



Campus Guide to Safety & Security 2023

Annual Security & Fire Safety Report

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Crime Prevention and Awareness

Campus Safety Department

The Campus Safety Office is located on University Drive, across from Dwyer Ice Arena. Our primary concern is to provide a safe environment, which allows all members of the campus community to pursue and achieve their educational and professional objectives. Campus Safety provides continuous 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year coverage for the entire campus and its constituency. The Director of Campus Safety oversees all aspects of the department operations and reports to the Vice President for Student Affairs. All significant decision making and policy implementation regarding safety and security issues are made cooperatively between appropriate University officials and Campus Safety. All campus emergency calls should be made to (716) 286-8111.

Campus Safety officers receive their authority through N.Y.S. General Business Law Article 7-A. The Department maintains a very close working relationship with area law enforcement agencies, specifically the Lewiston Police and Niagara Falls Police departments. Criminal activity and motor vehicle accidents are reported primarily to Lewiston Police for reporting, investigation, and arrest purposes. The Director of Campus Safety, with the assistance of local police departments and the Dean of Students, monitors and records criminal activity and student behavior at off campus locations where students reside and frequent.

Reporting Incidents, Criminal Activity or Emergencies

Preventing campus crime is a **shared responsibility** between the University and all members of the campus community.

As public apathy is a criminal's greatest ally, you cannot assume that someone else will report criminal activity. Suspicion is the only reason you need for calling Campus Safety...suspicion doesn't require proof.

Whether or not you are the victim, you should report any crime, suspicious activity or other emergency on campus. Call **CAMPUS SAFETY at (716) 286-8111** and, when possible, provide the following information:

- Your name;
- Location of the incident you are reporting;
- Description of the situation and people involved; and
- Description of any vehicles involved in the incident, especially a license plate number.

When you think a crime is being or has been committed, immediately notify Campus Safety at (716) 286-8111. Other reporting options include informing a Residence Life staff member (Main office – O'Shea Hall, first floor (716) 286-8566). Additionally, a number of strategically-placed exterior blue light telephones are located throughout the campus. These phones can be used to report incidents or emergencies to Campus Safety. Campus restricted

telephones also are located in the lobbies and living areas of all residential facilities. Using these easily accessible phones, Campus Safety can be contacted by dialing 8111.

Crime Prevention and Safety Awareness Tips

Niagara's underlying philosophy is to focus its efforts in preventing accidents and crimes from occurring rather than having to react to them after the fact. The University's dual-concept approach is based on minimizing threatening opportunities, whenever possible, and encouraging campus members to be responsible for their own safety and security, as well as the general welfare of others.

Security Awareness and Crime Prevention Programs

Each year, beginning with summer orientation and new student orientation, students are informed of services offered by Campus Safety. Students are told about incidents and crimes occurring on campus and within the surrounding neighborhoods. Similar information is presented throughout the year in cooperation with other University organizations and departments.

Proactive safety and security measures applied on campus include:

- Enhanced lighting of parking lots, pedestrian walkways and building exteriors.
- Standardized Campus Safety foot and vehicular patrols of University grounds and buildings around the clock.
- Periodic nightly patrols by Residence Life staff in their buildings.
- Close monitoring of residence hall visitors by Community Advisors at building's main desk during high-traffic hours.
- Mandatory lock changes for lost keys throughout the campus.
- Accessibility of a campus-wide network of exterior emergency telephones linked directly to Campus Safety.
- Distribution of crime prevention materials to the campus community.
- Availability of Campus Safety security escort service during hours of darkness.
- Campus-wide programs on alcohol, substance abuse, and sexual assault issues.
- Firm enforcement of health and safety regulations in and around the residence halls and apartments
- Crime prevention presentations for the resident students and the general campus population.
- Regular trimming of shrubbery, trees and other vegetation on the campus grounds.
- Strict enforcement of on-campus driving regulations and parking in fire lanes adjacent to all buildings.
- NIMS-compliant emergency response plan for campus and local emergencies.
- The University's Advisory Committee on Campus Safety, comprised of faculty, administrators and students, regularly reviews current campus security policies, procedures, and security concerns.

