

Sexual Assault
Domestic Violence
Dating Violence
Stalking

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Lakeland Community College prohibits the crimes of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.

Definitions

Sexual Assault/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.

- **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.
- **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.

Domestic Violence: A felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed

- By a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim;
- By a person with whom the victim shares a child in common;
- By a person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with, the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;
- 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;
- 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.

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 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.
- Any incident meeting this definition is considered a crime for the purposes of Clery Act reporting.

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

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- Fear for the person’s safety or the safety of others; or
- Suffer substantial emotional distress

Consent: The definition of consent, in reference to sexual activity, in this jurisdiction is: words or overt acts indicating a freely given agreement to the sexual conduct at issue by a competent person.

Risk Reduction

Tips for reducing your risk of sexual assault

It is impossible to eliminate your risk of sexual assault, but here are a few things you can do to reduce your risk.

- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Walk with purpose, look confident. Walk only in lighted areas after dark.
- Travel with a friend or in a group. When you go to a party, arrive together, check in with each other frequently and leave together.
- Trust your instincts. If you start to feel uncomfortable due to a situation or location, trust your gut and get out.
- Make sure your cell phone is with you, is charged, and that you have extra money to get home.
- Avoid drinking too much alcohol. Alcohol and drugs can impair your ability to make clear decisions.
- Watch your beverages. Do not leave them unattended or accept a drink from someone you don’t know or trust.
- If you are uncomfortable with a situation or with the plans, speak up.
- If you are going out with someone new or someone you met on an internet dating site, meet them in a public place or have a group date. Don’t give them your address until you are comfortable.
- Communicate that NO MEANS NO.
- Keep the doors to your car and home locked.

Warning signs for potentially abusive relationships

Abuse can be verbal and emotional, as well as physical.

- Extreme jealousy.
- Controlling behavior, checking up on you, questioning you about where you’ve been or who you’ve been with.
- Quick involvement, “love at first sight”
- They blame others for their problems
- They are always angry at someone or something.
- They abuse alcohol or other drugs
- A history of trouble with the law, fighting, or destroying property

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- The abuser forces you to have sex when you don't want to or to do things you don't want to do.
- Attempts to isolate you from family or friends.
- Take your money or take advantage of you.
- An abuser may be easily insulted and blow everything out of proportion.
- Cruelty to other family members, animals or children
- The abuser says cruel and harmful things to you, calls you names, says you are stupid or crazy, or puts down your accomplishments.
- The abuser threatens you
- The abuser has severe mood swings, one minute they are charming and nice, but the next they are angry and explosive.
- They blame all arguments and problems on you
- They threaten to kill themselves if you break up with them, say they can't live without you.
- You feel afraid of them or afraid to break up with them.

Tips for victims of domestic violence

- Make a plan for how you are going to leave, where you will go, and how to cover your tracks.
- Make one plan if you have time to prepare and an emergency plan if you need to leave in a hurry.
- Go to a doctor or hospital as soon as possible if you are hurt. Tell them what happened. Keep a copy of the record.
- Keep a journal of the details of the abuse which could be used in court.
- Pack a bag with spare car keys, your driver's license, credit card numbers, checkbook, money, phone numbers, spare clothing, medication. Be sure to hide the bag where the abuser will not find it or keep the bag with a friend or family member.
- Keep evidence of abuse; pictures of bruises or other injuries, torn or bloody clothing, pictures of your home messed up after violence, text or phone messages, etc.
- Try to set aside money. Keep it where your abuser will not find it or with a friend/relative.
- If you are not employed, try to get a job or get job skills so you will be able to support yourself.
- Get a legal protective order.
- Leave when the abuser will least expect it so you have more time to get away.
- Call the police to ask them to escort you out of the house as you leave.

Tips for avoiding dating violence

- Go out as a group or to a public place.
- Make an agreement with your friends to look out for each other.
- Limit the amount of alcohol you drink. Alcohol can impair your judgment and your ability to make good decisions.
- Watch your beverages. Do not leave them unattended.
- Make sure you have your cell phone, it is charged, and you have extra money for a taxi.
- If you feel uncomfortable about a situation, trust your gut. Leave immediately and go to a safe place.

