



# ROCKY MOUNTAIN

C O L L E G E

## **2024 Annual Campus Safety Report**

### **Campus Security & Fire Safety Information** 2021-2023 Statistics

**September, 2024**

Rocky Mountain College prepares this combined Annual Security Report (ASR) and Annual Fire Safety Report (AFSR) in compliance with the federal Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act and the Higher Education Act campus fire safety requirements.

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## **Introduction**

Rocky Mountain College (RMC) produces this Clery Act Annual Security Report (ASR) to provide students, prospective students, faculty, and staff members with important safety information and resources. If you have questions about any of the information provided in the ASR, or would like a paper copy, please contact the Executive Vice President and Dean for Student Life Office at (406) 657-1018 or email your request to [studentlife@rocky.edu](mailto:studentlife@rocky.edu).

## **Reporting Crimes & Other Emergencies**

The College encourages the accurate and prompt reporting of all crimes to the Campus Safety Office, the Billings Police Department (BPD), or the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction for where the crime occurred when the victim elects to or is unable to and needs assistance.

In case of an emergency, never hesitate to dial 9-1-1 (8-9-1-1 from any on-campus phone). You may also contact 24/7 Campus Safety On-Call: (406) 238-SAFE (7233), or fill out the online incident report located at <https://form.jotform.com/240456446808058>. Additionally, crimes can be reported to the Billings Police Department at (406) 657-8200.

Sexual misconduct reports can be made to the Title IX Office by phone at (406) 657-1018, by e-mail at [report@rocky.edu](mailto:report@rocky.edu) or by completing an online form at <https://form.jotform.com/212665470464054>.

Crimes reported to pastoral or professional counselors are considered privileged and are exempt from reporting under the Clery Act. The College does not currently have a separate voluntary, confidential crime reporting program for counselors to refer people to for inclusion in Clery Act reporting.

## **Law Enforcement Authority**

The Rocky Mountain College Campus Safety Office provides services to the campus community to maintain a safe and secure environment. The College employs Campus Safety Officers who respond to calls for assistance, patrol the campus, and assist members of the local police and fire departments on matters of mutual concern. The College also utilizes contract security officers who perform nightly patrols. College security personnel do not have the authority to make arrests.

The Billings Police Department has primary law enforcement jurisdiction for the campus and is responsible for the investigation of all alleged criminal offenses. Because BPD has primary jurisdiction there is no written agreement with the College governing these investigations. The College fully cooperates with these investigations.

## Security & Safety Programming

Safety within the Rocky Mountain College community is paramount. Crime prevention strategies are used to eliminate or reduce the opportunities before a crime actually occurs. The College maintains a web page at <https://www.rocky.edu/campus-life/campus-safety/safety-tips> with general tips and methods for keeping yourself, personal property, and others safe.

The Departments of Campus Safety, Human Resources, Student Affairs and other areas cooperate to offer programs throughout the academic year on topics related to crime and safety awareness for the entire campus community. Campus Safety, Resident Advisor, Ractivities, and the First Year Seminar Program produce programming related to crime prevention and general safety. All community members are encouraged to participate in crime prevention programs. The following is a list of key programs and services offered regarding campus safety and security.

- **CPR, AED and First Aid Training.** These courses help participants identify and eliminate potentially hazardous conditions in their environment, recognize emergencies and make appropriate decisions for first aid care. The Director of Campus Safety and/or Fortin Fitness Center Manager teaches the knowledge and skills that individuals in the workplace need to know to give immediate care to an ill or injured person until more advanced medical care arrives. Trainings are held, as needed, for Campus Safety officers, residence life staff, and by request.
- **Crime Prevention Presentations.** Presentations are made annually to various campus groups and organizations, including first year students, transfer students, and intercollegiate athletes.
- **Crime Prevention Materials.** Brochures, posters, and other printed material on motor vehicle safety, bicycle safety, residence hall security, the campus safe walk, vandalism and sexual assault awareness are distributed at crime prevention presentations and at various locations throughout campus.
- **Emergency Phones.** Telephones for emergency requests are located in the northeast corners of the Widenhouse and Rimview parking lots. The phones connect directly to 911. There is no charge for the use of these telephones.
- **Lost and Found.** These items are recorded and stored in the Dean of Student's Office.
- **Residence Hall Security and Safety Programs.** Crime prevention presentations and educational materials routinely are made available to residence hall students.
- **Safe Walk Service.** The College's safe walk service is provided by the Campus Safety Department for the safety of anyone walking alone on campus at night. By calling (406) 238-SAFE (7233), a student will be assigned an escort to the requested on-campus destination.
- **Security/Safety Patrols and Reports.** Campus Safety officers patrol the exteriors of all campus buildings, including residence halls, in an effort to prevent crime and monitor any potential security risks. These risks, such as burned-out light bulbs, overgrown shrubbery or malfunctioning doors are reported to Facilities Services so the problem may be corrected as soon as possible. The officers also take appropriate action when unauthorized persons are encountered. Comprehensive surveys of exterior and interior lighting, emergency equipment, exterior doors, trees, and shrubbery are conducted at various intervals during the year by Campus Safety officers.