Safety and Security Tips

On Niagara University's Campus:

- Be aware of what's going on around you.
- Become familiar with your residence hall and classroom buildings.
- Locate emergency exits and telephones.
- Never prop open any locked or exterior building doors. Un-prop doors whenever you see them.
- Avoid walking alone after dark, walk with others along well travelled and well lit routes.
- Lock your car at all times and refrain from leaving property in a vehicle where it can be seen.
- Avoid giving rides to strangers or hitchhikers.
- Become familiar with the location of campus blue-light emergency phones.
- Fasten your bike securely with a sturdy bicycle chain or cable when not in use.
- Avoid providing personal information on social network sites that would assist an identity theft, e.g. date of birth, SSN, etc.
- Report immediately any suspicious persons or situation or security deficiencies to Campus Safety or to a residence life staff member.

In Campus Residential Facilities:

- Lock your door whenever you nap, sleep or leave the room — even to shower.
- Secure first floor room windows when no one is home.
- Keep valuables locked and/or out of sight.
- Avoid keeping large sums of cash in your room and/or apartment or speaking indiscriminately about the arrival of money.
- Don't leave notes on your door announcing that you're not at home.
- Never host people who you don't know overnight in your campus residence.
- Immediately report the loss of your room key to your Community Advisor or to Campus Safety. Lock changes are mandated to prevent the misuse of lost or stolen keys.
- Never loan your key or student ID card to anyone.
- Report any stranger in your living unit immediately to a residence life staff member.
- Escort your guests throughout campus residences. You are responsible for their actions!
- Don't leave your clothing unattended in the laundry room. Mark all pieces in places other than the labels.
- Check whether your family's homeowner's insurance covers your possessions while away from home.
- Let your roommate(s), Community Advisor or family members know whenever you're going to be away for the night or an extended period.
- Become familiar with all campus housing emergency procedures, especially fire evacuation and assembly area guidelines.
- If you are concerned about the physical or emotional well-being of someone, please inform a Community Advisor or the Dean of Students.

Emergency Procedures/Policies

Suspicious Activity

If you see someone acting suspiciously immediately call Campus Safety at (716) 286-8111. Do not approach the person yourself. Report the type of suspicious activity and give a general description of the person(s) involved (e.g., number of persons, gender, dress, vehicle, and location). Campus Safety officers will investigate your report immediately.

Assault

If you or someone you know is assaulted call Campus Safety at (716) 286-8111 as soon as possible. Try to remember as much as you can about the person, important characteristics like: gender; hair color, length and texture; body size; clothing description; scars and other noticeable markings; mode of travel; type of vehicle, color and license number. The campus will be searched immediately for suspects. Local police agencies also may be notified.

Bomb Threats

If you receive a bomb threat do not panic. Remain calm. Obtain as much information from the caller and bomb location. Keep talking to the caller as long as possible and record; caller ID and time of call; estimated age of the caller; speech pattern, accent, and possible nationality of the caller; emotional state of the caller; and any background noise. Things to ask are: bomb location; time of the explosion; and type of bomb. Call Campus Safety at (716) 286-8111. Officers will search the area involved and notify trained personnel if a device is found for removal. The building safety team leader, Campus Safety, or law enforcement will let you know if an evacuation or other action is required.

Medical Emergencies

If you encounter a medical emergency do not move the individual. Contact Campus Safety at (716) 286-8111. In cases of serious illness or injury, an ambulance will be summoned. Emergency resource personnel are also available 24 hours a day during the academic year.

Fires/Smoke

If you detect fire or smoke activate the building fire alarm then call Campus Safety at (716) 286-8111. Evacuate all rooms, closing all doors. DO NOT LOCK THE DOORS. Walk quickly to the nearest marked exit and alert others to do the same. Do not use the elevators in case of fire. Once outside, move to the designated assembly area at least 500 feet from the affected building. If in a residential facility, notify a Residential Life staff member when possible. If you are a campus resident, be sure to familiarize yourself with the proper fire response procedures. In the event of a fire, Campus Safety will summon local fire agencies.

