right to report or not to report the incident to the University (including to the Title IX Coordinator or an on-campus Confidential Resource), to law enforcement (including the University Department of Public Safety or other appropriate local law enforcement authority), or to both.

Preservation of Evidence. The University encourages all survivors of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking to preserve evidence of the incident and/or seek assistance in preserving evidence from a medical care provider and/or law enforcement as soon as possible following an incident, as such evidence may only exist for a limited period of time. For example, physical evidence of sexual violence can be identified, collected, and preserved through a sexual assault forensic exam conducted by a trained medical professional (such as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) using a “rape kit.” Additional guidance on preserving physical evidence can be found via RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network): <https://rainn.org/get-information/sexual-assault-recovery/rape-kit>. Preserved evidence can be used to prove an alleged criminal offense and/or to obtain an order of protection.

Options for Reporting to GovState. GovState provides multiple options for reporting information about possible sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking (and other forms of sexual harassment) to the University, including to the Title IX Coordinator, who oversees the Title IX process under the Title IX Policy and Procedures, and the Department of Public Safety (DPS), which is GovState’s Police Department. Students, employees, and others with information to report are encouraged to choose the option with which they will feel most comfortable. The options, which are described on the GovState [Reporting Sexual Harassment Webpage](#), include:

- Electronic reports (including anonymous reports), 24/7, through the Title IX Reporting Portal, which go to the Title IX Coordinator.
- Reports directly to the Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinators in person or via email.
- Reports to the GovState Department of Public Safety via telephone (including 9-1-1 in emergencies) or in person.

Time to Report. Survivors and bystanders are encouraged to report conduct that reasonably may constitute sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking as soon as possible in order to maximize the University’s ability to respond promptly and effectively. That said, there is no time limit on reporting violations of Policy 78 and Title IX.

Assistance Reporting to Law Enforcement. If a survivor so chooses, the Title IX Coordinator or other appropriate University personnel (such as the Dean of Students) will assist the survivor in making a report to or notifying local law enforcement about an incident of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking.

Responsible Employees at GovState. Most GovState employees (that is, all GovState employees except counselors and healthcare professionals working in the GovState Counseling and Wellness Center) are “Responsible Employees” for purposes of Policy 78. This means that, if they learn about any possible sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking (through witnessing such misconduct or hearing about it secondhand), they must report such possible sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking to the Title IX Coordinator.

Confidential Reporting and Support Options. If a survivor of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking wants support with complete confidentiality (that is, without the Title IX Coordinator being told about the incident), they should contact one of the available on-campus or off-campus resources listed on the GovState [Confidential Resources Webpage](#). That webpage includes contact information for the **GovState Counseling and Wellness Center**, which is a confidential resource, and for the appointed provider of Confidential Advisor services for GovState: **YWCA Metropolitan Chicago**.

Amnesty for Student Reporters. As a means of removing barriers to reporting, the University will generally offer any student, whether the survivor or a bystander, who reports conduct that reasonably may constitute sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking limited immunity from being charged for policy violations related to the personal use of alcohol or other drugs, provided that any such violations did not and do not place the health and safety of another individual at risk. The University may choose, however, to pursue educational or therapeutic remedies for those individuals.

GOVSTATE'S RESPONSE TO REPORTS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT, DATING VIOLENCE, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AND STALKING

GovState's Response to Reports. Upon receiving a report of possible sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, the Title IX Coordinator (with the assistance of the Office of the Dean of Students and/or Human Resources, as appropriate) will coordinate the University's response thereto, and such response will be prompt and in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent. As part of any response, complainants (survivors) and respondents (alleged perpetrators) will be treated equitably by the University, and no disciplinary sanction will be imposed on a respondent before the resolution of one of the grievance processes outlined in the Sexual Misconduct Policies.

Notice of Rights and Options. If the Title IX Coordinator receives a report of misconduct that could fit the definition of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and/or stalking, then as soon as reasonably practicable, the Title IX Coordinator will provide the complainant with a concise notice of the complainant's rights and options.

Support Resources. GovState provides information for students and employees about existing resources, both on-campus and in the local community available for survivors of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking (which resources can include counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid, and other services) on the GovState [Confidential Resources Webpage](#) and [ASAP Team Webpage](#). The Title IX Coordinator can also provide written notification of such resources directly to a student or employee.

Supportive Measures. After receipt of a report of possible sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, a complainant will be offered supportive measures, as appropriate (even if the complainant does not file a formal complaint under the Title IX Process or a report with DPS). Respondents are offered supportive measures as appropriate during the grievance resolution process. Generally:

- Supportive measures are individualized measures offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to a complainant or respondent for the purpose of restoring or preserving that individual's access to the University's programs and activities, including measures that are designed to protect the safety of the individual(s) or the University's educational environment.
- The specifics as to what one or more supportive measures the University may offer a given individual at a given time will vary depending on what the University deems to be reasonably available under the given circumstances.
- Examples of supportive measures that may be (but are not guaranteed to be) offered by the University, as appropriate and reasonably available, may include: counseling; extensions of deadlines and other course-related adjustments; campus escort services; increased security and monitoring

of certain areas of the campus; restrictions on contact applied to one or more individuals (i.e., “no contact” orders); leaves of absence; changes in class, work, housing, or extracurricular or any other activity, regardless of whether there is or is not a comparable alternative; and training and education programs related to sexual harassment.

- An individual has the right to accept or reject each supportive measure offered to them by the University.

Orders of Protection. Survivors of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking have the right to request an order of protection, whether through the University or the court system.

- **Campus “No Contact” Orders.** Campus “no contact” orders can be obtained as a supportive measure. The University may issue a campus “no contact” order between members of the campus community regardless of whether a complaint has been filed with the University or law enforcement. If the University receives information that a campus “no contact” order has been violated, the University will initiate disciplinary proceedings and impose sanctions if a student or employee is found responsible for violating the “no contact” order. “No contact” orders can be requested through the Title IX Coordinator or the Office of the Dean of Students.
- **Court Orders of Protection.** An order of protection, civil no contact order, stalking no contact order, and other similar orders may also be petitioned for in civil, criminal, or tribal court. GovState cannot apply for one of these orders on behalf of a survivor; the survivor must apply for the order. To learn more about the different types of orders and seek assistance in obtaining one, contact GovState’s Confidential Advisor or another community advocacy resource such as Guardian Angel Community Services (Groundwork Program) or Prairie State Legal Services.
- **Enforcement of Court Orders.** GovState complies with Illinois law in recognizing orders of protection and no contact orders entered by a court. The GovState police will arrest persons who are in violation of such an order if the violation occurs on campus. Any person who obtains such an order should notify the GovState police and contact the Title IX Coordinator to coordinate services and additional assistance.

Emergency Removals/Summary Suspension. GovState reserves the right to remove a respondent from the University’s education programs or activities on an emergency basis, if the University determines, on the basis of an individualized safety and risk analysis, that an immediate and serious threat to the health or safety of a complainant or any students, employees, or other individuals arising from the allegations of sexual misconduct justifies such removal. Additional information about emergency removals under the Title IX Policy and Procedures is included in the [Title IX Response Procedures](#). Additional information about summary suspensions under the Student Code of Conduct is included in the Student Conduct Procedures section (Section Four) of the [Student Handbook](#).

Overview of the Grievance Resolution and Institutional Disciplinary Process

GovState has adopted a grievance resolution process under each of the three Sexual Misconduct Policies that serves as a set of procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking. Reports and complaints of alleged sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking are reviewed by the Title IX Coordinator to determine which grievance resolution process should apply to each. The considerations for making such determination are described in the explanation of each process, below.

THE TITLE IX PROCESS

The Grievance Procedures adopted as part of the Title IX Policy and Procedures are GovState’s procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking that fall within the parameters the federal Title IX statute and regulations (20 U.S.C. § 1681, 34 C.F.R. Part 106). Specifically, the Grievance Procedures address the resolution of complaints brought by complainants (who are University students or employees) against respondents (who are University students or employees) that allege sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking that occurred within the University’s education programs or activities within the United States.

Formal Complaint. The resolution process under the Grievance Procedures officially begins when the Title IX Coordinator receives and accepts a written document filed by a complainant, or signed by the Title IX Coordinator, alleging sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking against a respondent and requesting that the University investigate the allegation (a “Formal Complaint”).

Right to an Advisor. Every party to a Formal Complaint resolution process under the Grievance Procedures has the right to be accompanied to any meeting, interview, hearing, or other proceeding by one advisor of their choice. A party's chosen advisor may be, but is not required to be, an attorney. Whether or not the advisor is an attorney, the advisor may be the party's friend, mentor, or family member or any other individual selected by the party and willing to act in the role of the party's advisor. GovState does not limit a party's choice of advisor, but the University has established restrictions regarding the extent to which an advisor may participate in proceedings, which restrictions apply to both parties.

Presumption of Non-responsibility. Respondents are presumed not to be responsible for the sexual harassment alleged in the Formal Complaint for purposes of investigating issues raised in the Formal Complaint. A determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the resolution process.

Overview of Investigation, Hearing, and Determination. The process for resolving Formal Complaints under the Grievance Procedures generally proceeds as follows:

1. The resolution of all Formal Complaints is to be thorough, reliable, impartial, prompt, and fair throughout the entire process. The Title IX Coordinator and any assigned Investigator or Decisionmaker assigned to a matter will be appropriately trained for their role and act without bias or conflict of interest.
2. Upon receipt of a Formal Complaint based on the allegations of sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator assigns one or more appropriate Investigators, and written notice of an investigation and the allegations is sent to the parties.
3. An investigation may involve interviewing all relevant parties and witnesses; obtaining available, relevant evidence; and identifying sources of expert information, as necessary. The burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility rests on the University and not the parties.
4. The parties will have the opportunity to review all evidence directly related to the alleged misconduct that is gathered by the Investigator.
5. The Investigator will write a comprehensive Investigation Report fully summarizing the investigation, all witness interviews, and addressing all relevant evidence, but including no conclusions, analysis, or recommendations with respect thereto (appendices including relevant physical or documentary evidence will be included with the report).
6. Once the Investigation Report is shared with the parties, the parties will have an opportunity to provide written responses to the Investigation Report.
7. At the conclusion of the Investigation Stage, the Title IX Coordinator refers the matter for a hearing and assigns one or more appropriate Decisionmakers to oversee the Hearing Stage.
8. During the Hearing Stage, the Decisionmaker will preside over a live hearing attended by the parties and their advisors and any appropriate witnesses. Hearings may be held in person or virtually as the Decisionmaker decides with input from the parties.
9. At the hearing, the Decisionmaker has the authority to hear and make determinations on all allegations of sexual harassment. First, the Investigator presents a summary of the Investigation Report. Then, the parties and witnesses have the opportunity to provide relevant information in turn, beginning with the Complainant. During the hearing, questioning on behalf of a party (of the Investigator, the other party(ies), and witnesses) is conducted by the parties' respective Advisors, so the parties will never speak directly to each other.
10. After the hearing is complete, the Decisionmaker issues a written determination, simultaneously to all parties, regarding whether the Respondent is responsible for committing any sexual harassment in violation of Policy 78. To reach this determination, the preponderance of evidence burden of proof must be applied. The written determination also includes information about appealing the Decisionmaker's determination and information about when the determination becomes final.
11. Where the Decisionmaker finds that, by a preponderance of the evidence, the Respondent is responsible for a violation of Policy 78, the Decisionmaker confers with appropriate University personnel (e.g., the Human Resources Department or Office of the Dean of Student) regarding appropriate disciplinary sanctions, and information about any such sanctions are included in the Decisionmaker's written determination.

Appeals. Any party may file with the Title IX Coordinator a written request for appeal from the Decisionmaker's responsibility determination and/or the prescribed disciplinary sanction (if any) within ten (10) business days of delivery of the responsibility determination. If a request for appeal is timely filed, the

appeal process will proceed as follows:

1. An appropriate Appeal Decisionmaker will be appointed by the Title IX Coordinator for purposes of deciding the requested appeal. The individual appointed will have received training on carrying out this role and will be free of any conflict of interest or bias.
2. The Appeal Decisionmaker will determine if the request for appeal meets any of the permissible grounds for appeal. The permissible grounds are:
 - Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;
 - New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter;
 - The Title IX Coordinator, Investigator, or Decisionmaker had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or the individual complainant or respondent that affected the outcome of the matter; and
 - The disciplinary sanction(s) imposed is substantially disproportionate to the severity of the misconduct for which the respondent was determined to be responsible.All parties and advisors will be notified simultaneously in writing of that determination and the underlying rationale.
3. If the request for appeal does not meet any of the permissible grounds, the parties and their advisors will be simultaneously notified that the appeal is dismissed.
4. If the request for appeal does meet one or more of the grounds for appeal, each party will have an opportunity to submit a written statement to the Appeal Decisionmaker in support of or challenging the determination or disciplinary sanction being appealed.
5. The Appeal Decisionmaker will collect any additional information needed, at their discretion, and, based on the additional information, all documentation related to the relevant ground(s) for appeal, and the appeal statements, will render a decision on the appeal. The decision on the appeal will be sent, in writing to all parties and their advisors simultaneously, and will include a rationale for the decision.
6. Any disciplinary sanctions imposed on a respondent will be stayed during the appeal process.
7. Once an appeal is decided, the outcome is final. Further appeals are not permitted, even if a responsibility determination or disciplinary sanction is changed based on an appeal.