## **Preparing Annual Crime Statistics**

The Executive Vice President and Dean for Student Life compiles and tabulates the “Clery Crime” statistics presented in this report. Reports are gathered from College personnel who have been identified as a “Campus Security Authority” for Clery Act purposes including the offices of Campus Safety, Student Life, Residence Life, the Title IX, and Human Resources. The College also requests crime report information from local law enforcement agencies.

Consistent with Clery Act requirements the College reports statistics for specific criminal offenses reported as having occurred on our campus, on public property within or adjacent to the campus, and on “non-campus” property. There are no officially recognized student organizations with non-campus locations.

## **Recordkeeping**

The College retains campus safety policies, crime reports, emergency notifications, timely warnings, and Clery Act related disciplinary proceeding records for a period of at least seven (7) years.

## **Emergency Notification**

When an emergency or other dangerous situation poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees on campus, Rocky Mountain College will immediately notify the campus community.

The College uses the Everbridge platform to disseminate Emergency Notifications. This platform allows for notifications using voice calls, SMS text messages, e-mail, the Everbridge App, or all of these. Students, staff, and faculty are automatically entered into the system for notification purposes. Each building is equipped with an intercom system which is controlled from the Campus Safety Office as an additional channel of notification.

Either the Director of Campus Safety, or the Executive Vice President and Dean for Student Life, or their designees, upon confirmation of a threat will without delay, and taking into account the safety of the community, determine the content of the notification and initiate the notification system, unless issuing a notification will, in the professional judgment of responsible authorities, compromise efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency.

The College will confirm the threat by evaluating all information available at the time and make a good faith decision on issuing the notification. Notifications aren’t sent to individual segments of the campus community and will be sent through as many forms of communication as possible in an effort to reach the greatest number of people in the shortest amount of time.

In the event that information needs to be shared with the broader community, information will be disseminated through the Office of Marketing and Communications.

## **Timely Warning**

When a “Clery Crime” represents an ongoing threat to students and employees, Rocky Mountain College will issue a timely warning to the campus community. The College will issue warnings utilizing the Everbridge platform through e-mail and other channels including social media, voice calls, posters, and signage. The decision to issue a timely warning will be made by the Director of Campus Safety, or their designee, or any Title IX Coordinator. Warnings will be issued by either the Executive Vice President of Student Life, the Director of Campus Safety, or their designees.

Timely Warnings will include basic information about the crime, where it occurred, and how campus community members may avoid being the victim of similar incidents. Warnings will never include any information that would personally identify a victim. In the event of an immediate threat, the College will issue an Emergency Notification rather than a Timely Warning and will issue follow-up information as needed.

## **Daily Crime Log**

A public log of all crimes reported to the Campus Safety Office is maintained and is available for public inspection in the Campus Safety Office in the Bair Family Student Center during regular business hours.

Entries are recorded in the order received, and include the type of offense, date, time, general location, and disposition of the report. Reports are included or updated on the log within two (2) business days of being reported, are maintained for a period of sixty (60) days, archived entries older than sixty (60) days are kept for at least seven (7) years and are made available for public inspection within two (2) business days of a request.

## **Security of Facilities**

Rocky Mountain College is a private institute of higher education. It is the policy of the College that access to campus facilities be limited to authorized personnel, students, scheduled visitors, and approved community members hosting events.

While community members are welcome to walk the college grounds, individuals wishing to enter the facilities should have a legitimate purpose for their visit or be a student’s or employee’s invited guest. Visitors are subject to the College’s policies and codes at all times. Students and employees are responsible for the conduct of their guests at all times.

Students, employees, and guests are required to show a valid college ID card or other form of ID upon request from any Campus Safety personnel. Members of the media are required to register with Office of Marketing and Communications prior to their arrival on campus so that the Campus Safety Office can be notified and advised to grant access.

Access and maintenance are managed by the Campus Safety Office and/or Facilities Services Office. Individuals wishing to gain ID card access to campus facilities not open during business

hours must contact either the Campus Safety Office or the Executive Vice President and Dean for Student Life. Building maintenance issues should be reported to the Facilities Services Office.

### **Residence Hall Access**

All residence halls are secured 24 hours a day. Residents are supplied with an access card distributed by the Campus Safety Office or Executive Vice President and Dean for Student Life Office that allows them to enter their residence halls. Residents are supplied room keys to assigned rooms by the Office of Residence Life.

The Office of Residence Life works with the Campus Safety Office to provide a safe environment within the residence halls. Students are expected to be cooperative with both Campus Safety and Residence Life personnel.

Any propping of doors is strictly prohibited. Guests of residents must be registered, and both residents and guests are required to show ID upon entering the residence halls. Halls are patrolled by Resident Advisors (RAs), and housing facilities are monitored via video by Campus Safety personnel.