Theft

Should you be the victim or if you suspect another student of theft, a report should be made immediately to Campus Safety or the Residence Life staff.

Weapons Policy

The sale, possession, production, purchase, or use of a weapon is prohibited. A “weapon” is an instrument that can cause physical harm to persons or property, or a replica thereof.

Unlawful possession of a weapon upon school grounds is defined in subdivision 265.06 of the New York state penal law. It shall be unlawful for any person age 16 or older to knowingly possess any air-gun, spring-gun or other instrument or weapon in which the propelling force is spring, air, piston or CO2 cartridge in or upon a building or grounds, used for educational purposes, of any school, college or University, without written authorization of such educational institution. Unlawful possession of a weapon upon school grounds is a violation. Anyone seeking such authorization, including for purposes of training, theatrical weapons, and ROTC, shall consult with the director of Campus Safety to obtain authorization as required above.

Violent Felony Offenses

Violent felony offenses are defined in subdivision one of Section 70.02 of the New York state penal law to include, but not limited to, degrees/classes of: murder, manslaughter, kidnapping, rape, sodomy, aggravated sexual abuse, felony assault, burglary, robbery, arson, criminal possession of a dangerous weapon, or attempt thereof. Members of the campus community are expected to report all types of suspected criminal or suspicious behavior immediately to Campus Safety by calling (716) 286-8111. Details on the procedure used for University investigations of violent felony offenses may be obtained from either Campus Safety or the Dean of Students.

Building Access

Most campus buildings are open during normal hours of business and for limited, designated hours on Saturdays during periods the University is in normal operation.

Community Advisors and/or Campus Safety officers can be found at lobby desks during assigned hours checking identification and monitoring traffic flow in certain residence halls. Residential areas are controlled by card access 24 hours a day. Students must present or swipe a University ID card when entering a residence hall. Overnight guests must be registered and carry a pass throughout the visit.

The University is firmly committed to maintaining integrity of its card access system. As such, all keys/keycards issued for building access may not be loaned or duplicated. Lost keys are to be reported at once to the Facility Services and residence hall staff. Facility Services is responsible for installing a

new lock and seeing that either the responsible individual or campus department is billed. In residential facilities, a new cylinder also will be automatically installed for any lost keys at the responsible student's expense. Residents are expected to report lost keys/keycards immediately to the building staff.

Exterior doors on campus buildings are locked and secured each evening. Entry doors are never to be propped open. It is your responsibility to un-prop doors when you see them. Those who jeopardize a building's security by propping exterior doors open will be held accountable by the University.

Niagara makes every effort to ensure that campus facilities and grounds are designed and maintained in such a way as to promote safety and reduce criminal opportunities. Particular attention is paid to frequent trimming of shrubbery, trees and other vegetation on campus, as well as maintaining efficient exterior lighting, especially in the parking lots. It is recommended, however, that you follow the "buddy system" when walking outside after dark and always use well-traveled routes. If you are in need of a security escort to or from a building or parking lot, please call Campus Safety at (716) 286-8111. It is best to call 5 or 10 minutes before you need the escort to allow the safety officer time to get to your location.

Additional information regarding building access is contained in University Policy 0-12, Building Access for Non-Resident Space.

Voluntary, Confidential Reporting

In certain instances, a crime victim may be reluctant to file a report fearing the "process" and/or loss of his/her anonymity. In such circumstances, crime victims are still encouraged to make a confidential report to the Campus Safety department by calling (716) 286-8111. At minimum, crime victims will receive important counseling and referral information. Confidential reports are important because they provide valuable information that can enhance the safety of the community-at-large.

Missing Students

The term "missing student" shall refer to any Niagara University student living on campus that has not been seen by friends or associates in a reasonable length of time which may suggest that the absence is cause for concern or suspicion.

If a member of the University community has reason to believe that a student who resides in on-campus housing is missing, he or she should **immediately notify Campus Safety at (716) 286-8111**. Campus Safety will generate a missing person report and initiate an investigation.

