

[Guidelines](#) | [Related Policies](#) | Sexual Assault



Sexual Assault

Statement of Policy

Sam Houston State University is committed to creating and maintaining an environment that discourages sexual assault. Sexual assault is defined within the context of this policy as sexual intercourse or other sexual act committed against another without their consent.

What to do if you are sexually assaulted:

- A. If you believe that you are still in danger, you should call the University Police Department at 936-294-1000.
- B. Seek medical attention as soon as possible. You can call the campus Health Center at 936-294-1805 during regular business hours or go to the Emergency Room at the Huntsville Memorial Hospital. Be sure to tell the examining physician or nurse that you were sexually assaulted.

Making a complaint of sexual assault:

- A. Sexual assault is a crime. If you have been sexually assaulted, SHSU strongly recommends that you make a report to the police who, where warranted, will pursue criminal charges. However, the decision to make a report to the police must be made by the victim. Except where the university believes there is a threat of imminent harm to the university, the university will not make a report of an alleged sexual assault to the police without the victim's consent.
- B. Sexual assault also violates SHSU's rules and regulations governing student conduct. The university has instituted this policy to protect the accused, and to maintain the confidentiality of the identity of those involved to the extent possible.

1. How to report sexual assault at SHSU:

A student who chooses to make a complaint through the University's internal disciplinary proceedings must make a report to one of the University's designated Sexual Assault Officers. These Officers are located in the Dean of Students' Office.

2. What happens once a complaint is made

The Office of Judicial Affairs will investigate the allegation. This will require interviews with the victim and the alleged assailant.

In some circumstances, interviews with other persons who have knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the alleged incident may also be conducted. Whenever possible, the Sexual Assault Officer will not reveal the identity of the victim during the investigative process. In any event, the Sexual Assault Officer will not reveal the identity of the victim without the victim's consent.

What to do if you are accused of sexual assault:

- A. Take the allegation seriously.
- B. You may wish to consult an attorney, especially if a criminal complaint has or may be filed with the local police.