### **Emergency Response**

Rocky Mountain College is committed to providing an immediate response to on-campus emergencies. In the event of an emergency, the college will immediately implement the Emergency Notification Response to the RMC community, notifying and working with applicable outside agencies to best manage the situation.

The RMC Emergency Notification System is tested yearly through use of the Everbridge System. Building intercom systems are tested yearly during annual preventative maintenance performed by a third party security management company. Fire drills are conducted in the residence halls three times during the year. The RMC Safety Committee will conduct exercises annually in order to test the effectiveness of the College's emergency response and will document appropriately. The campus community will be notified of such exercises through appropriate means.

### **Emergency Evacuation**

Rocky Mountain College uses the Incident Command System as a method for coordinating response to a crisis. Emergency situations include any incident in or around the campus for which there is an imminent threat to life, limb, property, or environment. In the event of an emergency, staff should refer to the Crisis Management Protocol and the Safety Protocol Handbook as guides to their responses.

In the event that an emergency response requires evacuation, individuals will evacuate to predetermined locations, which are posted in campus buildings, or to locations given during the emergency notification process.



## **Missing Students**

If any campus community member becomes concerned that a student living on-campus is missing, they should make a report to 24/7 Campus Safety On-Call: (406) 238-SAFE (7233). Any report not made directly to the Campus Safety Office must immediately be referred to them for the purposes of conducting an investigation. Reports may also be made to the Billings Police Department at 406.657.8200.

The Campus Safety Office will conduct an investigation. If it is determined that a student is missing the Campus Safety Office will, within 24 hours, notify the Billings Police Department, unless they were the agency that made the determination the student is missing. The Campus Safety Office will also notify, within 24 hours, the student's Confidential Contact Person. If a missing student is under the age of 18 and not emancipated, the Campus Safety Office must additionally notify their custodial parent or guardian.

Students living on campus have the option to designate who they want contacted in the event they are determined to be missing by completing the Confidential Contact Person form on the residence life webpage. This contact information will be kept confidential and will only be accessible to authorized College officials. The contact information will not be disclosed except to law enforcement personnel in furtherance of a missing person investigation.

## **Alcoholic Beverages & Illegal Drugs**

In compliance with Montana state law, no one under the age of twenty-one (21) shall be allowed to consume or possess alcoholic beverages on college property or at any Rocky Mountain College-sponsored event. Further, minors are reminded that Montana state law forbids the possession and/or consumption of alcohol within the state. Violations of state alcohol laws will be referred to city authorities for possible prosecution.

It is unlawful and prohibited to manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, or use a controlled substance on Rocky Mountain College property or at any Rocky Mountain College-sponsored event. As a condition of employment at Rocky Mountain College, all employees will abide by the terms of this statement and notify the personnel office of any violation occurring in the workplace within 24 hours after such a violation.

Although Montana state law permits the use of marijuana (i.e. use by persons possessing lawfully issued medical marijuana cards or recreational use), federal law prohibits marijuana use, possession, and/or cultivation at educational institutions and on the premises of other recipients of federal funds. The use, possession, or cultivation of marijuana for any purposes is therefore not allowed on Rocky Mountain College property, nor is it allowed at any College-sponsored event or activity off campus.

Violations of the Rocky Mountain College alcohol or drug policy will be treated on an individual basis; however, violators can expect one or more of the following sanctions to be enforced:

- Conduct hearing with a College official or supervisor;
- Restitution for any damages caused as a result of the alcohol/drug policy violation;
- Assignment of appropriate disciplinary work;
- Participation in an approved alcohol/drug rehabilitation program;
- Placement on disciplinary probation, suspended, or dismissed from the College;
- Disciplinary probation or termination from employment.

If an individual seeks medical attention due to a medical emergency, the College will not pursue disciplinary sanctions against the student for consumption of alcohol or drugs. Medical Amnesty is not intended to shield students or organizations in cases of extreme, flagrant, and repeated incidents.

Visit <https://www.rocky.edu/campus-life/campus-safety/drug-alcohol-policy> to review the complete Drug & Alcohol Policy.

A variety of programming exists in Residence Life concerning alcohol and drug use as well as policy-enforcement and education. These may include: alternative programming, monthly conversations, hall meetings, and/or bulletin boards on the dangers of drug and alcohol use. Rules are distributed upon move in to include alcohol and drug policies, RHA events (alternative programming), promote and provide drug and alcohol free events for students to participate in as an alternative to events involving drug or alcohol use.

Rocky Mountain College's BE WELL program purpose is to raise awareness about social and health issues that impact the campus community and to encourage thoughtful, positive, and healthy decision making.

Three (3) main goals when educating on alcohol and/or drug use are:

1. Educate students about legal drinking laws and their consequences.
2. Provide educational materials to assist with making good and healthy decisions.
3. Educate the campus about the links between substance abuse and sexual assaults.

### **Sex Offender Registry**

Information about registered sex offenders may be accessed at <https://dojmt.gov/sexual-or-violent-offender-registry/>.