In addition to registering a general emergency contact, students have the option to identify confidentially an individual to be contacted by Niagara University in the event the student is determined to be missing for more than 24 hours. If a student has identified such an individual, Niagara University will notify that individual no later than 24 hours after the student is determined to be missing. Students should visit their MyNU FERPA utility to register

a confidential contact person to be notified in the event that you are considered a missing person. A student's confidential contact information will be accessible only by authorized campus officials and law enforcement in the course of the investigation.

After investigating a missing person report, should Niagara University Campus Safety determine that the student is missing, Campus Safety will immediately notify law enforcement authorities. The responding agency will immediately determine the seriousness of the missing student report, and will act accordingly to include, but not limited to: interviews, investigations, and coordination of search efforts. Niagara University will notify the student's emergency contact no later than 24 hours after the student is determined to be missing. If the missing student is under the age of 18 and is not an emancipated individual, Niagara University will notify the student's parent or legal guardian immediately after Campus Safety has determined that the student has been missing for 24 hours.

Demonstrations and Other Similar Events

Niagara University encourages the open and respectful expression of opinion, exchange of ideas, and the right to assent to or dissent from existing University or broader societal situations. Ensuring and safeguarding open and respectful expression requires Niagara University's commitment to the safety of individuals, the protection of property, and the continuance of University business. As such, the University will have the final determination as to the time, place, and manner of all demonstrations and other similar events on-campus.

All demonstrations and other similar events on or adjacent to campus must be orderly and peaceful. Demonstrations or other similar events on or adjacent to campus may not impede passage, may not create excessive noise, or may not interfere with the business operations of the University.

The broadest possible exercise of freedom can be carried out only in conjunction with responsibility. Members of the University community and all other persons on University property assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the University's function as an educational institution. To this end, the following acts and/or conduct are prohibited:

1. Persons who are NOT members of the University community are not permitted to demonstrate;
2. Conducting a demonstration at a time or place other than the time and place previously approved by the Dean of Students or designee;
3. Obstruction or disruption of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary procedures, or other University activities on University owned or controlled property, including its grounds, campus, buildings, and/or other facilities (hereinafter collectively referred to as "University property");
4. Obstruction of entry and exit points of buildings;
5. Physical or verbal abuse of any person on University property or at University sponsored or supervised functions or conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any such person;
6. Threats of harm;
7. Theft or damage to property of the University or of a member of the University or campus visitor;
8. Unauthorized entry to or use of University property, including maintaining an unauthorized presence in buildings;
9. Disorderly conduct or lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct, language, or expression on University property or at University sponsored or supervised functions;

10. Failure to comply with directives of University officials acting in the performance of their duties;
11. Any other violations of civil law and/or University regulations;
12. In addition to the foregoing specific prohibitions, which are not exclusive, members of the University community and other persons on the property of the University shall conduct themselves at all times in a manner which does not disrupt the University community or infringe upon the rights of others.

Campus Emergency Notification

Emergency notifications to the campus community will be coordinated as necessary by Campus Safety or by the Office for Public, External and Government Relations. Information will not be released to the public unless authorized by the Office for Public, External and Government Relations and all media inquiries should be directed to the same.

Campus closing

In the event that the University must close due to weather, facility failure, illness, or other non-emergent cause, notification will be made to the campus community through the Niagara University Mass Notification Network including some or all of the following methods.

- NU Web page: <http://www.niagara.edu/>.
- On-campus e-mail and voice mail systems
- Automated text and cell phone messaging
- Campus –wide digital signage
- Mass-notification speaker system

Additionally, local radio and television stations will announce University closing information.

Timely Warning Procedure

The Clery Act and Clery Act regulations require that campuses provide a “timely warning” to the campus community concerning the occurrence of a crime that is believed to represent a continuing threat to the campus community.

Timely reporting to the campus community is decided on a case-by-case basis in light of all of the facts surrounding a crime, including factors such as the nature of the crime, the continuing danger to the campus community, and the possible risk of compromising law enforcement efforts. Timely warning notices are distributed by the Office for Public, External and Government Relations.