Timeframe. The University will make every reasonable attempt to complete the major stages of the resolution process under the Grievance Procedures within the following timeframes:

- Investigation Stage – forty-five (45) business days
- Hearing Stage – thirty-five (35) business days
- Determination Stage – forty (40) business days
- Appeal Stage (if any) – thirty (30) business days

This proposed timeline anticipates all parties, advisors, and witnesses reasonably cooperating with the Investigator and Decisionmaker in scheduling all meetings, interviews, and hearings. If a party, advisor, or witness fails or refuses to cooperate and make themselves reasonably available to attend any necessary meetings, interviews, or hearings, the Investigator and/or Decisionmaker has the discretion to move forward with the resolution process without that individual's participation. Ultimately, the length of the resolution process will depend on the nature, extent, and complexity of the allegations, availability of witnesses, police involvement, etc.

THE STUDENT CONDUCT PROCESS

The Student Conduct Procedures described in Section Four of the GovState Student Handbook are GovState's procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking committed by student respondents that fall outside the parameters the federal Title IX statute and regulations (20 U.S.C. § 1681, 34 C.F.R. Part 106). Specifically, the Student Conduct Procedures address the resolution of complaints brought by complainants (who are University students or employees) against respondents (who are University students) that allege sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking that occurred outside the University's education programs or activities or outside the United States.

Review of Reports and Referral for Hearing. The Office of the Dean of Students, which enforces the Student Code of Conduct and oversees the Student Conduct Procedures, reviews reports during regular business hours. Reports that appear to allege sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking

(which types of misconduct would violate GovState's non-academic conduct policies under the Student Code of Conduct) are reviewed by the Community Standards Program team ("Community Standards") and referred for a conduct hearing.

Notice to the Student Respondent. If a conduct case is referred for a conduct hearing, the student respondent will be notified of the alleged violations and Student Conduct Procedures.

Overview of Conduct Hearing Process. The conduct hearing process allows student respondents who are alleged to have violated the Student Code of Conduct (including those alleged to have committed acts of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking) the opportunity to discuss the alleged violations and respond to the charges. The conduct process is not a criminal or judicial trial/practice. The hearing process is designed to educate students and hold them accountable for their conduct and decision-making.

- **Administrative Conduct Hearing.** An administrative conduct hearing is a conversation between a student respondent and an administrative hearing officer for low-level violations/first offenses of University policy that occur outside University Housing and moderately serious/repeat offenses of University and residential policies. Generally, incidents occurring within University Housing will be heard by the Director/Assistant Director of University Housing (this includes non-resident students who violate policy within University Housing) and incidents occurring outside University Housing will be heard by the Director of Community Standards.
- **Administrative Conduct Hearing Format.** If a student respondent attends the scheduled administrative conduct hearing as directed:
 1. The student respondent may ask questions about the process;
 2. The hearing officer will review the facts of the incident report, as well as any other relevant case information received;
 3. The student respondent may respond to the information by providing their perspectives on the incident and alleged policy violations;
 4. The student respondent may present information and/or witnesses relevant to the charges;
 5. The hearing officer may ask questions of the student respondent and witnesses;
 6. The student respondent may accept or deny responsibility for the alleged policy violation(s);
 7. The hearing officer will determine whether the student respondent is responsible for the alleged policy violation(s) and, if responsible, will consider appropriate disciplinary sanction(s);
 8. At the conclusion of the hearing, Community Standards will inform the student respondent and complainant of the hearing officer's decision in writing.

If the student respondent does not attend the scheduled administrative conduct hearing as directed:

1. The hearing officer may proceed with the determination of responsibility and if responsible, impose any sanction(s) without input from the student respondent.
 2. At the hearing officer's discretion, the student respondent may be offered a second opportunity to schedule a hearing if the student respondent has not previously participated in a conduct process and the decision has not been communicated in writing.
- **Student Conduct Committee Hearing.** A Student Conduct Committee (SCC) hearing is a formal conversation between a student respondent and a committee of faculty, staff, and students who have been trained to hear serious/repeat offenses of University policies regardless of where the incident occurs. The SCC hearing process provides the student respondent with an opportunity to review the available case information, including the alleged violations; share their perspective on what happened, including presenting witnesses and relevant evidence; and describe the effects the incident has had on the student respondent, the complainant, and others, both negative (harm caused) and positive (lessons learned).
 - **Student Conduct Committee Hearing Proceedings.** SCC hearing proceedings will follow the format described below. At the discretion of the SCC members, changes may be made to the hearing format to accommodate special circumstances. The Committee/Hearing Chair is responsible for asking all relevant questions, making decisions based on the materials and information provided, and imposing disciplinary sanctions where appropriate. The Hearing Chair/Student Conduct Committee determines the relevance of any information, materials, or testimony, and may refuse to direct questions to the parties/witness and/or refuse to accept information, materials, or testimony it considers immaterial or irrelevant.
 - **Introduction/Review of Alleged Violations:** The Chair of the SCC will convene the hearing by requesting that all individuals present state their name and role. The Chair will then review the alleged violations of the Student Code of Conduct.
 - **Opening Statements:** The complainant and student respondent may each make a brief opening statement.
 - **Presentation of Evidence:** The complainant and student respondent may present to the committee any and all information, materials, and witness testimony to support their position. Community Standards may call any witnesses or investigators to present relevant findings to the SCC hearing committee.
 - **Questioning of Parties/Witnesses:** After each respective presentation, the SCC hearing committee, complainant, and student respondent

will have the opportunity to ask questions. The Hearing Chair/Student Conduct Committee may recall any witnesses. Once all information, materials, and testimony have been presented, the SCC hearing committee, complainant, and student respondent are provided a final opportunity to ask additional questions or provide additional information to the SCC.

- **Closing Statements:** The complainant and student respondent may each make a closing statement.
- **Executive Session:** The SCC hearing committee will excuse all participants and enter into executive session during which the SCC will assess the information presented as well as the credibility of the parties and witnesses. The SCC hearing committee will decide (based on a simple majority vote): (a) whether or not, by a preponderance of the evidence, the student respondent is responsible for the alleged violation(s) of the Student Code of Conduct, and, if so, (b) what disciplinary sanctions are appropriate. The deliberations during the executive session are not recorded.

Rights of Students in the Student Conduct Process. Students are given due process rights in compliance with the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which requires all public institutions of higher learning to afford students due process prior to taking disciplinary actions, including notifying students of allegations and providing an opportunity for the student to respond to the allegations. Students charged with violations of the Student Code of Conduct are advised of their due process rights when they meet with the Office of the Dean of Students staff and designees, and throughout the Student Conduct Process, they are entitled to the procedural rights listed below.

- **Notice of Charges:** The student respondent will be given the opportunity, upon request, to read all written reports to be presented at the hearing regarding the circumstances and allegations of the case. (To protect the rights of others involved, presented documentation may be redacted.)
- **Respond to Charges:** It is presumed that a student respondent charged with a violation of the Code is not responsible for such violations unless the student respondent accepts responsibility or is found responsible following a hearing. Both the student respondent(s) and the complainant(s) will be provided with an opportunity to meet with the hearing officer/committee to share information about the incident. Students have the right to question persons presenting information regarding the alleged incident. Contact between the student respondent and complainant parties may be limited to necessity.
- **Choosing Not to Participate:** Student respondents are encouraged but not required to appear at a hearing or participate in the resolution of their charges. If a student respondent chooses not to participate, the Office of the Dean of Students will proceed without the participation of the student respondent.
- **Hearing Body:** For an administrative conduct hearing, a hearing officer hears the case and determines the outcome. For an SCC hearing, a quorum consists of four voting members of the Student Conduct Committee from at least two groups (student, staff, and faculty).
- **Incidents Involving Multiple Students/Separate Hearing:** When more than one student respondent is involved in the same incident, the Office of the Dean of Students will determine the appropriate approach to resolution, balancing students' privacy rights with the University resources available to provide a timely and fair resolution.
 1. **Combined Hearings:** If a decision is made to combine the hearings of all the students involved in an incident, all parties (complainants and respondents) will be present for the reading of the charges, opening remarks, complainant's presentation of evidence and witness testimony, and closing statements.
 2. **Separate Statements:** If a combined hearing occurs, at the time the individual student respondent presents their case, the other student respondent(s) and their advisor and witnesses may be excused from the hearing unless otherwise agreed upon by the student respondent(s) and the committee.
- **Information about Conduct Process:** The student has the right to information about the conduct process and procedures and to have their questions answered about the process.
- **Notification of Hearing Outcome:** Within seven (7) working days following the conclusion of the hearing, a written decision will be sent to the student respondent and all appropriate parties. Decision notices include information about charge(s), finding(s), disciplinary sanction(s), and appeal processes. If there is no disciplinary action needed, the decision letter will communicate that no action is required from the student respondent.
- **Participants in Hearing:** All hearings are closed and not open to the public except for the following individuals: hearing officers or SCC members, the complainant(s), the student respondent(s), advisors, witnesses, Office of the Dean of Students staff, and the Department of Public Safety. For SCC hearings, the student respondent may request that the hearing be open to members of the University community and this request must be approved by the SCC and the Office of the Dean of Students.
- **Personal Safety Considerations:** The student will be given reasonable accommodations for concerns related to personal safety, wellbeing, and/or fears of confrontation of persons involved with the case during the hearing process. In situations where reasonable fear for physical safety and/or retaliation exists, the hearing chair reserves the right to take appropriate and reasonable measures to adjust the hearing format, including having police present and/or using technology to allow parties to participate in a manner that addresses the concerns while allowing the process to move forward.
- **Reasonable Accommodation:** Any student with a disability involved in the conduct process has the right to request reasonable accommodations in order to ensure their full and equal participation.
- **Record of Hearing:** For an SCC hearing, Community Standards will maintain a record of the hearing which may be in the form of a written summary of the proceedings and/or audio recording, if applicable.

- **Remote Participation:** Any party, including the student respondent, complainant, or any witness, may request to participate in a hearing remotely by way of telephone, videoconferencing, or other appropriate means provided the identity of the person participating remotely is known to all parties and all other guidelines and procedures described in the Student Handbook are followed. Requests for remote participation will only be considered in extenuating circumstances and must be approved by the Office of the Dean of Students.
- **Right to an Advisor:** Students have the right to an advisor to provide advice and or support to a student during the Student Conduct Process. The role of the advisor will be restricted to advising and supporting the student. Advisors are not permitted to speak on behalf of the student. Advisors who do not comply with these guidelines or otherwise interfere with the hearing process will not be permitted to participate in the hearing.
- **Right to Submit Witnesses:** Students have the right to submit witnesses who directly observed an incident or have direct or indirect knowledge related to an incident. Witnesses should be able to speak knowledgeably about the incident and be able to provide relevant facts. Reliable witnesses are critical to the integrity and effectiveness of the process.
- **Standard of Proof:** A preponderance of the evidence, or “more likely than not,” standard is the official evidence standard of the Student Code of Conduct. In this context, the student respondent will be found to be responsible for the alleged violations if the hearing officer/hearing committee concludes that it is more likely than not that, based on careful review of all information presented, the respondent is responsible for the alleged behavior and these behaviors constitute a violation.
- **Statements and Evidence:** The hearing committee/hearing officer will make determinations based on all available information and materials. Failure of the student respondent to be present or participate in the proceedings will not be seen as an admission of responsibility. Likewise, failure of the complainant to participate in the proceedings will not be seen as evidence that favors the student respondent.
- **Timeliness of Conduct Process:** The University strives to complete the Student Conduct Process, including the time for any hearings or appeal processes, within sixty (60) days. There are, however, many factors that may affect the length of time needed to complete various portions of the resolution process fairly and equitably. Consequently, some matters will be resolved before the designated timeframe, and some may require additional time.