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- Know your sexual limits and that you always have the right to say “No”. You can say “No” even if you’ve been flirting, making out, said “Yes” than changed your mind, or you’ve had sex with the person before.

Tips for stalking victims

- Stop all contact and communication with the stalker.
- Carry a cell phone and emergency money. Be sure your cell phone is charged.
- Have a safe place to go in an emergency, a police station, public place, domestic violence shelter.
- Try not to travel alone.
- Vary your routes to and from work or school. Change your routines.
- Be careful about the personal information you are posting on social media.
- Keep your address confidential whenever you can. Tell friends and neighbors not to give your address to anyone. Use a post office box for mail.
- Alert co-workers, classmates, and the Campus Police Department regarding your situation.
- Create a stalking log recording time, date, and information about stalking encounters.
- Identify escape routes from your house.
- Pack a bag with important items in case you need to leave in a hurry.
- Install dead bolts in your home or apartment.
- Change your phone number and keep it unlisted.

Safe and Positive Options for Bystander Intervention

Bystander intervention encourages people to watch out for each other. Be aware of those behaviors and situations that appear to be inappropriate, coercive or harassing. Here are some ways to intervene early without putting yourself in jeopardy when a crime is in progress. If you see someone in danger or in a situation which doesn’t feel right:

- Create a distraction to help the person get to safety. If it’s a friend, join the conversation and suggest that you leave the party, ask them to go to the restroom with you, etc. Make up an excuse to get him/her out of a potentially dangerous situation.
- Observe your surroundings. If you see someone who has had too much to drink or could be vulnerable, try to get them to a safe place.
- If you feel someone is at risk and you feel safe, find a way to de-escalate the situation and separate the parties. Ask the person directly if they need help or feel uncomfortable.
- Enlist others if needed. Call in friends or other people to remind someone behaving inappropriately that his or her actions should be respectful.
- Take steps to curb someone’s use of alcohol before problems occur.
- Don’t hesitate to call the authorities if needed.

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Tips for domestic violence intervention

- If you are a neighbor and hear what sounds like a violent situation happening, ring the bell and make up an excuse for coming to their door. If you feel that the situation is dangerous, call the police.
- If you know someone in a domestic violence situation, let them know that they are welcome to take refuge in your home if they need somewhere to go.
- If a victim of domestic abuse reaches out to you, listen.
- Check in with your friend regularly to make sure he/she is alright.
- Help your friend find the assistance they need, legal information, a domestic violence shelter, or other resources in the community.

Tips for Ensuring that You Do Not Commit a Crime of Sexual Assault

- “Yes means “yes”. Always get consent for sexual activities.
- Consent is more than not hearing the word “no”.
- Nonconsensual sex, or sex without someone’s permission is sexual assault.
- A person who is intoxicated or impaired cannot give consent.
- Just because someone gives consent for one set of activities, does not mean they have given consent for other sexual acts.
- Alcohol and drugs can impair your judgment.
- Remember that sexual assault has serious consequences. Consider the possible ramifications of your actions: arrest, imprisonment, being labeled as a sex offender/sexual predator, having a criminal record, and sanctions from the College which can include expulsion.
- Be aware that men can be victims of sexual assault too.

Prevention and Awareness Campaigns

During April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the LCCPD and the Women’s Center team up to bring awareness to this topic. An expert speaker from the Rape Crisis Center or similar organization provides a presentation and answers questions from the audience during the monthly Coffee with the Cops. This event is normally held on the last Wednesday of the month from 12:00 noon – 1 pm. It is promoted on the LCCPD web site and Facebook, on bulletin boards, and during announcements on the campus radio station. In addition, for a week during April the Women’s Center has a table set up near Breakers with information on this topic and a representative from the Women’s Center is available to talk with you.

