

# TITLE IX SUPPORTIVE MEASURES: Q & A

## What are supportive measures?

Supportive measures are steps that a school takes to try to fix the effects of sexual harassment so that a student-survivor of sexual harassment is able to continue their education and participation in activities on campus.



Title IX and the Clery Act require schools to offer student-survivors supportive measures once the school learns of sexual harassment. After experiencing sexual harassment, it is common for a student-survivor to have safety concerns or to experience difficulty in class, meeting assignment deadlines, going to community events. Supportive measures are individualized steps to respond to those needs and concerns. While the measures should be designed to support the student-survivor, they cannot punish or unreasonably burden the respondent. Schools can also choose to offer supportive measures to the respondent.



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# How do I get supportive measures?

In order to get supportive measures after experiencing sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic or dating violence, or stalking, a student needs to report to their Title IX office. A survivor should meet with someone in that office who can help figure out what supportive measures meet the survivor's needs.

## Do I need to file a formal complaint to get supportive measures?

No. A student who has experienced sexual harassment has the right to get supportive measures from their school even if they do not want to file a formal complaint and start an investigation.



# Will the Title IX Office tell the respondent that I received supportive measures?

No, except under certain circumstances. Your school's Title IX office is obligated to keep supportive measures confidential except as needed to carry out the supportive measures. For example, if a survivor needs the deadline extended for an assignment, the Title IX Office would tell that to the student's professor.

The Title IX Office would not have to tell the professor the details of why the survivor requested the supportive measure. Another common supportive measure is a no-contact order prohibiting the respondent from contacting the complainant and vice-versa. If a survivor wants a no-contact order issued, then the school would need to tell the respondent about the order.



# What are some common supportive measures?

Supportive measures can be tailored to the needs of an individual student. Common supportive measures are deadline extensions, moving dorms, no-contact orders, and campus escorts. A student-survivor should make a list of the ways they have or are being impacted by the sexual harassment and talk through the list with the Title IX Office to craft supportive measures.

A note on terminology:

The new Title IX rule uses the term “supportive measures” to describe these options. They are called “accommodations” under the Clery Act, and previously referred to as “interim measures,” under the old Title IX regulations, but these all refer to the same obligations. Your school may use one or all of these terms.