Student Conduct Appeals. Students have the right to file a written request for an appeal of the findings of responsibility and/or the disciplinary sanctions. The Office of the Dean of Students will review all appeal requests to determine if the student has demonstrated appropriate grounds for appeal. Appeals must be based upon one or more of the following grounds:

- **Procedural Error:** A procedural error that substantially affected the outcome of the hearing occurred.
- **New Evidence:** New evidence sufficient to alter a decision and was not available at the time of the original hearing. Information will not be considered “new evidence” if the respondent or complainant did not attend the original hearing or voluntarily withheld information during the original hearing.
- **Disproportionate Sanction(s):** The disciplinary sanction(s) imposed are substantially disproportionate to the severity of the violation(s) for which the student respondent was found responsible.

The appeal process proceeds as follows:

- A party may file a request for appeal no later than five (5) business days after the decision letter was issued and the student respondent has been found responsible for violating the Student Code of Conduct. An appeal must include a one (1) page maximum statement explaining the grounds for the appeal and the desired outcome of the appeal request. Students may submit relevant supporting evidence and documentation.
- After receiving an appeal request, Community Standards will review all materials submitted and decide whether or not the appeal request contains sufficient merit to grant an appeal hearing. Appeals based solely on a student’s disagreement with the outcome will be denied. Parties will receive a written response to the appeal request within five (5) business days. If the appeal request is granted, Community Standards will notify all parties and will schedule an appeal hearing. If the appeal request is denied, Community Standards will notify the parties of the decision along with the rationale for denial.
- Appeal hearings will seek to address if a case will need to be reheard, if imposed disciplinary sanctions need to change, or if the original decision will be upheld. If granted, an appeal hearing will be scheduled within 10 business days of the party’s appeal request. The appellate body for an administrative or committee hearing is the Dean of Students or designee. Parties who wish to appeal a decision by the Dean of Students must submit a written appeal to the Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, following instructions in the decision letter. The decision of the Vice President is final and binding and there are no further options for appeal.

THE POLICY 52 PROCESS

The complaint resolution procedures described in Policy 52 (the GovState Anti-Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation Policy) are GovState’s procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged sexual harassment (including instances of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking) committed by employee respondents that fall outside the parameters the federal Title IX statute and

regulations (20 U.S.C. § 1681, 34 C.F.R. Part 106). Specifically, the Policy 52 complaint resolution procedures address the resolution of complaints brought by complainants (who are University students or employees) against respondents (who are University employees) that allege sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking that occurred within the University's education programs or activities but outside the United States.

Review of Report. Upon being notified of a report (involving an employee respondent) filed pursuant to Policy 52, the General Counsel (or designee) opens a file on the incident alleged in the report and reviews the allegations in the report to determine whether the alleged incident meets the definition of "Prohibited Conduct" stated in Policy 52. If the incident alleged in the report fails to meet the definition of "Prohibited Conduct", the incident file will be closed.

Formal Complaint. If the initial assessment determines that the incident alleged in the report meets the definition of "Prohibited Conduct", then the General Counsel (or designee) will contact the complainant to assist him or her in filing a formal complaint, if the complainant desires to do so. If the complainant does not wish to proceed with a formal complaint, the General Counsel (or designee) will determine whether a formal complaint and the resolution process should nonetheless go forward.

Informal Resolution. If the complainant files a formal complaint, informal resolution thereof may be an option. The University will provide the parties with written notice of the reported "Prohibited Conduct" and any sanctions or measures that may result from participating in such a process, including information regarding any records that will be maintained or shared by the University. The University will obtain voluntary, written confirmation that all parties wish to resolve the matter through an informal resolution before proceeding with same. The ultimate determination of whether an informal resolution is available or successful is to be made by the General Counsel. If a formal complaint is successfully resolved by an informal resolution, copies of all relevant materials will be added to the incident file, and the file will be closed. However, the General Counsel has the authority to reopen an incident file if any party thereto fails to abide by the resolution agreement and may take appropriate responsive/disciplinary actions.

Overview of the Investigation and Hearing Process. If an informal resolution is not pursued or is unsuccessful, then written notice of an investigation and allegations will be sent to the parties. An investigation and hearing will then proceed as follows:

1. All investigations under Policy 52 are to be thorough, reliable, impartial, prompt, and fair. They involve interviewing all relevant parties and witnesses; obtaining available, relevant evidence; and identifying sources of expert information, as necessary. The burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility rests on the University and not the parties. Ultimately, the investigator will write a comprehensive investigation report fully summarizing the investigation, all witness interviews, and addressing all relevant evidence, but including no conclusions, analysis, or recommendations with respect thereto (appendices including relevant physical or documentary evidence will be included with the report).
2. Once the investigation report is shared with the parties, the General Counsel will refer the matter for a hearing and assign one or more appropriate decisionmakers to oversee the hearing process.
3. At the hearing, the decisionmaker has the authority to hear and make determinations on all allegations of "Prohibited Conduct" and may also hear and make determinations on any additional alleged policy or regulation violations that have occurred in concert with the unlawful discrimination, harassment, and/or unlawful retaliation. First, the investigator will present a summary of the investigation report. Then, the parties and witnesses may provide relevant information in turn, beginning with the complainant.
4. After the hearing is complete, the decisionmaker will issue a written determination regarding whether there are any violations. To reach this determination, the preponderance of evidence burden of proof must be applied.
5. Where the decisionmaker finds that, by a preponderance of the evidence, Policy 52 was violated, the decisionmaker will confer with the Human Resources Department for appropriate disciplinary sanction.

Appeals. Any party may file with the General Counsel a written request for appeal from the decisionmaker's responsibility determination within seven (7) days of delivery of the responsibility determination.

SUPPORTIVE MEASURES

During any grievance resolution process, parties will be offered supportive measures as appropriate. Where requested and deemed appropriate, such supportive measures may last beyond the conclusion of the grievance resolution process regardless of the outcome of such process.

DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

The University reserves all rights to impose any appropriate and permissible disciplinary sanction against any person found to have committed sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and/or stalking in violation of the Sexual Misconduct Policies.

Students. For students of the University, the possible disciplinary sanctions for violating the Sexual Misconduct Policies are:

- One or more of the following Administrative Sanctions:
 - Written warning
 - Disciplinary probation
 - Loss of privilege(s), such as the use of services, participation in a program, event, or activity for a specified period, or removal from an appointed position of authority
 - No Contact Order
 - Restitution
 - Loss of recognized student organization/club status
- One or more of the following University Housing Sanctions:
 - Loss of guest privileges for a specific period or permanently
 - Housing reassignment
 - University Housing probation for a specific period
 - University Housing suspension for a specific period
 - University Housing expulsion
- One or more of the following Educational/Developmental Sanctions:
 - Educational activities, such as programs and assignments designed to increase awareness and education about the impact of sex-based harassment on self and community
 - Recommendation for assessment to provide a structured opportunity to assess individual behavior and identify potential strategies to manage emotions/conflict or risk
- And/or one or more of the following Elevated Sanctions:
 - University suspension for a specific period
 - University dismissal

Additional information about each type of disciplinary sanction is provided to students in the University's [Student Handbook](#), published each academic year.

Employees. For employees of the University, the possible disciplinary sanctions for violating the Sexual Misconduct Policies are:

- A Verbal Warning
- A Written Reprimand
- Suspension from employment for 1, 5, or 20 working days
- Or Termination of Employment.

Vendors, Contractors, Visitors, and Others. For other members of the GovState community, violating the Sexual Misconduct Policies may result in disciplinary sanctions up to and including, bans, non-renewal of contract, and removal from and/or denial of entry to University property or events.

PROHIBITION ON RETALIATION

All three Sexual Misconduct Policies expressly prohibit unlawful retaliation against a person because that person has made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate, in any manner, in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under the Sexual Misconduct Policies. “Retaliation” means intimidation, threats, coercion, harassment, or discrimination against a person for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by the Sexual Misconduct Policies or applicable law; or because the person has reported information, made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, informal resolution process, or hearing under the Sexual Misconduct Policies (the exercise of rights protected under the First Amendment does not constitute prohibited retaliation). It shall be violation of one or more of the Sexual Misconduct Policies for a member of the GovState community to engage in prohibited retaliation. GovState reserves the right to impose any level of disciplinary sanction, up to and including suspension or termination or dismissal, for engaging in prohibited retaliation.

Confidentiality

GovState is committed to protecting the privacy of survivors, complainants, and respondents brought to the attention of the University pursuant to the implementation of the Sexual Misconduct Policies. GovState will disclose the personally identifiable information and other sensitive information about such individuals only as allowed by law and University policies (including Policy 78). Accordingly, GovState will complete publicly available recordkeeping, including Clery Act reporting and disclosures under the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act (Clery Act, 20 USC § 1092(f) and 34 C.F.R. Part 668, subpart D), without the inclusion of personally identifying information about the victim, as defined in section 40002(a)(20) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. § 13925(a)(20)); and will maintain as confidential any supportive measures, accommodations, or protective measures provided to a survivor, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair GovState’s ability to provide the supportive measures, accommodations, or protective measures.

As required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. § 1232g, 34 C.F.R. Part 99), known as FERPA, GovState maintains individual student records to provide educational, vocational, and personal services to the student. GovState’s Access to Student Education and Treatment Records Policy (Policy 12) provides for the confidentiality of student education records (including student conduct records) as established under FERPA, establishes the right of students to inspect and review their education records, and provides guidelines for the correction of inaccurate or misleading data. The University must limit access to student information to those with a legitimate educational interest as defined by law and University policy, and to ensure that data is stored securely to prevent unauthorized access. Specific details for how the University complies with FERPA can be found in [University Policy 12](#). Questions regarding FERPA should be directed to the Registrar’s Office, and additional information can be found on GovState’s [FERPA Webpage](#).

Contact Information

On the next page, please find contact information for the following individuals, University departments, and community partners critically important to the oversight, operationalization, and enforcement of the policies, procedures, and programs described in this Overview of Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, and Stalking Policies at GovState.

TITLE IX OFFICE

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY

KAITLYN ANNE WILD

Director of Compliance & Title IX Coordinator

1 University Parkway G-328 University Park, IL 60484

Phone: 708.534.4846

Email: titleixofficer@govst.edu

[Title IX Webpage](#)

DAMON SLOAN

Executive Dir. of Community Standards & Student Advocacy, Deputy Title IX Coordinator

1 University Parkway C1312 University Park, IL 60484

Phone: 708.235.2228

Email: dsloan@govst.edu

PETER ROCKEY

Executive Dir. of Employee and Labor Relations, Deputy Title IX Coordinator
1 University Parkway C1366 University Park, IL 60484

Phone: 708.235.7468

Email: prockey@govst.edu

GOVSTATE OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

1 University Parkway C1310 University Park, IL 60684

Phone: 708.235.7595

Email: deanofstudents@govst.edu

[ODOS Webpage](#)

GOVSTATE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

HUMAN RESOURCES

1 University Parkway C1360 University Park, IL 60484

Phone: 708-534-4100

Email: hr@govst.edu

[HR Website](#)

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

GOVSTATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

1 University Parkway C1375 University Park, IL 60484

Emergency: 911 (from a campus phone)

Phone: 708.534.4900

[DPS Webpage](#)

UNIVERSITY PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

698 Burnham Drive

University Park, IL 60484

Emergency: 911

Phone: 708.534.0913

CONFIDENTIAL RESOURCES

YWCA METROPOLITAN CHICAGO

(Confidential Advisor for GovState)

320 West 202nd St., Chicago Heights, IL 60411

General Telephone: 708.754.0486

[General Website](#)

Rape Crisis Hotline: 888.293.2080

[Hotline Webpage](#)

GOVSTATE COUNSELING AND WELLNESS CENTER

1 University Parkway (A1120)

University Park, IL 60484

Telephone: 708.235.7334

Email: studentcounseling@govst.edu

[CWC Webpage](#)

OVERVIEW OF HAZING POLICIES AT GOVSTATE

GOVSTATE HAZING POLICIES

POLICY 102

GovState is committed to fostering an environment where the health, safety, and welfare of all individuals are respected; and all employees, trustees, students, and others engaged with the University share the responsibility for a safe and secure campus. In furtherance of that commitment, GovState has adopted its [Anti-Hazing Policy](#), also known as Policy 102. A copy of Policy 102 is available on the GovState [Policies Webpage](#).

