Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ODEI)

The office provides leadership to identify, assess, and eliminate institutional inequalities in areas related to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, religion, social class, language, disability, socio-economic status, national origin, citizenship status, age, and veteran status. ODEI includes the Disability Services Center and The Office of Institutional Equity.

The Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) ensures compliance with state and federal civil rights laws and standards, including Title IX, Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines. The Director of Institutional Equity serves as the Title IX coordinator and Affirmative Action Officer for the college.

Contact Margaret Lynch-Gadaleta
Director, Institutional Equity
Title IX Coordinator/Affirmative Action Officer
Rhode Island College
Roberts Hall 301
600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Providence, RI 02908
401-456-8387
mlynchgadaleta@ric.edu

If You Experience Sexual Misconduct, Relationship or Interpersonal Violence:

- Make sure you are in a safe place.
- If you are in danger and need immediate assistance on campus, contact Campus Police 401-456-8888 or call 9-1-1.
- Seek medical care. You may do so without reporting what happened to the police. Seeking medical attention is important to treat or prevent sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and pregnancy.
- Preserving evidence is important. You can always decide later whether or not to file a complaint. If you go to the hospital, try not to bathe, go to the bathroom, or change your clothes. If you do change, bring the clothes you were wearing to the hospital in a paper bag.
- If you decide not to go to a hospital, RIC Health Services can provide testing and treatment for STIs and advice about pregnancy prevention.

Resources and Support

There are multiple resources available to you. Seeking support is important. The following are resources available to support you:

- The RIC Counseling Center offers free confidential counseling to any current RIC student. 401-456-8094
- RIC’s Health Services provides confidential medical resources. 401-456-8055
- The RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Day One provide counseling and victim advocates. RICADV 401-467-9940; Day One 401-491-4700.
- The RICADV/Day One Hotline is available 24/7 at 800-494-8100.
- The RIC HOPE line provides support 24/7 at 401-456-HOPE (4673).
- The Title IX Coordinator is also available to direct you to supportive measures and resources, and to discuss your options moving forward at 401-456-8387.
- Services are also available through The LGBTQ+ and Gender Office at the Unity Center at 401-456-8791.
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Consent

Consent is a mutual, voluntary, and informed agreement to participate in specific sexual acts with another person that is not achieved through unreasonable manipulation, coercion, or any kind of physical force or weapon, and requires having cognitive ability to agree to participate. Consent requires an outward demonstration, through mutually understandable words, conduct or action, indicating that an individual has freely chosen to engage in the specific sexual act. A verbal “no” constitutes lack of consent, even if it sounds insincere or indecisive. Impairment or incapacitation due to alcohol and/or drug use, permanent/ temporary psychological or physical disability, and being below the age of consent (age 16) are factors which make consent impossible. Silence or an absence of resistance does not imply consent, and consent to engage in sexual activity with one person does not imply consent to engage in sexual activity with another. Even in the context of an ongoing relationship, consent must be sought and freely given for each specific sexual act. Consent may be withdrawn at any time. When consent is withdrawn, sexual activity must immediately stop.

Amnesty Policy

The health and safety of every student is of utmost importance. RIC recognizes that students who have been drinking and/or using drugs (whether such use is voluntary or involuntary) at the time that an incident of violence occurs, including, but not limited to, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault may be hesitant to report such incidents due to fear of potential consequences for their own conduct. RIC strongly encourages students to report incidents of violence to institution officials. The reporting party, responding party, a bystander acting in good faith, or a reporting individual acting in good faith, who discloses any incident of violence will not be subject to RIC’s student conduct code for violations of alcohol and/or drug use policies occurring at or near the time of the commission of the incident of violence.

Consent Reporting on Campus

COUNSELING CENTER
Brown Hall, 401-456-8094

HEALTH SERVICES
Brown Hall, 401-456-8055

Non-Confidential Reporting on Campus

TITLE IX COORDINATOR
Margaret (Peggy) Lynch-Gadaleta Roberts Hall 301
401-456-8387 or mylynchgadaleta@ric.edu

RESIDENTIAL LIFE AND HOUSING
Penfield Hall, 401-456-8240

Reporting to Law Enforcement

CAMPUS POLICE
401-456-8888

PROVIDENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT
401-272-1111

NORTH PROVIDENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT
401-233-1433

RHODE ISLAND STATE POLICE
401-444-1000

Local Hospitals

WOMEN AND INFANTS HOSPITAL
101 Dudley St., Providence
Emergency Department, 401-274-1100

MIRIAM HOSPITAL
164 Summit Ave, Providence, 401-793-3000

RHODE ISLAND HOSPITAL
593 Eddy St., Providence
Emergency Department, 401-444-4220

Off-Campus Resources

THE SOJOURNER HOUSE
Sojourner House is a domestic and sexual violence agency that provides a variety of direct services, including emergency housing, advocacy, immigration assistance, HIV testing, support groups, LGBT+ culturally competent services, and a program for victims of human trafficking.
401-861-6191 (office)
401-765-3232 (residential services)

RHODE ISLAND COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
A network of member agencies that provide comprehensive services to victims, including emergency shelter, support groups, counseling and assistance with the legal system.
401-467-9940

DAY ONE
The Sexual Assault and Trauma Resource Center will provide an advocate to accompany a survivor to the hospital and/or the police if you decide to go.
401-421-4100

Women's Center

For more confidential and non-confidential resources, please visit the Women’s Center website.

Non-Retaliation Policy

Retaliation is prohibited by RIC policy. “Retaliation” is intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege or because an individual has made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing.

Reporting on Campus

Any person may make a report to the Title IX Coordinator. Reports may be made in person, by regular mail, telephone, electronic mail, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person’s verbal or written report. In-person reports must be made during normal business hours, but reports can be made by regular mail, telephone, or electronic mail at any time, including outside normal business hours.

Hot Lines Available 24/7

RIC HOPE line: 401-456-HOPE (4673)
RAINN 247: 800-656-HOPE
Online Hotline: https://ohl.rainn.org/online
DAY ONE/ RICADV HELP LINE: 800-494-8100