# Crime Statistics

Criminal Offenses	Year	Billings Campus				
		On Campus			Non Campus Building or Property	Public Property
		Student Housing Facilities	Other	On Campus Total		
Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	2021	3	0	3	0	0
	2022	1	0	1	0	0
	2023	2	0	2	0	0
Fondling	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	1	0	0
	2023	0	0	1	0	0
Incest	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0

	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	1	1	0	0
Arson	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0

Violence Against Women Act Offenses	Year	Billings Campus				
		On Campus			Noncampus Building or Property	Public Property
		Student Housing Facilities	Other	On Campus Total		
Dating Violence	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	2021	1	0	1	0	0
	2022	1	0	1	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	2021	2	0	2	0	0
	2022	2	0	2	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0

Arrests	Year	Billings Campus				
		On Campus			Noncampus Building or Property	Public Property
		Student Housing Facilities	Other	On Campus Total		
Liquor Law Violations	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Law Violations	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Illegal Weapons Possession	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0

Disciplinary Referrals	Year	Billings Campus				
		On Campus			Noncampus Building or Property	Public Property
		Student Housing Facilities	Other	On Campus Total		
Liquor Law Violations	2021	53	0	53	0	0
	2022	9	0	9	0	0
	2023	30	1	31	0	0
Drug Law Violations	2021	2	0	2	0	0
	2022	5	0	5	0	0
	2023	1	1	2	0	0
Illegal Weapons Possession	2021	1	0	1	0	0
	2022	2	0	2	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0

	2020	2021	2023
Total Unfounded Crimes	0	0	0

	2020	2021	2023	
Total Hate Crimes	0	0	0	

## Rocky Mountain College’s Response to Sexual and Gender Violence

Rocky Mountain College is committed to a learning and working environment for all campus community members that is free from sex-based discrimination. The campus community includes students, faculty, and staff, as well as contractors, vendors, visitors, and guests.

If you or someone close to you are the victim of sex-based discrimination, know that you are not alone. The information in this report will help you navigate some of what you may be experiencing. No matter what you have experienced or how you are feeling now, it is important to prioritize your safety.

You do not have to go through this alone, and this information is intended to help you navigate the process. The College will provide a student or employee who reports they have been the victim of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, whether the offense occurred on or off campus, with a written explanation of their rights and options as described in this report.

**Victims have the option to: Notify proper law enforcement authorities, including Rocky Mountain College Campus Safety personnel and local police; Be assisted by campus authorities in notifying law enforcement authorities if the victim so chooses; and Decline to notify such authorities.**

### Reporting

Incidents of sexual misconduct may be reported to the College’s Title IX Coordinator or one of the Deputy Coordinators listed below. They can provide assistance with receiving care, accommodations, notifying law enforcement, and pursuing formal disciplinary action.

In case of an emergency, never hesitate to dial 9-1-1 (8-9-1-1 from any on-campus phone). You may also contact 24/7 Campus Safety On-Call: (406) 238-SAFE (7233), or fill out the online incident report located at <https://rmc.flowforms.io/form/security-incident-report>. Additionally, crimes can be reported to the Billings Police Department at (406) 657-8200.

While the College will attempt to respect a complainant's wishes for confidentiality, it can't be guaranteed unless a report is made to a Privileged Employee including the Counselor or Chaplain. Reports made to a Privileged Employee will not result in any investigation or formal action being taken.

Title IX Coordinator, Brad Nason	(406) 657-1018
Deputy Title IX Coordinator, Shaydean Saye	(406) 657-1051
Deputy Title IX Coordinator, Marcy Buster	(406) 657-1043
Campus Counselor (Privileged Employee)	(406) 657-1049
RMC Chaplain (Privileged Employee)	(406) 657-1098

If you have changed clothes or linens, do not wash them until you have met with a law enforcement agency and/or health care provider. Seeking medical care does not mean you must report to law enforcement, so be sure to prioritize your health and safety when making decisions. Local hospitals can complete a forensic examination for collecting evidence that helps preserve your options should you choose to notify law enforcement. Photos, text messages, social media posts, instant messages, and any other communications or documents may provide information useful for College hearings or investigations, so save those too.

### **Assistance**

Upon request, the College will make any reasonably available change to a victim's academic, living, transportation, and/or working situation regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to law enforcement. Students and employees may contact the Title IX Coordinator for assistance. The College will maintain as confidential any accommodations or protective measures provided to the victim, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the institution to provide the accommodations or protective measures.

If a victim reports to law enforcement, they may assist them in obtaining a temporary protection order from a criminal court. Rocky Mountain College is committed to ensuring that any such order is fully upheld on all institutionally owned and controlled property.

The College recognizes the sensitive nature of sexual violence and is committed to protecting the privacy of any individual who reports an incident of sexual violence. The Clery Act prohibits the disclosure of a victim's personally identifying information in crime statistics, the crime log, and timely warnings. Different officials on campus are, however, able to offer varying levels of privacy protection to victims. Reports made to law enforcement, including if criminal prosecution is pursued, may be made public and shared with the accused.

