



**Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
Board Policies
Chapter 1 - System Organization and Administration
Section B - Equal Education and Employment
Opportunity**

1B.3 Sexual Violence Policy

Part 1. Policy statement. Sexual violence is an intolerable intrusion into the most personal and private rights of an individual, and is prohibited at Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. Minnesota State Colleges and Universities is committed to eliminating sexual violence in all forms and will take appropriate remedial action against any individual found responsible for acts in violation of this policy. Acts of sexual violence may also constitute violations of criminal or civil law, or other Board Policies that may require separate proceedings. To further its commitment against sexual violence, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities provides reporting options, internal mechanisms for dispute resolution, and prevention training or other related services as appropriate.

Subpart A. Application of policy to students, employees, and others. This policy applies to all Minnesota State Colleges and Universities students and employees and to others, as appropriate, where alleged incidents of sexual violence have occurred on System property. Incidents of sexual violence alleged to have been committed by a student at a location other than on System property are covered by this policy pursuant to the factors listed in Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board Policy 3.6, Part 5. Incidents of sexual violence alleged to have been committed by a Minnesota State Colleges and Universities employee at a location other than System property are covered by this policy.

Individuals alleged to have committed acts of sexual violence on System property who are not students or employees are subject to appropriate actions by Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, including, but not limited to, pursuing criminal or civil action against them.

Allegations of discrimination or harassment are governed by Board Policy 1B.1.

Subpart B. College and university policies. Each Minnesota State Colleges and Universities college and university shall adopt a clear, understandable written policy on sexual violence that applies to its campus community, including, but not limited to, its students and employees. The policy content and implementation shall be consistent with the standards in this Policy and Procedure 1B.3.1.

Part 2. Definitions. The following definitions apply to this Policy and Procedure 1B.3.1.

Subpart A. Sexual violence. Sexual violence includes a continuum of conduct that includes sexual assault, and non-forcible sex acts, as well as aiding acts of sexual violence.

Subpart B. Sexual assault. “Sexual assault” means an actual, attempted, or threatened sexual act with another person without that person’s consent. Sexual assault is often a criminal act that can be prosecuted under Minnesota law, as well as form the basis for discipline under Minnesota State Colleges and Universities student conduct codes and employee disciplinary standards. Sexual assault includes but is not limited to:

1. Involvement without consent in any sexual act in which there is force, expressed or implied, or use of duress or deception upon the victim. Forced sexual intercourse is included in this definition, as are the acts commonly referred to as “date rape” or “acquaintance rape.” This definition also includes the coercing, forcing, or attempting to coerce or force sexual intercourse or a sexual act on another.
2. Involvement in any sexual act when the victim is unable to give consent.
3. The intentional touching or coercing, forcing, or attempting to coerce or force another to touch an unwilling person’s intimate parts (defined as primary genital area, groin, inner thigh, buttocks, or breast).
4. Offensive sexual behavior that is directed at another such as indecent exposure or voyeurism.

Subpart C. Consent. Consent is informed, freely given and mutually understood. If coercion, intimidation, threats, and/or physical force are used, there is no consent. If the complainant is mentally or physically incapacitated or impaired so that the complainant cannot understand the fact, nature, or extent of the sexual situation, and the condition was known or would be known to a reasonable person, there is no consent; this includes conditions due to alcohol or drug consumption, or being asleep or unconscious. Whether the respondent has taken advantage of a position of influence over the complainant may be a factor in determining consent.

Subpart D. Non-forcible sex acts. Non-forcible acts include unlawful sexual acts where consent is not relevant, such as sexual contact with an individual under the statutory age of consent, as defined by Minnesota law, or between persons who are related to each other within degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

Subpart E. System property. “System property” means the facilities and land owned, leased, or under the primary control of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, its Board of Trustees, Office of the Chancellor, colleges and universities.

Subpart F. Employee. “Employee” means any individual employed by Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, its colleges and universities and Office of the Chancellor, including student workers.

Subpart G. Student. “Student” means an individual who is:

1. admitted, enrolled, registered to take or is taking one or more courses, classes, or seminars, credit or noncredit, at any System college or university; or
 2. between terms of a continuing course of study at the college or university, such as summer break between spring and fall academic terms; or
 3. expelled or suspended from enrollment as a student at the college or university, during the pendency of any adjudication of the student disciplinary action.
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