Under Policy 102, GovState strictly prohibits any form of hazing and requires that incidents of hazing be reported to appropriate University personnel immediately. Specifically, no student, prospective student, employee, potential employee, applicant, nor other individual shall be subject to hazing for the purpose of initiation, induction or admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership in any group, club, team, class, organization, or society that is associated with, established or recognized by, or otherwise connected to the University. It is a violation of Policy 102 for any member of the GovState community:

1. To engage in hazing;
2. To permit or to fail to prevent and/or to discourage known acts of hazing when such activities are known to be taking place, or where it should reasonably be known that such activities are taking place; and
3. To fail to report known acts of hazing when such activities are known to be taking place, or where it should reasonably be known that such activities are taking place.

Policy 102 applies to all individuals (i) on University property; (ii) at University-sponsored or -sanctioned events and activities; (iii) subject to the University's Student Code of Conduct or the University's Employee Code of Conduct; (iv) participating in University-sponsored or -sanctioned research programs/projects; (v) conducting official University business or representing the University off campus; or (vi) engaging in any negative action having impact on individuals within the GovState community.

GovState reserves the right to impose any level of sanction or discipline, up to and including suspension, dismissal or termination, for any offense under or failure to comply with Policy 102. Additionally, a violation of Policy 102 may subject the offending person to civil, administrative, or criminal fines or penalties imposed under state or federal law.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

GovState's Student Code of Conduct, adopted as part of GovState's Community Standards Program to foster a safe and secure learning, working, and living environment and to promote the core values of civility, integrity, responsibility, and social justice, prohibits hazing. The Student Code of Conduct is applicable to misconduct (including sexual misconduct, which is a type of non-academic misconduct prohibited under the Code) both on- and off-campus, including University premises and University-sponsored activities, and through the use of any electronic media. The Student Code of Conduct is outlined in [University Policy 4](#) and published in full each academic year in the University's [Student Handbook](#).

Applicable Definitions

Below are the University's definitions of hazing used in its anti-hazing policies.

Policy 102

For purposes of Policy 102, "hazing" means engaging in any acts not authorized by the University that intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly:

1. Endangers (above the reasonable risk encountered in the regular course of participation in the University's employment, programs, clubs, teams, and classes) the mental, emotional, or physical health or safety of an individual, or causes physical discomfort or mental discomfort; or
2. Encourages an individual to engage in conduct of a sexual, or humiliating nature; or
3. Destroys or removes public or private property;

for the purpose of initiation, induction or admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership in any group, club, team, class, organization, or society that is associated with, established or recognized by, or otherwise connected to the University. Hazing includes, but is not limited to, physical punishments, creating excessive fatigue, work sessions, physical or emotional shock, wearing apparel which is conspicuous, public stunts, morally degrading or humiliating games or events, encouraging or requiring the illegal and/or abusive use of alcohol and/or illegal drugs, or encouraging or requiring any act that would violate Illinois State law, including but not limited to theft of or vandalization of public or private property.

Acts described as “hazing” in this definition are considered to be hazing whether or not the subject of such conduct willingly participates in such activities.

Student Code of Conduct

For purposes of the Student Code of Conduct, “hazing” means reckless or intentional acts that endanger the mental or physical health or safety of another person, or which destroys or removes public or private property, for initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or a condition for continued membership, in a group or organization.

State Hazing Laws

In addition to being prohibited by University policy, hazing is prohibited by Illinois law. Below are excerpted provisions from the relevant Illinois criminal laws related to hazing. The complete (and most current) versions of these laws can be found through the [Illinois General Assembly](#).

Hazing (720 ILCS 5/12C-50): (a) A person commits hazing when he or she knowingly requires the performance of any act by a student or other person in a school, college, university, or other educational institution of this State, for the purpose of induction or admission into any group, organization, or society associated or connected with that institution, if: (1) the act is not sanctioned or authorized by that educational institution; and (2) the act results in bodily harm to any person.

- (a-1) It is not a defense to a prosecution under subsection (a) that the person against whom the hazing was directed consented to or acquiesced in the hazing.
- (b) Sentence. Hazing is a Class A misdemeanor, except that hazing that results in death or great bodily harm is a Class 4 felony.

Failure to Report Hazing (720 ILCS 5/12C-50.1): (a) For purposes of this Section, “school official” includes any and all paid school administrators, teachers, counselors, support staff, and coaches and any and all volunteer coaches employed by a school, college, university, or other educational institution of this State.

- (b) A school official commits failure to report hazing when: (1) while fulfilling his or her official responsibilities as a school official, he or she personally observes an act which is not sanctioned or authorized by that educational institution; (2) the act results in bodily harm to any person; and (3) the school official knowingly fails to report the act to supervising educational authorities or, in the event of death or great bodily harm, to law enforcement.
- (c) Sentence. Failure to report hazing is a Class B misdemeanor. If the act which the person failed to report resulted in death or great bodily harm, the offense is a Class A misdemeanor.
- (d) It is an affirmative defense to a charge of failure to report hazing under this Section that the person who personally observed the act had a reasonable apprehension that timely action to stop the act would result in the imminent infliction of death, great bodily harm, permanent disfigurement, or permanent disability to that person or another in retaliation for reporting.

Reporting Hazing

Any member of the GovState community who witnesses, is subjected to, or becomes aware of acts of possible hazing must immediately report the incident. GovState provides multiple options for reporting information about known or suspected hazing to the University:

- Incidents of possible hazing or other violations of Policy 102 or the Student Code of Conduct by students should be reported to the Office of the Dean of Students.
- Incidents of possible hazing or other violations of Policy 102 by employees should be reported to the Human Resources Department (HR).
- Incidents of possible hazing and other violations of Policy 102 may also be reported to the University Ethics Officer.
- In case of an emergency, including but not limited to risk of serious bodily harm or death, the situation must be reported to law enforcement immediately, including GovState's Police Department if on campus.

Contact information for these departments can be found in [Policy 102](#).

RESPONSE TO REPORTS AND INVESTIGATION OF HAZING

GovState takes all reports of possible hazing very seriously.

Hazing and other violations of Policy 102 by students will be treated as “non-academic misconduct” under the Student Code of Conduct, and reports of possible hazing by a student will be investigated and resolved in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and Community Standards program coordinated by the Office of the Dean of Students. Those Student Conduct Procedures are explained in full in Section Four of the GovState [Student Handbook](#) and described in more detail in the Section of this Report on the Overview of the Grievance Resolution and Institutional Disciplinary Processes under GovState's Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, and Stalking Policies.

Hazing and other violations of Policy 102 by employees will be investigated and resolved by HR pursuant to its basic complaint procedures. Generally speaking, HR's basic complaint process proceeds as follows:

1. Receipt of the Complaint/Allegation. When HR receives a complaint, report, or information suggesting potential misconduct, it documents the basic facts, including who is involved, what allegedly occurred, when/where the conduct occurred, and how the information was received.
2. Initial Intake. HR clarifies the allegation(s) and gathers enough information to understand the nature and scope of the concern. It also identifies the policies, rules, procedures, or expectations that may be implicated.
3. Initial Assessment/Triage. HR determines (i) whether, if the allegations are true, the conduct could constitute a policy violation or other form of misconduct; and (ii) whether the matter falls within HR's jurisdiction or should be referred to another office or process. It also identifies any immediate safety, operational, legal, or other concerns requiring action.
4. Determine Appropriate Response. If the allegation(s) does not appear to constitute misconduct or a policy violation, HR will work to address it through the appropriate administrative process. If the allegation(s), if substantiated, could constitute misconduct, HR will determine whether further fact-finding is warranted. Further, HR will implement interim measures when appropriate.
5. Investigation/Fact-Finding. HR will develop an appropriate scope and investigation plan in line with the policy that has allegedly been violated. HR will interview the complainant, respondent, and relevant witnesses; collect and review relevant documentation and other evidence; and provide the respondent an opportunity to understand and respond to the allegations.
6. Findings. HR will assess the evidence and determine what facts can be substantiated by applying the applicable standard of proof and determine whether university policy or expectations were violated.
7. Outcome/Corrective Action. If misconduct is substantiated, HR will determine appropriate corrective or disciplinary action consistent with policy, applicable collective bargaining agreements, and past practice. If not substantiated, HR will close the matter or address any appropriate non-disciplinary concerns identified during the process.
8. Documentation and Follow-Up. HR will maintain appropriate documentation of the complaint, investigation, findings, and outcome, and will monitor or follow up on any required corrective actions. HR will communicate appropriate information to the involved parties while maintaining confidentiality.

Prevention Strategies and Programs

GovState offers and engages in prevention and awareness programming related to hazing that includes research-informed campus-wide prevention programs designed to reach students and employees and primary prevention strategies intended to stop hazing before hazing occurs. These programs are overseen by the Office of the Dean of Students. During Calendar Year 2025, such primary prevention strategies and programs included:

- Publication of the Student Code of Conduct and Policy 102 on the [GovState Website](#).
- Dissemination of the complete Policy 102 directly to all students via email during the Fall 2025 Semester.
- Dissemination of information about and a link to Policy 102 to all employees via email and information session about employee hazing reporting obligations during the Fall 2025 Semester.
- Offering optional Hazing Awareness and Prevention training for all employees through GovState's training learning management system.
- Inclusion of information about hazing, such as the definition of hazing, an outline of the University's stance against hazing, and liability for disciplinary sanctions, in GovState's Student Athlete Handbooks.
- Inclusion of information about hazing, such as the definition of hazing, an outline of the University's stance against hazing, and available methods for reporting suspected hazing, in GovState's Student Club and Organization Manual.
- Reinforcement of hazing prevention and the University's prohibition against hazing during a semesterly Student Leader and Advisor Training, which is attended by the student leadership and employee advisors of GovState's student clubs and organizations.
- Hosting GovState's annual hazing prevention workshop, "These Paws Don't Haze," during National Hazing Prevention Week in September, which workshop provided students with education on identifying hazing behaviors, prevention and intervention strategies, University expectations, and organizational accountability.
- Incorporating hazing prevention information and expectations into the ongoing education and support provided to student organization leaders and advisors.

Contact Information

Below, please find contact information for the following University departments critically important to the oversight, operationalization, and enforcement of the policies, procedures, and programs described in this Overview of Hazing Policies at GovState.

OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

1 University Parkway C1310 University Park, IL 60684

Phone: 708.235.7595

Email: deanofstudents@govst.edu

[ODOS Webpage](#)

HUMAN RESOURCES

1 University Parkway C1360 University Park, IL 60484

Phone: 708-534-4100

Email: hr@govst.edu

[HR Website](#)

GOVSTATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

1 University Parkway C1375 University Park, IL 60484

Emergency: 911 (from a campus phone)

Phone: 708.534.4900

[DPS Webpage](#)

CAMPUS SUPPORT SERVICES AND RESOURCES

Counseling & Wellness Center

The Counseling and Wellness Center (CWC), in partnership with Advocate Health Care, offers comprehensive medical, mental health, and case management services. The CWC includes the GovState4U Program that connects students facing personal difficulties, such as food and housing insecurity, to campus and community resources. The center is staffed by a diverse and collaborative team including a psychologist, licensed counselors, social worker, doctoral externs, a certified family nurse practitioner, a medical assistant, and support staff. The CWC medical and behavioral health team works with currently enrolled GovState students and provides confidential and compassionate individualized counseling services, and crisis support 24/7/365 with the goal of improving academic experiences through facilitating physical, emotional, social, and spiritual growth. All services are FREE and confidential to enrolled GovState students.

Office Location: A-1120

Hours:

Mon. - Fri., 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Walk-ins:

Mon. - Fri., 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Let's Talk Sessions:

Mon. - Fri., 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.

*Both in-person and virtual appointments are available

To request an appointment, call 708.235.7334 or walk-in.

[COUNSELING CENTER WEBSITE](#)

[CRISIS SUPPORT & HELPLINE NUMBERS](#)

[STUDENT RESOURCES](#)

[SERVICES OFFERED](#)

[FAQ FOR FACULTY/STAFF](#)

Through LivingWell@GovState, the CWC offers a variety of new free and confidential mental health resources for students 24/7/365, including:

24/7 CRISIS SUPPORT

Crisis Appointments after hours & weekends at (833) 434-1217 or through the Uwill app.

TOGETHERALL PEER SUPPORT COMMUNITY

Togetherall is an online 24/7, 365 days a year anonymous peer-to-peer support platform. Managed and monitored by licensed mental health professionals, students will be able to engage with other peers who share similar lived experiences, provide and receive advice, take self-directed courses, join groups based on personal experiences, journal, and access apps and mental health self-assessments. The purpose is to provide a space for students who may be depressed, anxious, lonely, or experiencing other concerns, to access support and share their feelings with other diverse community members to improve their mental health.

eCHECKUP TO GO

eCHECKUP TO GO (eCHUG) serves as a resource for enhancing your health and well-being. Within this platform, you'll find screeners that focuses on Emotional wellness, overall Well-Being, Sexual Violence Prevention, and Substance Use all designed to empower you to make informed decisions regarding issues that impact your college experience and beyond. Surveys are anonymous, and take about 5 minutes to complete!