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During October, which is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the LCCPD and the Women's Center coordinate efforts to bring awareness to the topics of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. An expert on these topics gives a presentation at the monthly Coffee with the Cops. It is promoted on the LCCPD web site and Facebook, on bulletin boards, and during announcements on the campus radio station. The Women's Center sets up a table outside of Breakers for a week during the month to promote awareness with brochures, purple ribbons, and knowledgeable staff from the Women's Center are available to talk with you. They also sponsor a domestic violence support group once a week which is conducted by WomenSafe for most of the academic year.

During the year, information on sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking is available outside the LCCPD, located in Room A2 in the basement of A-Building. Brochures with information on risk reduction, bystander intervention, counseling and other services are available, or you can ask to speak with an officer regarding your concerns.

During Spring Semester 2017 *Think About It* online training program was made available to students. A link to the module was emailed directly to all currently registered students using Lakeland's student email system. *Think About It* is a comprehensive program that helps to prepare students for the unique challenges and responsibilities of college life. Focusing on minimizing risks associated with alcohol, drugs, and sexual violence, *Think About It* takes a harm-reduction approach that resonates with many college students and works toward building a healthier campus culture. This program also provides college administrators with data that allows them to gain insights into the attitudes and behavior of Lakeland campus students. Going forward, *Think About It* will be made available each semester to all new, incoming students.

In the event that a student is found responsible for a Student Conduct Code violation regarding a sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, the online class, *Consent & Respect* may be assigned as a sanction. This is a brief course that provides college students with facts about sexual assault, consent, intimate partner violence, and stalking, warning signs of abusive behavior, the role of men as advocates, and safe and positive options that will empower bystanders in potential high-risk situations. This class satisfies the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SAVE Act) requirement for educational programming.

RAPE AGGRESSION DEFENSE (RAD) PROGRAM

Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) system is a program with realistic self-defense tactics and techniques for women. The RAD system is a comprehensive, internationally known women-only course taught by nationally-certified instructors. The course begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and avoidance while progressing to hands-on interaction. RAD is dedicated to teaching women defensive concepts and techniques against various types of assault by utilizing easy, effective and proven self-defense tactics. Our goal is to provide women with the knowledge to make an educated decision about resistance. We provide effective options by teaching women to take an active role in their own self-defense and psychological well-being. For more information about the program, please visit www.rad-systems.com. Additional information about this course will be available on the Lakeland web site, www.lakelandcc.edu as dates and times of the course are confirmed.

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Emergency Telephones & Programming Cell Phones

Lakeland Police Department's main number (440-525-7241) should be programmed into all cell phones to avoid a delay in campus police response. Dialing 911 on a cell phone on campus goes to Lake County Central Communication, not directly to LCCPD.

There are a number of emergency telephones and call boxes on campus that can be utilized to report a crime, fire, accident or any other type of emergency. The parking lot call boxes are marked with distinctive blue lights and will connect the user with the Campus Police immediately. Hallway and lobby telephones are set up to dial directly to the Campus Police emergency dispatcher. In time of need, the internal phones can simply be "knocked off" the hook in order to summon the Campus Police immediately.

Escorts and Shuttle Buses

Police escorts are provided to employees and students at individual requests. Please call the police at 440-525-7241 for additional information. Shuttle buses are provided to transport students to and from the Clocktower, on the north side of C-Building, the T-Building, and the south side of E-Building. Use a parking lot call box or one of the blue phones in the hallways which ring directly to the campus police dispatcher. Shuttles are radio-equipped to be dispatched to a specific location and to assist the campus police in patrolling the lots. The Holden University Center Shuttle loops between the Clocktower and Holden University Center

What To Do if You Are a Victim of Sexual Assault

If you are a victim of a sexual assault at the college:

- Get to a safe place as soon as you can.
- Try to preserve all physical evidence. Do not wash, use the toilet, or change clothing if you can avoid it. If you do change clothes, put all clothing you were wearing at the time of the attack in a paper, not plastic, bag.
- Do not eat, drink liquids, smoke, or brush teeth if oral contact took place.
- Get medical attention as soon as possible to make sure you are physically well and to permit collection of important evidence in the event you may later wish to take legal action
- Contact the Lakeland Community College Police Department by phone at 440-525-7241, or in person in room A-2 in the basement of A-Building.
- Contact a trusted friend or family member to be with you and support you.