Reports made to Rocky Mountain College officials will be kept confidential, and identifying information about the victim shall not be made public. Information about reports will only be shared with institutional personnel as needed to investigate and effectively respond to the report. Reports made to medical professionals or licensed mental health counselors will not be shared with any third parties except in cases of imminent danger to the victim or a third party.

### **Resources**

Resources available on and off-campus include:

Emergency medical and police services 911 (8-911 from a campus telephone)  
The YWCA Gateway House in Billings (406) 245-4472 (24-hour line); (406) 702-0229 (text)  
Sexual Assault Services (406) 259-8100  
College Health Center (406) 657-1068  
RMC Counselor (406) 657-1049  
RMC Chaplain (406) 657-1098  
Immigration and Visa assistance can be obtained by contacting the Vice President for Enrollment Services at (406) 657-1024.

## **Prevention Programming**

Vector Solutions Sexual Assault Prevention Programs – All incoming students are required to complete this program, which focuses on sexual assault and harassment incidents and includes effective bystander intervention tactics (to step in and distract, direct, delay, document, or delegate someone to intervene).

Rocky Mountain College provides passive and active programming to both students and employees on topics of sexual violence prevention and response through in person events and presentations, online trainings, literature distribution, poster campaigns and displays.

### **State Definitions Provided for Educational Purposes**

#### **Dating and Domestic Violence**

- (1) A person commits the offense of partner or family member assault if the person:
  - (a) purposely or knowingly causes bodily injury to a partner or family member;
  - (b) negligently causes bodily injury to a partner or family member with a weapon; or
  - (c) purposely or knowingly causes reasonable apprehension of bodily injury in a partner or family member.
  
- (2) For the purposes of Title 40, chapter 15, 45-5-231 through 45-5-234, 46-6-311, and this section, the following definitions apply:
  - (a) “Family member” means mothers, fathers, children, brothers, sisters, and other past or present family members of a household. These relationships include relationships created by adoption and remarriage, including stepchildren, stepparents, in-laws, and adoptive children and parents. These relationships continue regardless of the ages of the parties and whether the parties reside in the same household.
  - (b) “Partners” means spouses, former spouses, persons who have a child in common, and persons who have been or are currently in a dating or ongoing intimate relationship.

*Mont. Code Ann. § 45-5-206*



## **Sexual Assault**

(1) A person who knowingly subjects another person to any sexual contact without consent commits the offense of sexual assault.

*Mont. Code Ann. § 45-5-502*

## **Stalking**

(1) A person commits the offense of stalking if the person purposely or knowingly engages in a course of conduct directed at a specific person and knows, or should know, that the course of conduct would cause a reasonable person to:

- (a) fear for the person's own safety or the safety of a third person; or
- (b) suffer other substantial emotional distress.

(2) For the purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

- (a) "Course of conduct" means two or more acts, including but not limited to acts in which the offender directly or indirectly, by any action, method, communication, or physical or electronic devices or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, harasses, or intimidates a person or interferes with a person's property.
- (b) "Monitors" includes the use of any electronic, digital, or global positioning device or similar technological means.
- (c) "Reasonable person" means a reasonable person under similar circumstances as the victim. This is an objective standard.
- (d) "Substantial emotional distress" means significant mental suffering or distress that may but does not necessarily require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

*Mont. Code Ann. § 45-5-220*

## **Consent**

(1)(a) As used in 45-5-502, 45-5-503, and 45-5-508, the term "consent" means words or overt actions indicating a freely given agreement to have sexual intercourse or sexual contact and is further defined but not limited by the following:

- (i) an expression of lack of consent through words or conduct means there is no consent or that consent has been withdrawn;
- (ii) a current or previous dating or social or sexual relationship by itself or the manner of dress of the person involved with the accused in the conduct at issue does not constitute consent; and

(iii) lack of consent may be inferred based on all of the surrounding circumstances and must be considered in determining whether a person gave consent.

*Mont. Code Ann. § 45-5-501*

## **Disciplinary Proceedings**

Rocky Mountain College prohibits the crimes of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking (collectively known as the Violence Against Women Act or VAWA Offenses) on or off-campus.

Complaints are processed consistent with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act), and the College's Sexual Misconduct Policy. Both Title IX and the Clery Act require the College to prohibit and effectively respond to reports of sexual misconduct. Proceedings utilize the federal definitions of offenses found in Title IX and the Clery Act and presented for reference at the conclusion of this section.

Disciplinary complaints may be made by any campus community member and should be directed to the Title IX Coordinator at (406) 657-1018 or to a Deputy Title IX Coordinator. Reports may also be made at [report@rocky.edu](mailto:report@rocky.edu) or <https://form.jotform.com/212665470464054> online. Complaints made to the Title IX Coordinator will not initiate a law enforcement investigation.

If disciplinary proceedings move forward the matter will be referred to the Sexual Misconduct Hearing Panel. This hearing body is a three-person panel composed of members of the administrative staff and/or faculty. All members of the Panel receive formal adjudicatory training as well as training relative to the issues of sexual harassment. Matters in which the College President is alleged to have committed a violation will be heard by a special committee of the Board of Trustees. The Board will have final authority in matters involving the President.

