Title IX Information for Internship, Practicum, Student Teaching, Service Learning, and Study Abroad Students and Supervisors

• Title IX is a federal law that extends from the Education Amendments of 1972. This aspect of the law specifically prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex. It sets forth the basic principle that students should be free to participate fully in their education experiences regardless of their sex. Sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual violence are experiences that violate the intent of Title IX.

• The East Stroudsburg University (ESU) Sexual Misconduct policy applies to conduct that occurs off university property when that conduct is associated with a university sponsored activity such as internships, practicums, student teaching, study abroad and service learning. Per the policy, sexual misconduct will be categorized as regulatory if it occurs inside the United States and as non-regulatory if the misconduct occurs outside of the United States.

• Individuals who experience sexual assault, sexual harassment, sexual violence, or sex-based discrimination of any kind while studying abroad should still report that conduct to the ESU Title IX Office to receive supportive measures and help reaching out for assistance at their current location. Detailed information on what to do if you experience sexual misconduct while studying abroad is listed on the back of this information sheet.

If you experience sexual assault, sexual harassment, sexual violence, or sex-based discrimination of any kind while on an internship, student teaching, or other learning experience in the United States

If it is an emergency, dial 911 to contact local law enforcement and/or medical response. Otherwise, contact the ESU Title IX Office by calling 570-422-2277 or by emailing us at titleixreport@esu.edu. We will receive your report and explain your options under the ESU Sexual Misconduct Policy. We can also coordinate supportive measures and help you communicate with the appropriate officials at your local site. You may also contact your ESU assigned internship/clinical experience/practicum coordinator if you wish.

• If there is a reason to believe that an ESU student or employee has subjected someone to sexual misconduct, report these types of allegations to the ESU Title IX Office by calling 570-422-2277 or by emailing us at titleixreport@esu.edu.

• If you are an off-site supervisor: The University requires that off-site supervisors assure that all its employees and clients treat ESU students professionally and respectfully during their learning experience. This is also applicable during non-business hours, at on-business events, and at non-business locations.

• Behaviors that can lead to allegations of sexual misconduct include inappropriate jokes of a sexual nature, inappropriate nicknames, making comments about physical appearance, sexual innuendos, physical contact such as hugs/backrubs/contact with certain body parts, eye contact/looks/ of a sexual nature, etc.

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• Care should also be taken to ensure that the real or perceived authority of placement site employees is not used in a way that would make a student feel the need or pressure to engage in unwanted activity to receive future academic or other benefits. Examples include asking a student for a date, personal phone number, or to engage in an off-duty activity in a one-on-one setting; asking questions of a personal nature such as their relationship status; interacting on social media in personal manner; flirting, etc. Refer to the Pennsylvania State System for Higher Education (PASSHE) Amorous Relationships Policy for information on this subject.

ESU has approved exchange partner universities worldwide. All partner universities are determined to be academically worthy and located in safe environments. However, you should still be aware of the following:

• Cultural and social attitudes toward sex, sexual harassment, and sexual assault vary greatly in different countries. However, respecting and adapting to cultural difference while studying and traveling abroad does not mean that you need to submit to behaviors that invade your personal boundaries or make you feel unsafe or uncomfortable. Educating yourself about sexual harassment, sexual violence, and gender dynamics abroad can empower you to make safer choices. We encourage you to research your host country before departure and talk with host program staff abroad (and local students) to understand these cultural differences better.

If you experience sexual assault, sexual harassment, sexual violence, or sex-based discrimination of any kind while studying abroad outside of the United States

Find a safe place and contact someone you trust who can support you. We encourage you to first contact your in-country support (program director/faculty leader/international student office). They are the best primary resource for you since they have cultural knowledge and can also advise you on legal and medical options in that country. If you feel you want to report the assault to local authorities abroad, make sure you first obtain advice on doing so from one or more of the resources listed above. If you decide to make a report to the authorities, do not go alone; bring someone with you who can support you.

You should also contact the ESU Title IX Office by calling 570-422-2277 or by emailing us at titleixreport@esu.edu. We can help coordinate support and help you communicate with the appropriate officials at your local site. You may also contact your ESU study abroad coordinator if you wish.

If you experience any type of sexual misconduct from a fellow ESU student or employee, you should still contact the Title IX Office as this type of misconduct can be addressed under the ESU Sexual Misconduct Policy or via other University policies.

Other resources while abroad include:
Pathways to Safety International - https://pathwaystosafety.org/

For more information, visit: www.esu.edu/titleix
Equal Opportunity and Title IX Coordinator: Christopher Bean
570-422-2277
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