Timely warning to the campus community will be communicated through some or all of the following methods:

- NU Web page: <http://www.niagara.edu/>.
- On-campus e-mail and voice mail systems
- Automated text and cell phone messaging
- Campus –wide digital signage
- Mass-notification speaker system
- Posted flyers

Campus Evacuation

Should an emergency require a campus evacuation the following procedures will be implemented:

- The Emergency Coordinator or his/her designee will announce evacuation orders, via Niagara University Mass Notification Network.
- All individuals are to vacate the site in question immediately and relocate, as directed.
- The University community may be asked to assist in providing transportation for individuals needing transport.
- Evacuation updates will be provided via Niagara University's Mass Notification Network.
- If you are off campus when a full campus evacuation is implemented, do not report to the University.

Drugs and Alcohol

Overview

A fundamental purpose of the University is to maintain an environment that supports and encourages the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge. A number of educational programs on alcohol and substance abuse are presented throughout the academic year by the Campus Activities, Health Services, Counseling Services and Residence Life departments. All first-year students receive information about alcohol and substance abuse during orientation.

Counseling and referral services are available through Counseling Services in the basement of Seton Hall. Niagara also provides assessment and referrals for students with potential or actualized chemical dependency problems.

Niagara University Alcohol Policy

Niagara shares public concern about irresponsible drinking and the socially unacceptable behavior which may result from alcohol abuse. While social gatherings can enhance the quality of campus life, it is expected that University members and visitors act responsibly with regard to the possession and use of alcoholic beverages. The policy pertains to all administrators, faculty, staff, students, and campus guests.

In New York State, Niagara permits the possession, consumption, sale, purchase, or gift of alcoholic beverages only to those who are 21 years of age or older. Everyone on campus grounds is required to conform to all state and city ordinances governing alcoholic beverages.

Violation of the University's Alcohol Policy subjects students to formal disciplinary action which may result in the imposition of sanctions, as well as mandated referrals for alcohol assessment through Counseling Services. The University also may work with local law enforcement officials in regard to liquor law offenses. The Alcohol Policy can be found at <https://mynu.niagara.edu/mynu2/policy/documents/Niagara-University-Alcohol-Policy.pdf>

Student Organization Sponsored Events

- Approval must be obtained at least four weeks in advance from the Director of Campus Activities if the event involves serving alcohol at an off-campus location. The off-campus location must be able to provide a valid NYS Liquor License upon request to the University.
- Approval must be obtained at least six weeks in advance from the Director of Campus Activities if the event involves serving alcohol at an on-campus event. If permission is granted, a request needs to be submitted to the on-campus food service provider so they can request a temporary liquor license for the event, which takes a minimum of four weeks to obtain.
- Permission will not be granted for any sponsored event with alcohol that involves open bar or drink tickets. Only cash bar events will be considered for approval. Any exception to this rule (i.e., Senior Week events) will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Director of Campus Activities.
- Student organizations sponsoring an event involving alcohol on campus must, at the organization's cost, have an adequate Campus Safety presence at the event. Arrangements need to be made with Campus Safety for this security.
- Additionally, a University administrator needs to present at the event. Ideally this is the organization's advisor. This administrator will supervise the distribution of wristbands to those whom are 21 years of age or older.
- Alcohol should never be the focus of any student organization sponsored event.
- Food, soft drinks and/or other non-alcoholic beverages need to be available in the same location and be featured as prominently as alcoholic beverages.
- Raffles involving baskets with alcoholic beverages must be approved by Campus Activities.
- No privately obtained alcoholic beverages may be brought to a student organization sponsored event, either on or off campus.
- No drinking games of any kind are allowed at any student organization sponsored event where alcohol is available.
- Events planned in Canada for the sole purpose of drinking at the Canadian legal drinking age of 19 will not be permitted.