In Rocky Mountain College proceedings any individual who is alleged to have experienced conduct that violates this Policy is considered a Complainant including both affiliated and unaffiliated individuals, and any individual who is alleged to have engaged in conduct that violates this Policy is considered a Respondent. A third-party individual who reports an allegation of conduct that may violate this Policy, but who is not a party to the complaint, is considered a Reporter. When a Title IX Coordinator pursues disciplinary action on behalf of the College, including through signing a Formal Complaint in a Title IX Sexual Harassment matter, they aren't considered a party to the case and the Complainant retains all of their rights.

If an unaffiliated individual is alleged to have violated the College's Sexual Misconduct Policy the matter will be referred to the Campus Safety Office which may ban the individual from all College property and functions.

### **Prompt, Fair, and Impartial Proceedings**

In all cases, proceedings will afford a prompt, fair, and impartial process from the initial investigation to the final result for all parties. Proceedings will be conducted in a manner consistent with the institution's policies and will be transparent to the Complainant and Respondent.

The College is responsible for proving cases by the preponderance of the evidence standard in both student and employee cases. This means that it is more likely than not that the accused committed a violation of policy. The Respondent is presumed not responsible and a determination shall be made only at the conclusion of proceedings.

Officials responsible for the resolution process receive annual training on issues related to dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking; how to conduct an investigation; and how to conduct a hearing that protects the safety of victims and promotes accountability.

### **Timeframes and Notice**

The College's goal is to handle all matters promptly, but the anticipated timelines in the Policy may be delayed for good cause. In the event of any delay both the Complainant and Respondent will be notified simultaneously in writing with the reasons for the delay.

All proceedings will provide timely notice of meetings at which the Complainant and Respondent, or both, may be present. Also, the Complainant, Respondent, and all appropriate officials will have timely and equal access to any information that will be used during the proceeding.

### **What to Expect**

When a report is received, the Title IX Coordinator and Deputy Coordinators will assign one of the group to oversee the case ("Assigned Title IX Coordinator"), a second to assist, and a third to serve as the Appellate Officer. The College may designate other officials to fill these roles as needed and will notify both the Complainant and Respondent which officials have been designated to fill each role.

The Assigned Title IX Coordinator will provide a written notice to all known parties including sufficient details to prepare for an initial interview. This notice will also explain the rights of the Complainants and Respondents.

If the Title IX Coordinator believes that the Respondent poses an immediate threat, the College will undertake an individualized safety and risk analysis which may result in an emergency removal. A Respondent shall have an immediate opportunity to challenge removal with the appellate officer.

Under federal Title IX regulations (which took effect August 14, 2020) the College is required to "dismiss" a formal complaint if the allegations if true don't meet the definition of "Title IX Sexual Harassment". However, if any allegation of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking doesn't meet this definition, the College will still continue with proceedings under the Policy and in a manner consistent with Clery Act requirements. If the College dismisses an allegation for Title IX purposes, both parties shall be notified in writing and will have five (5) business days to appeal. The appellate officer shall render a decision within five (5) business days.

Under the College’s Policy “Title IX Sexual Harassment means Sexual Harassment... when it is alleged to have occurred in an education program or activity of the College against a person in the United States. This includes locations, events, or circumstances over which the College exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment occurs. Additionally, this covers any building or property owned or controlled by an officially recognized student organization.” In such matters the Complainant must also “be participating in or attempting to participate in the education program or activity of the College.”

If a case contains at least one allegation of Title IX Sexual Harassment, the College will process all related allegations consistent with the procedures required by Title IX including a live hearing where the parties’ Advisors may conduct cross examinations. If a case has no Title IX Sexual Harassment allegations but has at least one alleged Clery Act/VAWA Offense, as determined by the Assigned Title IX Coordinator, the College will process all related allegations with the procedures required by the Clery Act and College Policy including a live hearing with cross-examination handled by the hearing panel.

If a complaint alleges neither type of violation the Assigned Title IX Coordinator shall refer the matter to either Student Conduct or Human Resources for any further action consistent with other College policies.

### **Advisor of Choice**

Both the Complainant and Respondent may have one Advisor of Choice present to support and advise them throughout the complaint process. The Advisor may accompany them to interview meetings, fact-finding interviews, hearings, and any meetings or other proceedings related to the Complaint process. The College may not limit the choice of Advisor but may remove one for failing to follow the rules set forth for any proceeding.

The parties must provide the name and e-mail address of their Advisor to the Assigned Title IX Coordinator. If a party wishes to have an Advisor appointed to them, they must make that formal request to the Assigned Title IX Coordinator in writing. The College’s communications will be directly with the parties but, with their permission, their Advisor may be copied on all correspondence.

The Advisor does not have a speaking role during the process except for the purpose of cross-examining witnesses in Title IX Sexual Harassment live hearings. In such proceedings if a party doesn’t select an Advisor the College will appoint one for the purposes of conducting cross-examination.

