

Title IX

How to Report:

Carthage Technical Center

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417-359-7095

609 S. River St.

Carthage, MO 64836

Carthage R-9/Carthage Technical Center Title IX Coordinator

Holley Goodnight, Assistant Superintendent for Business

GoodnightH@carthagetigers.org

417-359-7000

710 Lyon Street

Carthage, MO 64836



Criminal Complaints And Reports

Carthage Police Department

310 W. 4th Street

Carthage, MO 64836

417-237-7200

Jasper County Sheriff

231 S. Main Street

Carthage, MO 64836

417-358-8177



Confidential Resources

Jasper County Health Dept.

105 Lincoln Street

Carthage, MO 64836

417-358-3111

Lafayette House, Joplin

For immediate help including

safe shelter, call

1-800-416-1772

National Sexual Assault Hotline

1-800-656-4673

What is Title IX?

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 protects people from discrimination based on their sex in education programs or activities which receive federal financial assistance. Title IX states:

No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

Carthage R-9 is committed to providing a safe, healthy learning and working environment for our students, faculty, staff and visitors, and that includes an environment free from inequality based on sex, gender identity or gender expression.

Policy Statement

Carthage R-9/Carthage Technical Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or handicap in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship, grant or loan programs and activities.

Students, Employees, Volunteers and Visitors

Students, employees, volunteers and visitors of the school who have experienced any form of sex discrimination, including sexual harassment or sexual misconduct, are encouraged to report the incident promptly to the Title IX Coordinator.

What should be reported?

Sex-based discrimination occurs when a person has been treated inequitably based on sex, pregnancy, and gender identity or gender expression. Specifically, Carthage R-9/CTC prohibits the following forms of sex discrimination:

- **SEXUAL HARRASMENT**
- **UNEQUAL TREATMENT**
- **SEXUAL MISCONDUCT**
- **SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**
- **INTIMATE PARTNER/RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE**
- **STALKING ON THE BASIS OF SEX**

What to do about Sexual Violence

A survivor of sexual violence will have a wide range of emotions following an incident. It is important to utilize available resources or refer someone you know who has been assaulted to receive necessary care and begin to process the events. Going to a hospital immediately following the incident provides survivors with urgent care as well as an opportunity for valuable evidence collection.

WHAT IS SEXUAL VIOLENCE?

Sexual violence refers to physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person's will or where an individual is incapable of giving consent due to an intellectual disability or use of drugs and/or alcohol. Sexual violence can occur between friends, classmates, spouses, romantic interests, acquaintances, or strangers. Examples of sexual violence include rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, and sexual coercion. Dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking are also serious offenses.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I HAVE BEEN SEXUALLY ASSAULTED?

The **primary** concern for survivors of sexual violence is safety and to address medical issues related to physical injury, sexually transmitted infections, and/or pregnancy. The **secondary** concern is evidence collection to aid in a possible police investigation.

- Get to a safe place immediately. Go to your home or the residence of a trusted friend.
- DO NOT change your clothing or shower. Preservation of physical evidence is of the utmost importance. If you change your clothes, it is important that they are kept in a paper bag to preserve evidence.
- DO NOT apply medication to any injuries that have been sustained unless absolutely necessary. DO NOT drink or chew gum, or disturb anything in the area where the assault occurred.
- GET medical attention as soon as possible.

Go to a local hospital's emergency department or the Freeman SANE division listed below. Medical attention at the local hospital is required in order to preserve valuable evidence should you decide to seek prosecution through the criminal justice system. It is important to know if you go to the hospital the local police may be contacted. If you suspect that you have been given a predatory drug, like Rohypnol or GHB, please let the staff at the CHS Counseling Center, RSO or hospital know. A urine sample can be collected within 72 hours of a sexual assault for predatory drug testing.

FREEMAN SANE PROGRAM

417-347-SANE (7263)
Joplin, Missouri

MERCY MCCUNE-BROOKS HOSPITAL

Mercy Emergency Room
3125 Dr. Russell Smith Way
Carthage, MO 417-358-8121

Seek confidential counseling at the Ozark Center
(located in CHS Counseling Office)

***WHAT IF I WAS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS OR ALCOHOL
THE TIME OF THE SEXUAL ASSAULT?***

Use of alcohol or drugs impacts an individual's ability to consent to a sexual act and does not put the person at blame. A student who is assaulted while under the influence of alcohol or drugs is encouraged to seek help and entitled to students and community assistance.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR INVESTIGATION OF A COMPLAINT OF SEXUAL ASSAULT?

If you file a report with the Title IX Coordinator, the CTC Director or Assist. Director you will be contacted by an office representative to schedule a meeting to collect the facts related to the incident. The purpose of the initial meeting will also be to assure that you have access to all necessary resources and that there will be no impact on your opportunity to participate in your educational program. You should be prepared to address any changes class schedule that may be appropriate based on the circumstances. Once you have filed a complaint you will be updated regularly regarding the status and outcomes of the investigation. You should expect to receive an equal opportunity for participation in the investigation and any subsequent proceedings as the individual who is the subject of the complaint.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I WITNESSED A CRIME OF SEXUAL ASSAULT?

If you are a witness to a crime of sexual violence you should report the incident to school administration, School counselors or local police. You may also speak with the Title IX Coordinator, CTC Director, Asst. Director or an staff at the Technical center who can assist you with further reporting as appropriate.

WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE IF I DO NOT WANT TO FILE A COMPLAINT?

A survivor of sexual assault is always encouraged to consult with trained mental health professionals regardless of whether the person elects to file a report with the police or other campus officials. Mental health professionals typically can maintain confidentiality and should discuss their confidential privileges with you.

Seeking support after a sexual assault is crucial

HOW FRIENDS, FAMILY, AND FACULTY/STAFF CAN HELP

- ***Say something. Lend a listening ear.*** Show that you care and are willing to listen. Do not force the issue but allow the individual to confide in you at his/her own pace. Never blame the person for what is happening or underestimate his/her fear of potential danger. Focus on supporting the individual's right to make his/her own decisions.
- ***Guide survivors to school and community resources.*** Let him/her know they are not alone and people are available to help. Encourage him/her to seek sexual violence advocates and assure them that information will be kept confidential in most cases.
- ***Do not ever judge survivors.*** Tell the person you are sorry they have been hurt. No matter his/her behavior prior to the assault, they are not responsible--the perpetrator is. No one deserves to be assaulted.
- ***Remind survivors that their feelings are normal.*** They may feel "crazy". Assure survivors they are not "crazy" and any feeling or reaction is normal.
- ***Validate survivors in their feelings.*** Continue to do so even if they feel everything is terrible and even if you feel frustrated with their recovery.
- ***Focus on his/her strengths.*** The individual has probably continually been told by the abusive person that he/she is a bad person, a bad student, or a bad friend. They may believe he/she cannot do anything right and that there really is something wrong with him/her. Give him/her emotional support and help in recognizing personal strengths and skills. Emphasize that he/she deserves a life that is free from violence.
- ***Find your own support.*** You cannot support someone else if you are not supported. However, do not try to receive that support from the survivor.