CWC ADVOCATING FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION (ASAP) TEAM

The ASAP team at GovState is committed to creating a campus culture that promotes sexual and relationship health through education and training on the prevention of sexual violence. Information about ASAP is available on the [Advocating for Sexual Assault Prevention Webpage](#).

CWC HEALTH CENTER

Advocate Aurora Health provides healthcare services on the GovState campus for enrolled students, including:

- Required immunizations for full compliance with the College Student Immunization Act [110 ILCS 20]
- Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD)/Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) screenings
- Women's Health Screenings
- Basic Physicals and Sports Physicals
- Minor Illnesses: Coughs, Colds, Nausea, Ear Aches, Sinus Infections, Fevers, Urinary Tract Infections
- Diagnostic Testing: Strep, Influenza (Flu)
- Minor Injuries: Abrasions, Sprains, Splinters, Steri-Strip Removal, Minor Burns
- Skin Conditions: Rashes, Bites
- Consultation/Education: High Blood Pressure, High Cholesterol, etc.

(Services beyond what are listed are not covered in the student health fee.)

The Health Center at GovState Location: A-1120

Phone: 708-235-2114

Hours: Monday - Thursday from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

[SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT](#)

[SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES](#)

THE CARE Program

The CARE Program (formerly known as the Student Concerns Program) is designed to ensure timely outreach to students that are believed to be in distress or acting in a manner of concern and connect them to resources best suited to address the conveyed concern. Since members of the campus community play a key role in identifying students who are in distress, the CARE Program depends on referrals that identify students who might benefit from proactive outreach and assistance.

Any member of the campus community is encouraged to report behaviors or concerns of any GovState student by using the online reporting form to identify students and describe their area(s) of concern.

Student concerns can include, but are not limited to academic, physical or emotional concerns such as:

- public outburst
- sporadic attendance at classes
- disruptive classroom behavior
- distressed writing in assignments or
- changes in behavior, appearance or personal habits

A more detailed list of concerns can be found below.

Completed reports will be directed to the Office of the Dean of Students which will identify resources and personnel best suited to address the concern articulated by the reporter. Reports will be tracked for themes, repetition, and increased concern(s) to evaluate student and university trends.

Important Note: Submissions to CARE Program differ from those intended for the [Campus Threat Assessment Team \(CTAT\)](#) because they are early alerts of student concern intended to direct intervention to students in distress, not behavior significant enough to be a threat to the safety and well-being of others. CARE Program coordinates a proactive effort to prevent and/or manage the situation.

Campus Threat Assessment Team

In accordance with the Illinois Campus Security Enhancement Act of 2008, GovState has recognized the need to assist university community members in stressful or threatening situations. Based on evidence and research into campus tragedies, GovState has decided to take a hands-on, holistic approach to ensure that tools are in place to reduce risks related to campus violence through the Campus Threat Assessment Team (CTAT). To help in our efforts to ensure the safety of the campus community, please report all concerning behaviors that are potentially threatening, harmful to self or others, or disruptive to the university's mission. In an effort to promote a safe and secure learning and work environment, a campus threat assessment team (CTAT) has been created to discuss issues relating to violence, security and potential threats directed at the University's students, faculty or staff. This team meets regularly and provides a structured way to share information regarding potential acts of violence that also allows for intervention.

HOW TO REPORT A CAMPUS THREAT

A [Campus Threat Assessment Report](#) is completed by an individual (student, faculty, or staff member) who observes behaviors that may be potentially disruptive to the safety and well-being of the GovState community. Once completed through the portal, the report is submitted to the Campus Threat Assessment Team. To report life-threatening or immediate danger situations please call the Department of Public Safety at 708.534.4900 or dial 911.

REASONS FOR MAKING A CTAT REPORT

Possible reasons for making a report to the Campus Threat Assessment Team include:

- Self-injurious behavior/suicidal ideation or attempt.
- Behaviors include, but are not limited to, suicidal thoughts or action.
- Erratic behavior (including online activities) that disrupts the mission and/or

- normal proceedings of University students, faculty, staff or community.
- Behaviors include but are not limited to weapons on and off campus,
- significant inappropriate disruption to community, potential for safety being
- compromised.
- Involuntary transportation to the hospital for alcohol and drug use/abuse.

KEY OBJECTIVES

The key objectives in engaging the Campus Threat Assessment Team are:

- **IDENTIFY** — often, the accumulation of information identifies a person who poses a threat and helps to identify the level of that threat; therefore, the team ensures appropriate information exchange.
- **ASSESS** — if additional information is needed to assess the level of risk, the team functions as an investigative body charged with gathering relevant and confidential information for the purposes of providing for the safety, security and well-being of the person at risk and the campus community at large.
- **MANAGE** — when a determination is made that the person in question is at risk or poses a risk to others, the team recommends and/or implements steps for intervention, which may be medical, psychological, judicial or legal. In many cases, the standing policies and procedures of the University and external agencies dictate the intervention strategies.
- **REDUCE** — Violence prevention is best accomplished by stopping the process before it gets started. Addressing minor violations of University policy lowers the risk of aggressive responses and increases the possibility of peaceful solutions.
- **EDUCATE** — the campus community must be educated so that it can identify and refer students, staff and faculty at risk for posing a danger to the University community. In addition, the team must seek educational and professional development opportunities to maintain a knowledge base of risk indicators and appropriate laws and policies regarding privacy and confidentiality, proper management of information, educated assessment of risk, and intervention services.

WHY CTAT IS NECESSARY

Often, no single piece of information is enough to prevent a tragedy; however, the accumulation of information helps to identify a person at risk, allowing for intervention and prevention. A threat response, assessment and intervention team such as GovState's CTAT serves as the conduit for information flow.

Creation of the team is a proactive way to coordinate and plan an appropriate approach to deal with the complexities often involved with threats and violence. Key objectives of the team are to identify, assess, manage and reduce potential threats to the University community and to educate faculty, staff and students about the dangers of interpersonal violence.

Inherent to the work of this team are concerns about the privacy of all involved. The team members are extremely sensitive to these concerns and will ensure that the highest standards of confidentiality are upheld.

No committee can completely protect the University community from every act of violence. The creation of this team, however, increases the likelihood that potential violence can be identified so that reasonable steps can be taken to avoid it.

REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS

The Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act found in 42 USC § 1407(j) of the Wetterling Act, known as Megan's Law, states that the University must advise the campus community where the registered sex offenders list may be obtained. The Megan's Law statute and history may be found at the following website: <https://smart.ojp.gov/sorna/current-law/legislative-history>.

A copy of the registered sex offender list can be obtained from the Department of Public Safety, C Building, Room C1375 or call 708.534.4900.

Registered Sex Offenders additional resources:

- Illinois State Police Sex Offender Registry Database: <https://sor.isp.illinois.gov/sorpublic/>
 - This webpage also includes information from:

- The Illinois “Missing Sex Offenders” List
- The Illinois Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry Database
- U.S. Department of Justice’s Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender Public Website: <https://www.nsopw.gov/>

MISSING PERSONS

Reports of missing persons (adults or juvenile) should be made to the Governors State University Police Department at 708-534-4900. The Governors State University Police Department shall initiate a missing person investigation immediately

Suzanne’s Law

Suzanne’s Law requires that law enforcement notify the National Crime Information Center when someone between the ages of 18 and 21 is reported missing. This mandate was signed into law by President George W. Bush as part of the “Amber Alert” bill. The law was named after Suzanne Lyall, a State University of New York at Albany student who has been missing since 1998. Governors State University has adopted procedures to comply with these provisions. Upon receipt of a report of a missing person between the ages of 18 and 21, the Governors State University Police Department will enter that information into NCIC and LEADS as soon as practical.

Missing Student Notification Policy and Procedures

Each student living on campus in University Housing has the option to register a confidential contact person with the University, and in the event a student is determined to be missing, authorized campus officials or the University police may have access to that information for investigative purposes. If a student has not registered a confidential contact person, the Department of Public Safety will contact the appropriate local law enforcement agency for continuity and safety concerns. All official missing student reports must be immediately referred to the University Police Department for investigation or referral to the appropriate local law enforcement agency.

CRIME STATISTICS REPORT 2023 THROUGH 2025

The Governors State University Police Department gathers statistical data for this publication. Information about crime is gathered from University Police Department crime statistics, University employees (including CSAs), campus judicial records, and local law enforcement agencies. Information about criminal activity engaged in by students at off-campus locations of student organizations officially recognized by the University is collected annually from the Governors State University Police Department. Information about crime on campus can be found in this Report. Crime data is presented in separate tables in accordance with applicable federal and state laws governing reporting.

The following annual crime statistics are provided in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act (Clery Act). The statistics include Clery crimes that occurred on or within GovState’s Clery geography and were reported to local police agencies or to a Campus Security Authority during the calendar years of 2023, 2024 and 2025.

CRIME STATISTICS REPORTING POLICIES AND PRACTICES

To compile the annual crime statistics, the GovState Director Public Safety (the Chief of the Governors State University Police Department) reviews all GovState police reports, as well as all relevant reports filed with the Office of the Dean of Students and the Title IX Office. Information is also requested from Campus Security Authorities and local law enforcement agencies. When reports are reviewed by the Director of

Public Safety, reports of the same crime are identified to prevent duplication of the same crime statistic.

Unfounded Crimes. GovState will not withhold, or subsequently remove, a reported crime from its crime statistics based on a decision by a court, coroner, jury, prosecutor, or other similar non-campus official. However, GovState may withhold, or subsequently remove, a reported crime from its crime statistics in the rare situation where sworn or commissioned law enforcement personnel have fully investigated the reported crime and, based on the results of this full investigation and evidence, have made a formal determination that the crime report is false or baseless and therefore “unfounded.” Only sworn or commissioned law enforcement personnel may “unfound” a crime report for purposes of Clery reporting. The recovery of stolen property, the low value of stolen property, the refusal of the victim to cooperate with the prosecution, and the failure to make an arrest do not “unfound” a crime report. GovState will report to the U.S. Department of Education and disclose in this Report the total number of crime reports that were “unfounded” and subsequently withheld from its crime statistics during each of the three most recent calendar years, if any.

Crime Report Year. Clery crimes are recorded by calendar year. Crime statistics will be recorded for the calendar year in which the crime was reported to local enforcement agencies or to a Campus Security Authority.

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

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

Reported Information. Crimes are recorded based on the information that is reported to local law enforcement agencies or to a Campus Security Authority. Reported information may not have been investigated or confirmed.

Stalking Reports. When recording reports of stalking that include activities in more than one calendar year, GovState will record a crime statistic for each and every year in which the course of conduct is reported to a local law enforcement agency or to a Campus Security Authority. GovState will record each report of stalking as occurring at only the first location within its Clery geography in which (1) a perpetrator engaged in the stalking course of conduct, or (2) a victim first became aware of the stalking.

Motor Vehicles. A motor vehicle includes any self-propelled vehicle that runs on land, such as a car, motorcycle, moped, all-terrain vehicle, golf cart, electric bike, electric scooter, and motorized wheelchair.

Hazing. Hazing statistics are recorded for each single hazing incident. If the same person or persons commit more than one hazing act, and the time and place intervals separating each such act are insignificant, such information are recorded as a single hazing incident. GovState will always record hazing in its statistics, regardless of whether or not the hazing act occurred in the same incident as another crime.

Pastoral and Professional Counselors. Under the Clery Act, pastoral and professional counselors are generally exempt from CSA reporting requirements when they are acting within their counseling role.

Identification of the Victim or the Accused. The compiled crime statistics as presented in this Report and provided to the U.S. Department of Education do not contain personally identifiable information of the victim or person accused of committing the crime.

FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Program and Hierarchy Rule. GovState’s reporting of crime statistics follows the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program and “hierarchy rule” (a requirement in the FBI’s UCR Program that, for purposes of reporting crimes, when more than one criminal offense was committed during a single incident, only the most serious offense be counted) as follows:

1. Crime statistics for murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, liquor law violations, drug law violations, and illegal weapons possession are compiled using the definitions of those crimes from the “Summary Reporting System (SRS) User Manual” from the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, as provided in 34 C.F.R. Part 668, Subpart D, Appendix A.
2. Crime statistics for fondling, incest, and statutory rape are compiled using the definitions of those crimes from the “National Incident–Based Reporting System (NIBRS) User Manual” from the FBI’s UCR Program, as provided in 34 C.F.R. Part 668, Subpart D, Appendix A.
3. Crime statistics for the hate crimes of larceny-theft, simple assault, intimidation, and destruction/damage/vandalism of property are compiled using the definitions provided in the “Hate Crime Data Collection Guidelines and Training Manual” from the FBI’s UCR Program, as provided in 34 C.F.R. Part 668, Subpart D, Appendix A.
4. Crime statistics for dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking are compiled using the definitions provided in 34 C.F.R. § 668.46(a).
5. In counting crimes when more than one offense was committed during a single incident, GovState conforms to the requirements of the hierarchy rule.
6. If arson is committed, GovState will always record the arson in its statistics, regardless of whether or not it occurs in the same incident as another crime.
7. If rape, fondling, incest, or statutory rape occurs in the same incident as a murder, GovState will record both the sex offense and the murder in its statistics.

Statistics from Law Enforcement Agencies. GovState makes a reasonable, good-faith effort to obtain statistics for crimes that occurred on or within its Clery geography and may rely on the information supplied by local or state law enforcement agencies.

Error Correction. In the event of any crime statistic reporting errors, GovState will update the Report, republish it, and redistribute it. GovState will also update its reporting to the U.S. Department of Education.

Additional Information. Questions regarding this Report and the crime statistics herein may be addressed to the Governors State University Police Department at 708.534.4900.

CLERY GEOGRAPHY

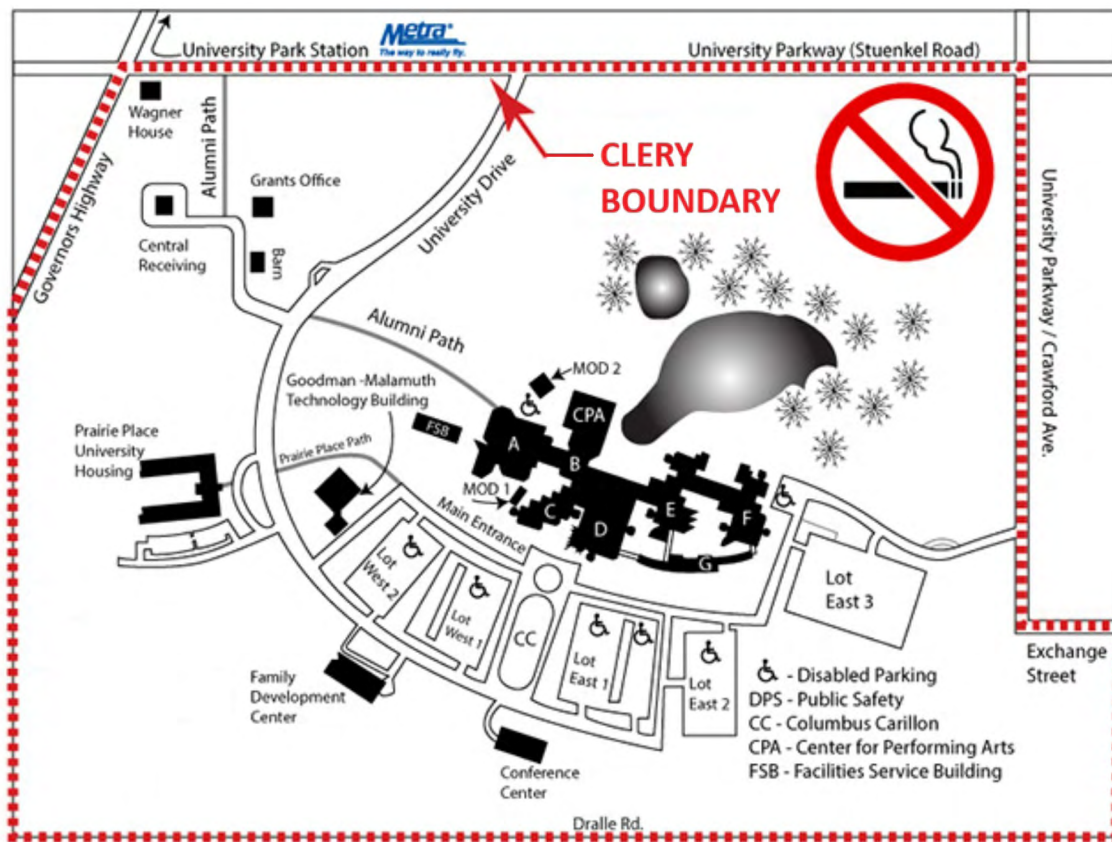
The annual crime statistics include Clery crimes that occurred on GovState’s Clery geography, which includes buildings and property that are part of GovState’s campus, GovState’s noncampus buildings and property, and public property within or immediately adjacent to and accessible from campus.

Campus and Public Property

In accordance with the Clery Act, GovState’s “campus” for purposes of its Clery geography includes: (1) any building or property owned or controlled by GovState within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the institution 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) property within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the institution that is owned by the institution but controlled by another person, is used by students, and supports institutional purposes (such as a food or other retail vendor). See 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f)(6)(A)(ii); 34 C.F.R. § 668.46(a).

GovState’s campus is located in University Park, Illinois.

The main campus is generally accessed from University Parkway/Stuenkel Road and includes the University’s primary academic and administrative complex, campus parking areas, Prairie Place student



housing, recreational and athletic areas, and other University-controlled facilities and grounds. The University also maintains pedestrian and vehicular connections throughout the campus. GovState's current campus map identifies campus buildings, parking areas, roadways, pedestrian paths, the University Park Metra Station connection, and other campus facilities.

The University also considers public property immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus, including public roadways, sidewalks, and areas bordering University property, when determining Clery-reportable geography.

<https://www.govst.edu/campus-maps>

In addition to the property making up GovState's campus, for purposes of reporting Clery crimes, GovState's Clery geography also includes all public property, including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities, that is within the campus, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus. See 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f)(6)(A)(iv); 34 C.F.R. § 668.46(a).

Noncampus Property

GovState also reports statistics of Clery crimes that occur in or on its noncampus buildings and property ("noncampus property"). As defined in the Clery Act, GovState's noncampus property includes: (1) any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization recognized by GovState; and (2) any building or property owned or controlled by GovState 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 campus. See 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f)(6)(A)(iii); 34 C.F.R. § 668.46(a). Because GovState's programs and activities are constantly evolving, GovState's noncampus property can change from year to year.

CLERY CRIMES

Clery crimes that GovState must report fall into five main categories: primary crimes, arrests and referrals for disciplinary action, Violence Against Women Act crimes, hate crimes, and hazing.

Primary Crimes

The following definitions for homicide, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, and arson are provided from the Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook, in accordance with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program. The definitions of forcible and non-forcible sex offenses are from the National Incident–Based Reporting System Edition of the Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook, in accordance with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program.

Criminal Homicide – Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter: The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.

Criminal Homicide – Manslaughter by Negligence: The killing of another person through gross negligence.

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

- Forcible:
 - 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 his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.
- Non-Forcible:
 - 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 violence and/or putting the victim in fear.

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 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 felony; breaking and entering with intent to commit larceny; housebreaking; safecracking; and all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned.

Motor Vehicle Theft: The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. All cases where automobiles are taken by a person not having lawful access, even though the vehicles are later abandoned, including joyriding, are included in this definition.

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, or personal property of another.

Arrests and Referrals for Disciplinary Action

This category of Clery crime includes if an individual is arrested or referred for University disciplinary action related to liquor law violations, drug law/abuse violations, or illegal weapons possession under the laws of Illinois or local ordinances. "Referred for disciplinary action" means the referral of any person to any campus official who initiates a disciplinary action of which a record is kept and which may result in the imposition of a sanction. The following definitions for weapons law violations, drug abuse violations and liquor law violations are provided from the Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook, in accordance with the

Weapons Law Violations (Illegal Weapons Possession): The violations of laws or ordinances dealing with prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, concealment, or use of firearms, cutting instruments, explosives, incendiary devices, or other deadly weapons.

Drug Law Violations: Violations 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, are included in this definition.

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

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Crimes

The following definitions for domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking are provided from 34 C.F.R. § 668.46(a).

Domestic Violence: Felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed: (1) by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim; (2) by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common; (3) by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner; (4) 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 (5) 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. For the purposes of complying with the requirements of the Clery Act, any incident meeting this definition is considered a crime for the purposes of reporting.

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 the relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. For the purposes of this definition: (1) dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse; and (2) dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence. For the purposes of complying with the requirements of the Clery Act, any incident meeting this definition is considered a crime for the purposes of reporting.

Stalking: Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to--(1) fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or (2) suffer substantial emotional distress. For the purposes of this definition: (1) "course of conduct" means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts 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; (2) "reasonable person" means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim; (3) "substantial emotional distress" means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but may not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

HATE CRIMES

A hate crime is a crime reported to local law enforcement agencies or to a Campus Security Authority that manifests evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator's bias against the victim. The categories of bias include the victim's actual or perceived race, religion, gender, gender identity,

sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin and disability. Hate crimes are recorded for all crimes listed under the primary crimes category, and for the crimes of larceny-theft, simple assault, intimidation and destruction/damage/vandalism of property. Definition for those terms are provided below from the “Hate Crime Data Collection Guidelines and Training Manual” from Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Uniform Crime Reporting Program. Statistics for hate crimes are counted in each specific Clery crime category and therefore are part of the overall statistics each year, except for larceny-theft, simple assault, intimidation and destruction/damage/vandalism of property.

Larceny-Theft (Except Motor Vehicle Theft): 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: 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: 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: 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.

Hazing

The following definitions are for the purpose of reporting statistics on hazing incidents. It should be noted that the definition used to classify hazing for the purpose of reporting statistics in this Report in accordance with the Clery Act is different than the University’s definition of hazing provided in the Anti-Hazing Policy (University Policy 102). The definitions below are provided from 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f)(6)(A). Hazing statistics are being reported under the Clery Act for the first time for the 2025 calendar year.

Hazing: Any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a person (whether individually or in concert with other persons) against another person or persons regardless of the willingness of such other person or persons to participate, that:

1. Is committed in the course of an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, a student organization; and
2. Causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in the University (such as the physical preparation necessary for participation in an athletic team), of physical or psychological injury including:
 - a. Whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on someone’s body, or similar activity;
 - b. Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, extreme calisthenics, or other similar activity;
 - c. Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to consume food, liquid, alcohol, drugs, or other substances;
 - d. Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to perform sexual acts;
 - e. Any activity that places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct;
 - f. Any activity against another person that includes a criminal violation of local, State, or Federal law; and
 - g. Any activity that induces, causes, or requires another person to perform a duty or task that involves a criminal violation of local, State, or Federal law.

Student Organization: An organization at an institution of higher education (such as a club, society, association, varsity or junior varsity athletic team, club sports team, fraternity, sorority, band, or student government) in which two or more of the members are students enrolled at the institution of higher education, whether or not the organization is established or recognized by the institution.

CRIME STATISTICS

CRIMINAL OFFENSES- REPORTED BY HIERARCHY						
Type of offense (Reported by)	Year	On-Campus	Non-campus	Public Property	Total	Residence Facility
Criminal Homicide						
Murder/non-negligent manslaughter	2025	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent	2025	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Offenses						
Forcible sex offenses (Rape, Sodomy, with object or fondling)	2025	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Non-forcible sex (Incest and Statutory)	2025	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery						
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault						
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary						
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft						
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	1	0	0	1	1
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Arrests						
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Law Arrests						
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0

CRIMINAL OFFENSES- REPORTED BY HIERARCHY (CONTINUED)						
Type of offense	Year	On-Campus	Non-campus	Public Property	Total	Residence Facility
Weapons Law Arrests						
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action						
	2025	3	0	0	3	3
	2024	8	0	0	8	8
	2023	52	0	0	52	52
Drug Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action						
	2025	9	0	0	9	9
	2024	19	0	0	19	19
	2023	32	0	0	32	32
Weapons Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action						
	2025	2	0	0	2	2
	2024	1	0	0	1	1
	2023	0	0	0	0	0

CRIMINAL OFFENSES- NOT REPORTED BY HIERARCHY						
Type of Crimes	Year	On-Campus	Non-campus	Public Property	Total	Residence Facility
Arson						
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence						
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence						
	2025	1	0	0	1	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Hate Crimes						
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking						
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Hazing						
	2025	0	0	0	0	0

UNFOUNDED CRIMES	
2025	0
2024	0
2023	0

HATE CRIMES REPORTING	
2025	0
2024	0
2023	0



ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY REPORT

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) of 2008 requires each university to report fire safety statistics and related policies and practices for on-campus student housing.