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Although you are not required to notify College authorities or law enforcement, we strongly encourage victims of sexual offenses (including attempts) to immediately make a report to the Campus Police Department. If the victim prefers, he/she can report the sexual assault to the Dean of Students and/or the College Psychologist. At the victim's request, the Dean of Students or the College Psychologist can and will assist the victim in notifying the authorities.

If the crime has occurred off-campus, officers will assist victims in notifying the proper law enforcement authorities at the victim's request.

Time is a critical factor for evidence collection and preservation. Filing a police report with the Campus Police will not obligate the victim to prosecute, nor will it subject the victim to scrutiny or judgmental opinions from officers. You may have a support person with you during the interview and/or, if you request, a victim advocate will be notified immediately.

Confidentiality

College police personnel are trained to handle and investigate such matters in a sensitive and timely manner. The victim's identity will be kept confidential within the limits of the law, and the victim will be kept apprised of developments by the Campus Police throughout the entire investigative and legal process. Ohio's public records law (Ohio Revised Code section 149.43), however, does not permit the College to promise confidentiality to those who report crimes to anyone except a professional counselor whose official responsibilities include providing mental health counseling to members of the institution's community and who is functioning within the scope of his or her license or certification. Dr. Kenneth Browner, located in room A-1016 (440-525-7205), is the only professional counselor who meets this definition.

Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence or Stalking

Victims of stalking, dating violence, and domestic violence should contact the Campus Police so that they can assist and support them as much as possible while they learn and/or work at the College. Officers can provide information regarding the importance of preserving evidence as may be necessary to prove criminal domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, or in obtaining a protection order. If the crime has occurred off-campus, officers can assist victims in notifying the proper law enforcement authorities if they wish.

Students or employees who have obtained a legal protection order, no contact order, restraining order, or similar lawful order issued by a criminal, civil, or tribal court should file a copy of the order with the Lakeland campus police. In doing so, this allows officers to provide students and employees with information regarding the services offered to ensure their safety. The Lakeland campus police

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department can be designated as a recipient of any certified protective court order by request of the plaintiff.

Academic Accommodations

Student victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, regardless of whether or not they choose to report the crime to campus police or local law enforcement, may ask that their academic situation or schedule be changed. Lakeland is obligated to comply with such a request if such changes are reasonably available. Requests should be made to the Dean of Students. Employees in need of a change to their work environment should contact Human Resources.

Counseling, Victim Advocacy, Legal Assistance and Other Services

Academic, career, and personal counseling, as well as psychological services, are available to all Lakeland students. You may see counselors by appointment or on a walk-in basis. For more information, call 440-525-7200, stop by A-1027, or log on to www.lakelandcc.edu/counseling and select from several topics.

If you are experiencing a mental health emergency:

1. If you are on campus during regular office hours, stop by the Counseling Center, located in office A-1027 (across from the bookstore). Tell the receptionist that you would like to speak with the psychologist and that it is an emergency. If help is not immediately available, go to the Lakeland Police, located in room A-2 in the basement. Lakeland Police officers are well-trained to handle mental health emergencies in a professional and sensitive manner, and they are generally able to locate and contact Lakeland's psychologist for consultation.
2. If you are not on campus or if it is after hours, call the Lake County Crisis Hotline at (440) 953-8255. As a Lakeland student, they can offer assistance to you regardless of your county of residence.

If you prefer to utilize a texting-based crisis intervention service, you can contact the national Crisis Text Line by texting "START" to 741-741 from your cellphone.

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3. For life-threatening emergencies requiring immediate assistance, you can always dial 911, go to the nearest hospital emergency room, or go to the Lakeland Police, located in room A-2 in the basement.