### **Unbiased Proceedings**

Complaint procedures will be conducted by officials who don’t have a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or an individual Complainant or Respondent. Either party may challenge an investigator, hearing officer, or Appellate Officer for bias within two (2) business days of receipt of notice of their involvement. The challenge must

be raised in writing to the Assigned Title IX Coordinator. A conflict of interest or bias may also be grounds for an appeal.

### **Interim Measures**

In order to protect the safety and welfare of both parties, it may be necessary to implement restrictions and/or behavioral expectations on individuals during the investigative and hearing process. Measures may include a “no-contact directive” while on-campus or at College sponsored events, limitation of an individual’s access to certain College facilities, an interim suspension, or other tailored remedy. Both Complainant and Respondent will be notified simultaneously, in writing, of any interim measures imposed.

### **Investigation**

The Assigned Title IX Coordinator will appoint two (2) investigative officers to review the complaint. If the respondent is a senior official at the College, or if the College believes it appropriate, may employ an independent investigator who will report directly to the President of the College. If the Respondent is the President of the College, the Chair of the Board of Trustees may employ an independent investigator who would report directly to them.

Within five (5) business days of receiving the complaint, the official overseeing the case will provide it to the Respondent for review who may then file a written response within three (3) business days. Within three (3) business days of receiving the complaint and response(s) by the respondent, the investigative officers will consult with the relevant parties, including the Complainant and Respondent, in order to ascertain the facts and views of both parties. All parties will be afforded an equal opportunity to present witnesses, including fact and expert witnesses, and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence.

Within fourteen (14) business days of the complaint being referred to the investigative officers, they will conduct an inquiry and prepare a report summarizing the relevant evidence. This report and evidence provided as part of the investigation will be made available to the Complainant, the Respondent, and their Advisors by the Assigned Title IX Coordinator. Within ten (10) business days thereafter each party may submit a final statement to the Assigned Title IX Coordinator concerning the report.

### **Hearing**

The Assigned Title IX Coordinator will convene the Sexual Misconduct Hearing Panel within five (5) business days of receipt of the investigative report, evidence provided, and the final statements of each party for a preliminary hearing to formally review the case. Based on their preliminary review, the Panel will determine what follow-up questions or information needs to be gathered. A formal hearing will be scheduled at the panel members’ earliest possible convenience. The College will provide simultaneous written notification of the scheduling to all parties.

The College will provide for the live hearing to occur with the parties located in separate rooms or locations with technology enabling the decision-maker(s) and parties to simultaneously see and hear the party or the witness answering questions. During the formal hearing, panelists will consider the evidence, conduct interviews if applicable, and debate the merits of the complaint.

The Assigned Title IX Coordinator will select a Lead Adjudicator from the hearing panel who shall be responsible for the presentation of inculpatory and exculpatory evidence, and to render opinions as needed. The Lead Adjudicator will determine whether or not a question is relevant and explain their decision prior to a Complainant, Respondent, or witness answering a question. The College will create and maintain an audio or audiovisual recording or transcript of the live hearing.

The Panel will render a decision in the case which shall be transmitted to the Complainant and Respondent in writing simultaneously by the Assigned Title IX Coordinator within two (2) business days. The notification will identify each charge individually, the sanction imposed if any, and the rationale for each decision. The notification will provide information to both the Complainant and Respondent about appealing the decision.

### **Possible Sanctions**

Sanctions for violations of the Sexual Misconduct Policy by students may include mandatory counseling, educational training, community service, restitution, removal from housing, restriction of campus services, an oral reprimand, a written reprimand, a warning added to the Respondent's file, or probation, suspension, or expulsion.

Sanctions for violations of the Sexual Misconduct Policy by employees may include mandatory counseling, educational training, community service, restitution, restriction of campus services, an oral reprimand, a written reprimand, a warning added to the Respondent's file, or probation, suspension, or dismissal.

### **Appeals**

As provided for by Title IX and the Clery Act, both the Respondent and the Complainant have the right to appeal the Panel's decision. An appeal must be filed in writing with the Appellate Officer within ten (10) business days. A party must state, with specificity, the reasons for their appeal and the grounds for a reversal of and/or change to the decision.

Appeals may be considered only for the following reasons: Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter; New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter; the Assigned Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s), or decision-maker(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or the individual complainant or respondent that affected the outcome of the matter; and Sanctioning not in accord with the offense. The Assigned Title IX Coordinator will inform the other party that an appeal has been filed in writing, share the appeal with them, and afford them ten (10) business days to respond in writing.

The Appellate Officer, within thirty (30) days of submission of any response to the appeal or, if none, the submission of the appeal, shall either affirm or overturn the decision. Appeals will be based upon the record made before the appellate officer and will not constitute a rehearing of the evidence. The written response of the Appellate Officer will constitute the final determination of the College.

## **Retaliation**

Anyone who has made a report or complaint, provided information, assisted, participated, or refused to participate in any manner in the Sexual Misconduct process, shall not be subjected to retaliation. Anyone who believes that they have been subjected to retaliation should immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator or their designee. Any person found to have engaged in retaliation shall be subject to disciplinary action.

