Sexual Misconduct Resources, Reporting, & Confidentiality

Illinois Tech respects the fact that decisions whether to inform authorities and which authorities to inform rest with the individual who experienced the sexual misconduct. An individual who experienced sexual misconduct and desires to contact an authority should call Public Safety (312.808.6363) or the Chicago Police Department (or relevant local police department) at 911 as soon as possible. Help can also be received from the Student Health and Wellness Center (312.567.7550), the Title IX Coordinator (312.567.5725), or the Office of Student Affairs (312.567.3081). Representatives from these offices are available to assist the person who experienced sexual misconduct, at his or her request, in notifying law enforcement authorities. An individual who experienced sexual misconduct may also wish to contact a community-based sexual assault crisis center. Information, including names, addresses, websites and telephone numbers, for such centers is:

**Local Resources:**

- Chicago Rape Crisis Hotline: 888-293-2080
- Chicago and Illinois Domestic Violence Agencies and Organizations
- National Center on Domestic Violence & Mental Health
- Life Span

**Illinois Tech Resources:**

- Student Health and Wellness Center
- IIT’s Public Safety Department: 312-808-6363 (available 24 hours a day/7 days a week)
- Office of Student Affairs: 312-567-3080 (office hours Monday-Friday 8:30-5pm). For 24-hour crisis response contact Public Safety. Please ask for a Student Affairs Leadership Team (SALT) member to contact you.

**Filing a Report:**

If a person accused of the sexual misconduct is an Illinois Tech student, a complaint under the Code of Conduct may be formally filed with the Office of Student Affairs, the Title IX Coordinator, or a Confidential Advisor (see Subsection 4(b) below). The privacy of the complainant and respondent (the accused student) shall be protected throughout the proceedings to the extent possible, (see Subsection 4 below). Though individuals are encouraged to come forward and report crimes, reports may be made anonymously by contacting the Public Safety Department at 312-808-6300 or filing a report at www.iit.edu/incidentreport. All reports of sexual misconduct against and by students will be reviewed by the Office of Dean of Students; however, the University’s ability to investigate and to address alleged misconduct reported by anonymous sources is generally significantly limited. Accordingly, the more information that can be provided, the more thorough the investigation will likely be.
In cases of sexual misconduct, it is important to preserve relevant evidence as failure to do so could compromise any subsequent investigation, jeopardize the ability to punish the perpetrator and/or complicate the ability to obtain an order of protection. Though the decision of whether and when to report is up to the individual who experienced the sexual misconduct, delayed reporting may make it more difficult to find and convict/discipline the perpetrator. Thus, an individual who experienced sexual misconduct is encouraged to consider filing a report with the police; filing a report does not obligate the victim to press charges or pursue legal action. In order to preserve evidence, a victim should strongly consider obtaining an appropriate medical examination as soon as possible. Although Illinois Tech does not have the staff or facilities to do so, the emergency rooms at Mercy Hospital (2525 S. Michigan Avenue / (312) 567-2000) and University of Chicago Hospital (5841 S. Maryland Avenue / (773) 702-1000) do, including conducting a forensic examination. Such an examination often serves a valuable evidentiary purpose. Completion of a forensic examination does not require one to file a police report.

More detailed information regarding filing a report of sexual misconduct, sexual assault, sexual harassment can be found online at http://web.iit.edu/student-affairs/vawa-save-acts.

Confidential Reporting:

Illinois Tech’s Student Health and Wellness Center has licensed health professionals who can meet with victims on a professional basis and discuss matters in confidence. Staff members of the Student Health and Wellness Center, whose official responsibilities include providing mental health counseling to members of the student body, when acting within the scope of their license or certification, are generally obligated by law to maintain confidentiality, and these individuals when so acting are not required by law to report criminal offenses, including sexual misconduct, about which they are informed.

In addition, Illinois law has established the recognized role of “Confidential Advisor”, which is as an individual retained by a higher education institution who has certain mandated training and has the duty and ability to provide emergency and ongoing support to students who have experienced sexual misconduct. Illinois Tech has elected to contract for Confidential Advisor services. The provider of such services is:

Rape Victims Advocates, located 180 N Michigan Avenue, Suite 600, Chicago, Illinois 60601. The phone number for students needing to access Rape Victims Advocates' 24-hour Confidential Advisor services is 773-904-1062.

Under Illinois law, communications between a Confidential Advisor and an individual who has experienced sexual misconduct and all records related thereto are to remain confidential, unless (i) the survivor consents to a disclosure in writing, (ii) disclosure is mandated by law or court order, or (iii) failure to disclose such communication would result in a clear, imminent risk of serious physical injury to or death of the individual or another. In addition, a Confidential Advisor shall, on a monthly basis, report to Illinois Tech’s Title IX Coordinator the number and
type of incidents of sexual misconduct reported exclusively to the Confidential Advisor so as to permit Illinois Tech to fulfill its crime reporting obligations under state and federal law.

In the course of working with an individual who has experienced sexual misconduct, a Confidential Advisor will (i) inform him or her of the choice of possible next steps regarding reporting options and possible outcomes, whether through Illinois Tech’s policies and procedures or local law enforcement; (ii) notify him or her of the resources and services available to him or her, both on and off campus; (iii) discuss with him or her orders of protection and no contact orders; (iv) provide confidential services to and have privileged, confidential communications with him or her in accordance with Section 8-804 of the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure; and (v) at his or her request, liaise with and assist in contacting and reporting to Illinois tech officials, local law enforcement or community-based sexual assault crisis centers as well as to secure accommodations (as defined below) from Illinois Tech.