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) of 2008 (Public Law 110-315, 20 U.S.C. § 1092(i), 34 C.F.R. § 668.49) requires that each university report fire safety statistics for on-campus student housing. Specifically, the HEOA requires information on the cause of each fire, the number of injuries and deaths related to a fire, and the value of property damage caused by the fire being reported. Further, the HEOA requires universities to provide information about each on-campus student housing facility fire safety system, including the fire sprinkler system; the number of regular mandatory supervised fire drills; policies or rules on portable electrical appliances, smoking, and open flames (such as candles), procedures for evacuation, and policies regarding fire safety education and training programs provided to students, faculty, and staff; and plans for future improvements in fire safety, if determined necessary by such institution.

Information related to Governors State University of fire safety efforts has been provided to increase awareness of the programs and equipment that exist to ensure the safety and well-being of our students, employees and guests.

REPORTING FIRES AND FIRE LOG

As with any emergency, all fires, either active fires or suspected fires that may have occurred, must be reported to:

Governors State University Police Department

1 University Parkway (C1375)

University Park, IL 60484

Emergency: 911 (from a campus phone)

Phone: 708.534.4900

Active or suspected fires that may have occurred in GovState's on-campus student housing facility should also be reported to:

Director of Auxiliary Services and Housing

1 University Parkway (C1331)

University Park, IL 60484

Phone: 708.235.7114

Email: housing@govst.edu

Upon receipt of information relating to any fire on campus, the relevant information will be posted into the Fire Log, which is maintained in the Department of Public Safety (DPS), in C-Building, Room C-1375. This Fire Log is available for review by contacting DPS at 708.534.4900. The portion of the log covering the most recent sixty (60) day period may be reviewed by the general public during normal business hours. If a request is made to inspect an entry in the Fire Log that is more than 60 days old, the requested portion of the Fire Log will be made available within two business days of the request.

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are used for purposes of reporting GovState's on-campus student housing fire safety statistics and other information. These definitions are from the federal regulations related to fire safety reporting under the HEOA, 34 C.F.R. § 668.49(a).

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

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

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

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

Fire-Related Death: Any instance in which a person—

1. Is killed as a result of a fire, including death resulting from a natural or accidental cause while involved in fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from the dangers of a fire; or
2. Dies within one year of injuries sustained as a result of the fire.

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

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



GOVSTATE'S ON-CAMPUS STUDENT HOUSING: PRAIRIE PLACE

Governors State University's only on-campus student housing facility is its residence hall Prairie Place, which was constructed and opened in the fall of 2014. Prairie Place serves as an active, supportive, and enriching place to live, where students from all cultures, walks of life, and generations are immersed in a dynamic community. Residents enjoy a setting of fully furnished two- and four-bedroom apartments, as well as suites, with 98 total units and 280 total beds. The residence hall is managed by the University Housing Office and maintained by the GovState Facilities Development and Management Department.

Fire Safety System and Sprinkler System

Prairie Place is equipped with Simplex 4100U fire alarm panels. The system consists of addressable manual pull stations, visual/audible alarm devices, and integrated automatic detection devices. Each sleeping room in the residence hall is equipped with an addressable smoke detector and sounder base. All smoke detectors, heat detectors, duct detectors, pull stations, and sprinkler controls in the residence hall is supervised and monitored by the building Simplex 4100U panel where each point is assigned an address that identifies the exact location of each initiating device. The display provides the location of the initiating device which is also transmitted to the annunciator panel at the Governors State University Police Department offices. The systems are monitored 24/7 by the main fire alarm panel located in the University Police Dispatch Center.

The facility has a fire suppression system including the attic spaces, where dry pipe systems exist. The sprinkler systems is supervised and monitored by the building Simplex fire alarm panels which report all alarm and trouble conditions to the annunciator at the Police Department offices.

Fire extinguishers are located in the residence hall in accordance with NFPA 10, Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers.

Testing and Inspection

Pull station, horns, strobes, bells, smoke/heat detectors, batteries and fire alarm panels are inspected semiannually and annually. Smoke detectors are cleaned, inspected and tested annually. All inspections and testing are performed by a certified fire alarm company in accordance with National Fire Alarm Code NFPA 72.

Automatic sprinklers are tied into the fire alarm system. The sprinkler systems and fire pumps are inspected and tested semiannually by a certified inspection company in accordance with NFPA 13A.

Supervised Fire Drills

At least one fire evacuation drill per calendar year is conducted in the residence hall. The fire evacuation drills are supervised by a team of University employees and are evaluated for effectiveness. In calendar year 2025, the Prairie Place fire drill was conducted on [10/7/2025].

Fire Safety Policies and Rules: Governors State University has instituted fire safety regulations in order to prevent injuries to members of the campus community and physical damage to facilities. The on-campus housing policies are published in the University housing Handbook.

FIRE PREVENTION POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

The following policies and guidelines are imposed and enforced with respect to Prairie Place with the aims of minimizing potential fire hazards and increasing personal safety as part of GovState's constant efforts to provide a safe environment for the residents of Prairie Place. Information about applicable policies and guidance can also be found in:

- [University Housing Handbook](#)
- [GovState Campus Safety Booklet](#)

Smoke Detector Policy

Smoke detectors are critical life-safety devices installed to protect all residents of Prairie Place. Tampering with smoke detectors in any way is strictly prohibited and considered a serious violation of Housing Policy.

Definition of Tampering: Tampering includes but is not limited to: covering the smoke detector, placing tape or any other material around the device, removing or disconnecting the device, damaging the device in any way, or any other action that interferes with the smoke detector's normal operation.

Consequences for Tampering:

First Occurrence:

- The alleged student will be documented via the student conduct process.
- The alleged student will be placed on housing probation.
- The student's parent or guardian will be notified of the violation.
- A \$100 fine will be assessed to the student's account.

Second Occurrence:

- The alleged student will be documented via the student conduct process.
- The alleged student will be removed from University Housing.
- This may result in the immediate termination of the housing contract.
- Additional university disciplinary action may be pursued.

Intentional False Alarms

A person who intentionally causes a false alarm or false warning of a crime, fire or catastrophe, when such report is known to be false, is guilty of Disorderly Conduct. Pulling a fire alarm is considered a Class 4 felony under Illinois law. Transmitting or causing to be transmitted a false alarm of a threat or impending destruction, such as a bomb threat, is a Class 3 felony, for which a fine of not less than \$3,000 and no more than \$10,000 shall be assessed in addition to any other penalty imposed.

Fire Extinguishers

Tampering with or using fire extinguishers for purposes other than firefighting is illegal and strictly prohibited. Violations will result in disciplinary action.

To operate a dry powder fire extinguisher:

1. Remove the fire extinguisher from the holding bracket.
2. Pull the safety release pin near the top of the fire extinguisher. (This pin may be held in place with a breakable plastic strap.)
3. Aim the nozzle of the fire extinguisher at the base of the flames.
4. Squeeze the handles together to discharge the dry powder.
5. Sweep slowly back and forth across the fire with the dry powder stream. To check the dry powder fire extinguisher:
 - a. Examine the circular pressure gauge located near the top of the fire extinguisher.
 - b. If the indicator needle on this pressure gauge is in the center position or slightly to the over charged position, the fire extinguisher should operate correctly.
 - c. If the indicator needle on this pressure gauge is into the recharge position, the fire extinguisher may not function correctly.

Notify a University Housing staff member or contact University Housing, 708.235.7110, if the fire extinguisher pressure gauge indicator needle is into the recharge position or if the needle is well into the overcharge position.

Emergency Repairs

Emergency repair requests for both public and living areas of Prairie Place that involve electrical, running water or health or safety hazards should be reported to a Resident Assistant or Prairie Place front desk staff immediately. Emergency maintenance requests include but are not limited to: broken pipes, clogged sinks, overflowing toilets and bathtubs, fires, noxious odors, gas or electrical service interruption and all items that threaten the life, health and safety of the apartment residents. Emergency services can also be requested through the Department of Public Safety at 708.534.4900.

Sprinkler Heads Policy

Hanging objects from sprinkler heads or tampering with sprinkler heads in any way is strictly prohibited in Prairie Place. Residents and their guests will be responsible for any damage to the sprinkler heads or ceiling tiles or water damage to any personal property which is the direct result of their actions.

Electrical Appliances Policy

Across the country, unattended electrical appliances have led to many fires in residence halls. To prevent such occurrences from happening at GovState, all appliances or heat generating devices (such as an iron) must be properly monitored at all times. Failure to do so will be considered negligent and proper disciplinary actions will be taken.

For safety reasons, the following appliances are **NOT PERMITTED** in Prairie Place:

- Devices with open heating elements
- Space heaters not provided by University Housing
- Toaster ovens
- Freezers
- Lava Lamps
- Strobe lights
- Window/portable air conditioners
- All indoor grills (e.g. Black and Decker®, George Foreman® etc.)
- Deep fryers, regardless of size
- Any open flame device

The following appliances **ARE PERMITTED**:

- Automatic, pop-up toaster
- Crock pot or slow food cooker
- Sandwich maker
- Waffle iron
- Blender
- Food processor
- Portable or stand mixer
- Automatic coffee maker (with fully enclosed heating element)
- Hot pot (with fully enclosed heating element and automatic shut-off)
- Corn popper (with fully enclosed heating element and automatic shut-off)
- Clothes iron (with automatic shut-off)
- Curling iron
- Hair straightener/flat iron
- Fish aquarium heater
- Hair dryer
- Hair rollers
- Heating pad (with temperature settings)
- Electric blanket (with temperature settings)

Approval is needed from University Housing for any appliances not included on the above list.

Due to poor ventilation and combustibility, no electrical appliances (including microwave and refrigerator) should be placed in closets, under lofted beds or behind room doors.

Additionally, a MicroFridge®, microwaves and refrigerators must be plugged directly into a wall outlet; they are not permitted to be plugged into a surge protector or extension cord. Misuse of electrical appliances by not following these guidelines is considered a fire hazard in addition to a policy violation.

Decorations Policy

General Guidelines

Only UL Approved fire resistant and noncombustible decorations may be used. All decorations must be placed in such a way that they do not interfere with a person's vision, safe passage, or evacuation. No decorations or any other combustible items (including flags, posters, wires, cables etc.) may be placed or hung in a stairway, exit routes or ceilings of any room or lounge.

Life safety devices should not be decorated or obstructed in any way. As such, it is important that an 18-inch clearance is maintained around all safety devices, including exit signs, fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, fire alarm pulls, emergency lights, audible fire signals/strobe lights, exit doors, sprinkler heads/cover plates and/or any other life safety devices. Electrical cords or lighting may not be hung around or attached to bed and door frames or placed underneath a carpet.

University Housing and the GovState Facilities Development and Management Department shall have the final authority as to what material may be used in decorations, should questions arise.

Decorations in violation of University policy must be removed immediately, at the direction of the Environmental Health and Safety Office or University Housing.

Christmas/Holiday Trees and Decorative Plants

Only artificial trees (excluding metallic trees) certified as fire-resistant and that are 24 inches or shorter are permitted in the residence hall. For safety reasons, students may not use live or cut trees of any kind (branches, boughs, swags, festoons, etc.). Artificial trees taller than 48 inches are only permitted on the first floor main lobby and lounge. Fire extinguishers must be nearby.

For fire safety reasons, dry vegetation, such as hay, straw, leaves, corn shocks or evergreen trees and branches are not permitted in the residence hall.

Lighting/Lights Policy

Halogen light bulbs (used in desk lamps or free-standing lamps) are prohibited in the residence hall due to their combustibility and excessive heat. Torchière-style lamps, including multi-armed or flexible floor lamps, are also prohibited for safety reasons.

The use of fluorescent light bulbs in desk lamps or free-standing lamps is permitted.

Removal of any university-installed light bulbs, fluorescent tubes, etc., is not permitted. A work order may be placed in the event that a university-provided light does not work.

Light fixtures or bulbs may not be covered or painted. Only UL-approved lighting sets may be used. Only miniature-type lighting (no more than one set of 50 miniature lights) or rope decorative lighting (no more than two, 12-foot lengths) is permitted. Under no circumstances, may these lights be left unattended when turned on.

Candles and Incense Policy

Prairie Place residents may not possess candles, incense, lanterns or any similar open flame devices in their residence hall rooms. If these items are found in a room, the University Housing staff reserves the right to confiscate them and pursue disciplinary actions against the student. Candle warmers are permitted only in cases where the candle is just wax or its wick has been removed.