## **Additional Information**

The information provided here is a summary of the College's "Sexual Misconduct" Policy (Updated February 2024). For the complete policy please visit <https://rocky.edu/campus-life/campus-safety/sexual-misconduct-policy/> or contact the Title IX Coordinator for a copy. All parties in sexual misconduct proceedings will be provided with the most current Policy and are encouraged to review it with their Advisor.

## **Federal Title IX/Clery Offense Definitions Used for Disciplinary Proceedings**

**Sexual Assault: Rape** – The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.

**Sexual Assault: Fondling** – The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.

**Sexual Assault: Incest** – Sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

**Sexual Assault: Statutory Rape** – Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

**Dating violence.** Violence committed by a person who is, or has been, in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim.



(i) The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the reporting party's statement and with consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

(ii) For the purposes of this definition—

(A) Dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse.

(B) Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

(iii) For the purposes of complying with the requirements of this section and § 668.41, any incident meeting this definition is considered a crime for the purposes of Clery Act reporting.

**Domestic violence.** (i) A felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed—

(A) By a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim;

(B) By a person with whom the victim shares a child in common;

(C) By a person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with, the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;

(D) By a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred, or

(E) By any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred.

(ii) For the purposes of complying with the requirements of this section and § 668.41, any incident meeting this definition is considered a crime for the purposes of Clery Act reporting.

**Stalking.** (i) Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to—

(A) Fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or

(B) Suffer substantial emotional distress.

(ii) For the purposes of this definition—

(A) Course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property.

(B) Reasonable person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim.

(C) Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

(iii) For the purposes of complying with the requirements of this section and section 668.41, any incident meeting this definition is considered a crime for the purposes of Clery Act reporting.

# Annual Fire Safety Report

The Higher Education Opportunity Act enacted on August 14, 2008, requires institutions that maintain on-campus student housing facilities to publish an annual fire safety report that contains information about campus fire safety practices and standards of the institution. The following report details all information required by this Act.

## **Fire Incident Reporting**

As a part of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA), amended by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 (HEOA), federal law requires colleges and universities to disclose certain timely and annual information about campus fire incidents and safety policies for all on-campus housing facilities. All public and private institutions of postsecondary education participating in federal student aid programs are subject to this reporting. A paper copy of this report is available upon request in the Campus Safety Office.

## **Residence Hall Fire Drills**

Fire drills are conducted three times per year, with further testing as necessary. A log of fire drill dates and results is housed in the Campus Safety Office.

## **Electrical Appliances, Smoking, and Open Flames**

Small electrical appliances are permitted in student rooms provided their use does not disturb other residents or create a potential fire hazard. Appliances with an open coil or burner, air conditioners, indoor grills, halogen lamps, BBQ grills, and gas appliances are not permitted within the building(s), Rimview courtyard, or Jorgenson walkways and lawn. In addition, all appliances with heating elements must have an automatic shut-off feature.

Policies concerning the use of specific electrical appliances can be found online at [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VZ6\\_PxU1k1SJO5X8NedBsTppsHZL3UIT/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VZ6_PxU1k1SJO5X8NedBsTppsHZL3UIT/view).

Smoking on RMC property is prohibited. The use of open flames inside the residence halls is also prohibited.

## **Fire Safety Education and Training Programs**

All new residential hall students are educated regarding fire policies and evacuation procedures for each residence hall upon arrival. Evacuation procedures are also posted in respective buildings.

## **Plans for Future Improvements in Fire Safety**

Fire safety will be reviewed annually prior to disseminating the Annual Safety Report in an effort to update or improve current practices and procedures. New programs and education may be developed as needed based on recent trends or incidents, in order to maintain the safety of the campus community.

## **Fire Safety Devices**

Widenhouse, Rimview, and Jorgenson Halls are equipped with automatic sprinkler fire suppression systems. Anderson and Widenhouse Halls utilize interior alarms and warning lights

through the corridors and common areas, with Rimview and Jorgenson Halls employing large exterior alarms, as well as interior alarms within the common areas.

Facility	Fire Alarm Monitoring (Off-Site)	Sprinkler System in student rooms	Smoke Detectors in student rooms	Sprinkler System in common areas	Smoke Detectors in common areas	Fire Extinguishers in common areas	Evacuation Plans and Placards	# Of Fire Drills Conducted Per Calendar Year
Anderson	YES	NO	YES	NO	Partial	YES	No	3
Jorgenson	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	3
Rimview	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	3
Widenhouse	YES	YES	YES	Partial	Partial	YES	NO	3

**Fire Safety Statistics**

On-Campus Residential Housing Locations	Year	Fires	Death	Injury	Fire Cause	Value of Property Damage \$
Anderson Hall	2021	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2022	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2023	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Jorgenson Hall	2021	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2022	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2023	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rimview Hall	2021	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2022	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2023	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Widenhouse Hall	2021	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2022	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2023	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A