



TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT FAQ

What is Title IX?

Title IX is a federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination or harassment on the basis of **gender** in education programs and activities.

What is Sexual Harassment?

Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to: unwelcome sexual flirtations or propositions; sexual slurs, threats, verbal abuse, derogatory comments, or sexually degrading descriptions, graphic verbal comments about an individual's body or overly personal conversation; sexual jokes, derogatory drawings or pictures; obscene gestures; spreading sexual rumors; inappropriate touching of a body or clothing in a sexual way; intimate partner/dating violence; sexual assault or battery.

Who does Title IX protect?

Title IX protects ALL students at your school from sex discrimination, including, female, male, and transgender students.

Isn't Title IX only about athletics?

While Title IX is most commonly known to deal with athletics, but discrimination on the basis of sex – which Title IX prohibits – can also include sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, cyber bullying, and bullying/hazing.

What if my teacher sexually harasses or discriminates against me?

Title IX also applies! Students are protected from harassment from nonstudents also, including by teachers, staff members, coaches, and other schools visitors.

What if the harassment occurs outside of school and/or online?

Title IX requires your school to address a hostile educational environment even when the harassing conduct occurs off campus (at a party, online). If sexual harassment off campus or online has created a hostile environment for you at school and inhibits your ability to learn at school, this is protected by Title IX.

Who should I talk to if I believe I have been bullied, harassed, discriminated, or treated differently based on my sex?

You should talk to the adult you are most comfortable with. All harassment should be reported to a teacher and/or the principal as soon as possible.

What if I am harassed further or retaliated against for complaining about sexual harassment or gender discrimination?

Title IX also protects students (and teachers) from being retaliated against if they report any incident of sexual harassment or discrimination.

What else is covered by Title IX?

Pregnant and parenting student also have protections through Title IX. Schools cannot discriminate against a student, male or female, because they are pregnant or because they are a parent.

What if I have more Title IX Questions?

SFUSD's Title IX Coordinator is available to answer any Title IX questions. Additional information available at: www.sfusd.edu/equity.

Where do I file Title IX Complaints?

Title IX complaints are filed with the Title IX Coordinator using the district's Uniform Complaint form (See Office of Equity Information below).