Specific Alcohol Prohibitions

- Underage possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages. "Possession" means having an alcoholic beverage under one's charge or control. Students over the age of 21 are under a continuous obligation to use alcoholic beverages in a responsible manner. Care should be taken when persons over the age of 21 are consuming alcohol in the presence of persons less than 21 years of age as they could be found responsible for violating the University's alcohol policy.
- Possession or consumption of any alcoholic beverage in any common area, including but not limited to lounges, corridors, laundry rooms, elevators, other public areas, and the grounds surround Residence Halls and academic buildings, unless it is a University sponsored event.
- Possession of multi-serving containers not exclusive to beer balls, kegs of any size, growlers, etc. It is also a violation of this policy to engage in drinking games requiring or encouraging the use and/or rapid consumption of alcohol or consumption using alcohol paraphernalia, including but not limited to drinking funnels, beer bong, beer pong tables, etc.
- Distributing and/or providing alcohol to anyone less than 21 years of age.
- Possession of false identification.
- Displaying any alcoholic beverage containers, signs, lights or other alcohol related materials in any window or on any common space by students less than 21 years of age.

Drug/Illegal Substances Policy

The possession, sale, use or distribution of any type of controlled substance, illicit, as well as of any type of drug-related paraphernalia, is considered a serious violation of the Student Code of Conduct. Niagara will provide no sanctuary for those who disregard state or federal drug laws. The Drug/Illegal Substances Policy can be found at <http://mynu.niagara.edu/mynu2/policy/documents/Niagara-University-Drug-Illegal-Substances-Policy.pdf>.

The prohibition against controlled substances does not apply to those medications physician-prescribed for a patient when used according to directions. The University reserves the right, however, to confiscate said medications in cases of actual or suspected misuse.

The sale of any controlled substance can result in expulsion from Niagara University. Any other involvement with controlled substances subjects students to notification of guardians, disciplinary sanctions, and mandated meetings with Counseling Services for chemical dependency assessments and suspension or expulsion from Niagara.

Niagara belongs to a drug-free network under the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities. It is important to note that students who sign the certification required under the Drug-Free Workplace regulations in order to receive a PELL Grant have agreed to not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of a controlled substance during the period of enrollment covered by the PELL Grant. If a student who signed the certification is convicted of a criminal drug offense resulting from a violation occurring during the period of grant enrollment, he/she must report in writing the conviction within 10 calendar days to the Director of Grants and Contract Service, U.S. Department of Education.

Specific Drug Prohibitions

- The use or possession of narcotics or other controlled substances as defined by state and federal laws is strictly prohibited.
- Sharing, distribution, sale or intent to sell, of narcotics or other controlled substances as defined by state and federal laws is strictly prohibited.
- The use, possession, distribution, sale or intent to sell, of drug paraphernalia is strictly prohibited.
- The misuse and/or sharing of prescription drugs and other products being used other than intended is strictly prohibited. This includes but is not limited to substances obtained via the modification of prescription or over-the-counter drugs, chemicals, or foodstuffs.
- Selling, promoting, supplying, or using dangerous organic or synthetic drugs is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to, substances deceptively marketed as "incense" "potpourri," "sachets" or "bath salts;" or substances referred to as "synthetic marijuana."

Sexual Assault

Niagara University Sexual Misconduct Policy

Niagara University expects all its members to respect the rights, dignity, and personhood of others. Niagara University strives to create a safe educational and working environment for all members of the community including students, faculty, administrators and staff. Sexual misconduct of any kind, including discrimination, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking, will not be tolerated.

Niagara University fully supports and complies with all local, state and federal laws governing rape, sexual and dating violence, and stalking.

The Sexual Misconduct Policy can be found on the Niagara University Office for Equity & Inclusion website (www.niagara.edu/oei) and clicking on the “NU Policies” tab. This Policy applies to both undergraduate and graduate students, and to behavior that occurs both on and off campus. It is the responsibility of all students to be aware of and adhere to all state and federal laws, particularly those which govern rape, sexual and dating violence, and stalking, and to also be aware that behavior that does not rise to the level of being criminal is also actionable under this policy.

In addition to this policy, students, faculty and staff are also protected by the University’s Non-Harassment & Anti-Discrimination Policy (A-06) and the Non-Discrimination Policy (A-11) both of which can be found on the Niagara University Office for Equity & Inclusion website (www.niagara.edu/oei) and clicking on the “NU Policies” tab. Violations of Niagara University’s sexual misconduct, non-harassment, and non-discrimination policies are serious and although there are no standard sanctions for students outlined for violations of these policies, suspension and/or expulsion from the University are possible.