Off-campus community resources for students or employees including victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence or stalking include:

- Cleveland Rape Crisis Center - 24-Hour Hotline: 216-619-6192
The Halle Building, 1228 Euclid Ave., Suite 200, Cleveland, OH 44115
- Forbes House - 24-Hour Hotline: 440-357-1018
PO Box 702, Painesville, OH 44077
Lake County's shelter for victims of domestic violence. Services include 24-hour emergency shelter, individual advocacy, legal advocacy, information and referrals, support groups, and community education.
- WomenSafe, Inc. - 24-Hour Hotline: 888-285-5665
12041 Ravenna Rd., Chardon, OH 44024
Provides emergency shelter and support services for survivors of domestic violence in Northeast Ohio. A non-profit organization that offers information, counseling, education, referrals and support to victims of domestic violence.
- Domestic Violence & Child Advocacy Center
24-Hour Hotline: 216-391-HELP
2806 Payne Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Assistance with crisis intervention, intake for services, and referrals
- Homesafe Domestic Violence Shelter - Ashtabula County
Phone 800-952-2873
Offers shelter, counseling and advocacy for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault
- Lake County Mental Health Crisis Hotline
440-953-8255, 440-357-7300, or 800-411-0103
Suicide Prevention / Crisis Intervention
24/7 help with urgent mental health issues
- Lake Hospital, West Medical Center
36000 Euclid Avenue, Willoughby, OH 44094, Phone: 440-953-9600
- Lake Hospital, TriPoint Medical Center
7590 Auburn Road, Concord Twp., OH 44077, Phone: 440-375-8100
- Lake County Victim Assistance Program

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24- Hour Hotline: 440-953-5823
440-350-2691 during normal business hours

- Legal Aid Society of Cleveland – 888-817-3777
Toll-free in Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake and Lorain counties or 216-687-1900 in Cleveland. Web: <http://lasclev.org/>
8 North State Street, Suite 300, Painesville, OH
1223 W. Sixth Street, Cleveland, OH 44113
For legal aid, visa and immigration assistance
- United Way
Find resources in your area for financial assistance, medical issues, and other services
Dial 2-1-1
- Student Financial Aid - Financial assistance may be available to cover college expenses such as tuition, fees, books, supplies, transportation, room and board, and school related expenses such as child care and the purchase of a computer. Visit our Financial Aid office to go to the Financial Aid page on our web site www.lakelandcc.edu.

Disciplinary Actions

The College's Board of Trustees is responsible, by law, for regulating student, visitor, and employee conduct. In the case of student or employee conduct which involves an alleged or proven violation of criminal law, police authority may be invoked. Disciplinary action may be taken if the conduct also involves a violation of College standards, or if the interests of the academic community are distinct from those of civil authority. Procedures for disciplining faculty and employees are available from the College's Department of Human Resources. Student Conduct Code and Persona Non-Grata policy information is available from the office of the Director for Student Activities.

One or more of the following sanctions may be imposed upon any student found to have violated the student conduct code: warning, probation, loss of privileges, discretionary sanctions, administrative withdrawal, College suspension, College expulsion, revocation of admission and/or degree, withholding degree, persona non grata.

Proceedings for disciplinary action in cases of alleged domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking will:

- Provide prompt, fair, and impartial process from the initial investigation to the final result.
- Be conducted by officials who receive annual training on the issues related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and how to conduct an investigation and hearing process that protects the safety of victims and promotes accountability.

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- The accuser and the accused are entitled to the same opportunities to have others present during disciplinary proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by an advisor of their choice.
- Both the accuser and the accused shall be simultaneously informed in writing of
 - The outcome of any institutional disciplinary proceeding that arises from an allegation of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking
 - The institution's procedures for the accused and the victim to appeal the results of the institutional disciplinary proceeding
 - Of any change to the results that occurs prior to the time that such results become final, and
 - When such results become final.

The College will, upon written request, disclose to the alleged victim of a crime of violence (as that term is defined in section 16 of title 18, United States Code), or a non-forcible sex offense, the report on the results of any disciplinary proceeding conducted by Lakeland against a student who is the alleged perpetrator of such crime or offense. If the alleged victim is deceased as a result of the crime or offense, the College will provide the results of the disciplinary hearing to the victim's next of kin, if so requested. Additional information on College disciplinary proceedings are detailed in the Student Handbook.

A student found guilty of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking or violating the College Conduct Code could be criminally prosecuted in the state courts and may be suspended or expelled from the College for the first offense.

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