Candles/Incense used for religious purposes (i.e. Hanukkah, Solstice celebrations) must be kept in the Residence Hall Director's office and tagged appropriately. The Residence Hall Director reserves the right to determine when and where these items may be used.

Extension Cords Policy

Only extension cords equipped with a ground (three-pronged plug) and an inline surge protector may be used. It is highly recommended that the proper length of surge protectors be used to ensure that extension cords are used sparingly.

Multi-plug adapters must have power strips with a safety overload circuit breaker. Only one power strip should be plugged into an outlet at any one time. It is important to not overload the power strip or outlet.

For safety reasons, power strips, extension cords, rope lighting and decorative light sets must be set at least 18 inches away from all combustible and flammable materials. They should not run through any door openings, be attached or wrapped to furniture or the ceiling or be covered in any way.

Guidelines for Outdoor Grills

- Grills must be used in the designated area located in the West sidewalk that is parallel to the building.
- Charcoal lighter fluid may not be stored inside any University building.
- Gasoline may not be used to light charcoal fires.
- Charcoal grill coals must be cold before disposal and must be dumped into a suitable garbage disposal container.
- Charcoal grill coals, whether hot or cold, may not be dumped onto the ground.
- The owner of the grill is responsible for the grill's operation whenever it is in use or hot.



GOVSTATE'S SMOKE-FREE CAMPUS

Governors State University Smoke Free/Tobacco Free Campus Policy and Principles

In accordance with the Illinois Smoke-Free Campus Act (110 ILCS 64), since July 1, 2015, Governors State University has prohibited smoking and any tobacco use indoors and outdoors on campus property, including in the residence hall, parking lots, and in parked cars. Littering the remains of tobacco products or any other related waste product on campus property is further prohibited.

The purpose of the Smoke-Free Campus Act and GovState's Smoke-Free/Tobacco-Free Campus Policy is to provide a healthy environment that promotes and encourages the health, well-being, and safety of students, faculty, staff, and visitors at Governors State University by minimizing the negative effects of secondhand smoke; to improve safety; and to encourage a more sustainable environment.

The Smoke-Free/Tobacco-Free Campus Policy applies to any individual on campus property, including but not limited to students, faculty, staff, other employees, contractors, subcontractors, guests, volunteers, visitors and members of the public. It is applicable twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.

For purposes of that Policy, the following definitions apply:

- **Smoke or Smoking:** (1) The carrying, smoking, burning, inhaling, or exhaling of any kind of lighted pipe, cigar, cigarillo, beedies, kreteks, water pipe, bong, cigarette, hookah, weed, herbs, or other lighted smoking equipment; (2) lighting or burning of non-tobacco plants or marijuana; and (3) using nicotine products not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as a smoking cessation product, such as electronic cigarettes.
- **Campus Property:** Any property owned, leased, occupied, operated or otherwise controlled by Governors State University, including but not limited to academic and auxiliary buildings, classrooms, laboratories, residences, residence halls, elevators, stairwells, restrooms, roofs, meeting rooms, hallways, lobbies and other common areas, athletic complexes and facilities, exterior open spaces, shuttle buses, shuttle bus stops, driveways, loading docks, university-owned streets, sidewalks and walkways, and as further set forth on the GovState smoke-free campus map (below).



- **Tobacco Products:** All forms of tobacco, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, pipes, beedies, kreteks, water pipes, bongs, and hookahs, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and any non-FDA approved nicotine delivery device or product.

Individuals found to be noncompliant with the Policy will be subject to existing University disciplinary measures, such as:

1. For students, such noncompliance will be referred to the Office of the Dean of Students.
2. For employees, such noncompliance will be referred to the employee's supervisor or the Human Resources Department, as applicable.
3. For contractors and subcontractors, such noncompliance will be referred to the University unit responsible for monitoring performance of the applicable contract.
4. Visitors and members of the public who refuse to comply with the Policy may be asked to leave campus.

For more information about the GovState Smoke-Free/Tobacco-Free Campus Policy (including about limited exceptions), please see the [Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free GovState Webpage](#). [Frequently Asked Questions](#) about the Policy are also available.

EMERGENCIES

GovState is equipped with emergency telephones that automatically ring to the Governors State University Police Department 24 hours a day. The emergency telephones are either yellow or red.

- Push and release the red button to activate a two-way emergency response call to a Public Safety Telecommunicator. Press the black button to release (terminate) call.
- Dialing 4900 on any ivory-colored phone inside the university automatically connects you to the department without dialing, or go to room C1375 twenty-four (24) hours a day.
- Emergency 9-1-1- is accessible from any phone on campus. Just like any other city's 911 system, a computer displays the caller's location if they cannot communicate with the operator. Dialing 911 from a cell phone while on campus will also connect the caller to the University Park Police Department.
- There are "blue light phones" around campus in parking lots and alongside walkways.

In the event of a campus emergency, students are automatically subscribed to receive messages through the emergency notification system. The system will use students' current directory information. Students may check their contact information under Academic Profile and My Profile in the portal. If the information is incorrect, the student must contact the Registrar's office at 708.534.4500 or regoffice@govst.edu.

EMERGENCY OR IMMEDIATE THREAT

CALL 911

Evacuate if needed. Then notify Public Safety.

FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE

In compliance with state law and University Housing policy, students must leave the building whenever a fire alarm is sounded. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary charges. The following evacuation directions should be followed:

- A. Walk to the nearest exit. DO NOT run.
- B. If you are inside a building or your room, feel the door with the back of your hand before opening it. If the door is hot, do not open it.
 - 1. Call 9-1-1 immediately. Give all pertinent information and your exact location, including floor and room number. Explain to 9-1-1 dispatcher the extent of the fire, if known.
 - 2. Place an article of clothing or other obstruction along the bottom of the door to keep smoke out.
 - 3. Move as far away from the door and heat source as possible.
 - 4. Wait for the rescue personnel to arrive.
- C. If inside a building or your room, and you feel the door is not hot:
 - 1. Call 9-1-1 immediately. Give all pertinent information and your exact location, including floor and room number. Explain to 9-1-1 dispatcher the extent of the fire, if known.
 - 2. Slowly open the door while standing behind it. Close doors behind you to contain the fire area.
 - 3. If no danger is present, proceed to the nearest exit. If the fire alarm has not been activated, do so as you proceed toward the exit.
 - 4. If the area is filled with smoke, stay low or crawl to the nearest exit.
 - 5. Evacuate the building using the stairs. Do NOT use the elevator. Be aware of alternate stairwells if the nearest stairwell is blocked.
 - 6. Do not run or panic.
 - 7. Use the handrail in the stairwell, keep to the right, and move in a single file line. Do not push or shove.
 - 8. Use red emergency phones located in stairwells and throughout campus if medical aid or assistance is required. Be prepared to give your location and the nature of the problem.
 - 9. Exit the building and proceed to a staging area outside, away from the building. Do not obstruct roadways or the movement of emergency personnel. Remain in the staging area until notified by DPS personnel or other designated authority.
 - 10. Do not re-enter the building unless the “all clear” has been given by emergency officials



FIRE ALARM PROCEDURES

- A. If the smoke detector activates in your apartment:
 - 1. Check the apartment for smoke or actual fire. Should no smoke or fire be present, call 708.534.4900.
 - 2. If there is an actual fire, or if smoke is present, evacuate all apartment occupants to the outside areas, and out of the Fire Department's way (across the street or drive).
 - 3. In case of an actual fire, warn the neighboring apartments that are along your path of evacuation.
 - 4. From the nearest available phone, dial 9-1-1. State your name, floor, apartment/suite number, and that the smoke detector is sounding in your apartment/suite.
 - 5. Do NOT attempt to extinguish the fire.
 - 6. All occupants should remain outside the building until the Fire Department determines it is safe to re-enter the apartment building.
- B. If you hear a smoke detector alarm coming from another apartment/suite:
 - 1. Should the smoke detector sound in a vacant (unoccupied) apartment/suite, dial 911. State your name, apartment/suite number, and the location where the smoke detector is sounding.
 - 2. If the smoke detector is sounding in an occupied apartment/suite, check the apartment/suite by banging on the door or walls, by yelling, etc. to determine if the occupants are home or have evacuated the apartment. Then find the closest phone and dial 9-1-1. State your name, floor and apartment number, and the location where the fire alarm is sounding.
 - 3. Evacuate the building, warning the neighboring apartments that are along your path of evacuation. Move a safe distance away (across the street or drive), so you will not be in the way of the Fire Department.
 - 4. All occupants should remain outside the building until the Fire Department determines it is safe to re-enter the apartment building.

FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMS

Dry Powder Fire Extinguisher

Fire Safety Training and Education: The Facilities Development and Management Department of Environmental Health and Safety Officer (FDM) offers fire safety education and training, such as fire safety awareness and fire extinguisher training. Training and education programs are offered to all University Emergency Volunteers. Fire safety training or education can be scheduled by contacting the FDM office of Facilities at 708.534.4515, ext. 4515, or on campus.

GSU provides fire and safety education through a combination of new-student orientation, residence hall programming, employee training, emergency preparedness programs, and campus-wide safety communications. Training and educational activities may include:

- **Fire Prevention Education:** Information concerning common fire hazards, safe use of electrical equipment, cooking safety, smoking restrictions, and proper storage of combustible materials.
- **Emergency Evacuation Procedures:** Instruction on evacuation routes, emergency exits, fire alarm procedures, designated assembly areas, and the importance of following instructions from emergency personnel.
- **Residence Hall Fire Safety:** Residents and Resident Assistants receive information regarding fire alarms, evacuation procedures, prohibited items, cooking safety, fire extinguishers, emergency exits, and evacuation responsibilities.

- **Fire Drills:** Fire drills and evacuation exercises are conducted in University residential facilities as required to familiarize occupants with emergency procedures and evacuation routes.
- **Fire Extinguisher Education:** Where appropriate, members of the campus community may receive information regarding the proper use of portable fire extinguishers. Individuals are instructed not to attempt to extinguish a fire unless they have been trained, the fire is small and manageable, and they can safely maintain an unobstructed exit.
- **Emergency Notification:** Students, faculty, and staff are educated about University emergency notification systems and how emergency information is communicated during a fire or other life-safety emergency.
- **Emergency Response Training:** Employees and designated personnel may receive training concerning emergency response, evacuation assistance, emergency communications, and coordination with the Governors State University Department of Public Safety.
- **Fire Alarm Awareness:** Campus community members are instructed to immediately report fire alarms, smoke, fire, or other hazardous conditions to the Department of Public Safety and to evacuate when an alarm sounds.
- **Special-Needs Evacuation:** Training emphasizes planning for individuals who may require assistance during an evacuation, including individuals with mobility, hearing, visual, or other accessibility needs.



FIRE SAFETY STATISTICS

The data presented in the following tables summarize the reported fires that were reported in GovState’s on-campus student housing facility (Prairie Place) during the 2023, 2024, and 2025 calendar years. Governors State University Police, University Housing staff, and/or GovState Facilities Development and Management Department notify the Director of Public Safety of reported fires that occur in the on-campus student housing facility. The Director of Public Safety evaluates the reports and records in the Fire Log within two days of occurrence.

FIRE STATISTICS 2025					
HOUSING UNIT	NUMBER OF FIRES	NUMBER OF INJURIES REQUIRING MEDICAL ATTENTION	NUMBER OF DEATHS AS A RESULT OF THE FIRE	VALUE OF THE PROPERTY CAUSED BY THE FIRE	CAUSE OF THE FIRE
1 PRAIRIE PLACE	0	0	0	0	0

FIRE STATISTICS 2024					
HOUSING UNIT	NUMBER OF FIRES	NUMBER OF INJURIES REQUIRING MEDICAL ATTENTION	NUMBER OF DEATHS AS A RESULT OF THE FIRE	VALUE OF THE PROPERTY CAUSED BY THE FIRE	CAUSE OF THE FIRE
1 PRAIRIE PLACE	0	0	0	0	N/A

FIRE STATISTICS 2023					
HOUSING UNIT	NUMBER OF FIRES	NUMBER OF INJURIES REQUIRING MEDICAL ATTENTION	NUMBER OF DEATHS AS A RESULT OF THE FIRE	VALUE OF THE PROPERTY CAUSED BY THE FIRE	CAUSE OF THE FIRE
1 PRAIRIE PLACE	0	0	0	0	N/A

FUTURE FIRE SAFETY PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS

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



An Illinois Public University

KEY CONTACTS

Department of Public Safety

C1375 | 708.534.4900 | Open 24/7

Dean of Students

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