Response to Sexual Assaults

Students and others who experience sexual violence are encouraged to report it immediately, but more importantly, to seek treatment at a hospital equipped to perform the appropriate exams when the victim has reported that they have been sexually assaulted or raped. It is important to preserve evidence for proof of a criminal offense if such charges may be filed; we know it is difficult, but if at all possible, do not shower or otherwise remove evidence of a sexual assault prior to seeking medical attention. Students may contact a member of the Residence Life staff, Campus Safety or the Title IX Coordinator for assistance in seeking medical assistance.

Niagara University Title IX Coordinator:

Shellonnee Chin
Office for Equity & Inclusion
O’Shea Hall, B27
(716) 286-8324

schinn@niagara.edu
www.niagara.edu/oei

They may also contact the following off-campus resources:

YWCA of the Niagara Frontier (confidential, 24-hour)

Helpline: (716) 433-6716 or text: (716) 870-9726

Eastern Niagara Hospital

521 East Avenue, Lockport, NY 14094
(716) 514-5500

Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center

621 Tenth Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14302
(716) 278-4000

Mt. Saint Mary's Hospital

5300 Military Road, Lewiston, NY 14092
(716) 297-4800

As required by the Clery Act, all supervisors and officials who have significant responsibility for student and campus activities such as coaches, administrators, and faculty must report crimes involving sexual misconduct. Further, Niagara University believes that all employees have a responsibility to report incidents of sexual harassment and other forms of sexual misconduct. Reports of sexual misconduct can be made to the Title IX Coordinator listed above. Reports can also be made to Campus Safety at (716) 286-8111. Reports can also be made via the Whistleblowing policy, which can be found on the Niagara University Office for Equity & Inclusion website (www.niagara.edu/oei) and clicking on the "NU Policies" tab.

Victims of sexual misconduct, who want the information to remain confidential, may seek out a counselor or psychologist in Counseling Services, staff in Health Services, or an ordained member of Campus Ministry performing his confessional duties. In addition, students in the ROTC program can report confidentially to the SARC (Sexual Assault Response Coordinator) representative within the Purple Eagle Battalion Cadre. Reports made to a licensed counselor or health care provider, a Vincentian Priest during confession, or to the SARC representative, are confidential and will not be shared with university officials without your permission unless an imminent threat exists. Counseling Services or the Title IX Coordinator can also provide assistance to students who wish to find counseling support off campus. The university encourages any student who has been sexually assaulted to also consult their parents/guardians.

When a student reports being a victim of sexual misconduct, interim measures may be put in place to protect all parties and minimize the burden on the victim. This includes, but is not limited to, relocating students into alternative classes, room assignments, or work schedules/situations; providing academic support including assistance with course withdrawals or leave of absences; issuing of no-contact orders*; and providing transportation assistance around campus. Interim measures will remain in place for an indefinite period of time or until the investigative and/or disciplinary process has ended, or when otherwise necessary.

*No-contact orders issued by the university are limited in scope and authority to students and behaviors that violate the Student Code of Conduct. If a victim wishes to obtain a civil order of protection, the Title IX Coordinator or Director of Campus Safety can assist them in contacting appropriate local law enforcement.

Procedures for Adjudicating Charges of Sexual Misconduct

The university takes seriously all reports of sexual misconduct.

Reports of sexual assault, intimate partner violence and stalking will be addressed under the university's Sexual Misconduct Policy, which can be found at the Niagara University Office for Equity & Inclusion website (www.niagara.edu/oei) and clicking on the "NU Policies" tab.

If you believe that you or someone you know has been victim of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking on University property, an off-campus location, electronically, during study abroad, or at a University-sponsored event, by a member of the University community, you are encouraged to report the incident.

You have the right to: make a report to campus safety, state or local law enforcement-- or to choose not to report; to report the incident to NU; to be protected by NU from retaliation for reporting the incident, and to receive assistance and resources from NU.

The Title IX Coordinator will respect a victim's (and every person's) privacy as much as possible. In cases of sexual assault, stalking, domestic or dating violence, the victim is in control of whether any action or investigation moves forward, and the victim's identity can remain private. Only in instances of imminent danger to the campus or the threat of a repeated attack by the perpetrator will any action take place without the victim's request, and even then, will be done so in a way to protect the victim's identity as much as possible and will never force a victim to participate in the investigation.

In cases where law enforcement is involved, the university will typically comply with police investigative efforts, insofar as doing so is consistent with the victim's directive, and the university will conduct any of its own investigations concurrently for purposes of this policy. Unless compelled by subpoena or given the express permission of the victim, the university will not disclose records protected by FERPA or FERPA-exempt Campus Safety reports; the sole exception to this shall be if there is an imminent threat warranting, a timely warning, or a disclosure to an individual under threat.

The university recognizes the importance of privacy and confidentiality in these matters and will uphold the rights of all parties involved to the extent possible. Some individuals filing complaints or involved in an investigation may want their identity to remain confidential. In some instances, the person being questioned can be spoken to without identifying the complainant. In other cases, issues of confidentiality must be balanced against the University's need to investigate and take appropriate action. While discretion remains important, parties are not restricted from discussing or sharing information relating to their complaints with others who may support them or assist them in presenting their case.

At the conclusion of any investigation, the investigation team will provide a summary of findings to the Title IX Coordinator who will review the information and, in consultation with the Dean of Students, will offer an administrative resolution to the case that may include sanctions.

If the complainant and accused student(s) agree to the terms of the resolution, including sanctions, they will sign the resolution agreement and may not appeal. If either the complainant or the accused student(s) do not wish to accept the resolution, the case will go before a hearing panel which will review the same information and determine findings and sanctions. Mediation will not be used as a means to address or resolve cases of sexual misconduct.

All hearings involving sexual misconduct allegations will be conducted in accordance with the rules and procedures of the student conduct process with special sensitivity to the nature of the charges and the best interest of all parties involved.

Sexual Assault Prevention

The University encourages students to understand the considerations governing sexual contact between persons. Counseling Services employs qualified professionals who can help students clarify their feelings about relationships, intimacy, sexual orientation and gender identity and help students develop assertiveness skills that may be useful in managing potentially difficult situations.

Educational programs about healthy relationships and sexual assault/prevention are offered on campus throughout the academic year. During new student orientation, first year students participate in programs on safety and security, where sexual assault information and resources are provided. Niagara University also conducts routine training for students, including bystander intervention and programs to educate students about the school's sexual misconduct policy.

For more information on resources and trainings, go to www.niagara.edu/oei.

Some of the trainings focus on understanding what is affirmative consent, as defined by New York State's "Enough Is Enough" legislation. "Affirmative consent" is a knowing, voluntary, and mutual decision among all participants to engage in sexual activity. Consent can be given by words or actions, as long as those words or actions create clear permission regarding willingness to engage in the sexual activity. Silence or lack of resistance, in and of itself, does not demonstrate consent. The definition of consent does not vary based upon a participants' sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

1. Consent is required regardless of whether the person initiating the act is under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol;
2. Consent to any sexual act or prior consensual sexual activity between or with any party does not necessarily constitute consent to any other sexual act;
3. Consent may be initially given but withdrawn at any time, and when consent is withdrawn or can no longer be given, sexual activity must stop;
4. Coercion, force, or threat of either invalidates consent. "Incapacitation" is the inability to knowingly choose to participate in sexual activity. Incapacitation may be caused by the use of drugs or alcohol, when a person is asleep or unconscious, or because of an intellectual or other disability that prevents the student from having the capacity to give consent.

Engaging in sexual contact with a person who is mentally or physically incapacitated (e.g., unconscious, asleep or intoxicated) may result in a charge of sexual assault. Thus, if you suspect that your companion may be suffering from impaired judgment or is otherwise incapable of providing knowledgeable and informed consent, you should not proceed with sexual contact. Further, your own mental incapacitation (e.g., intoxication) will not serve as a defense should you be charged with sexual assault.

New York State Sex Offender Registry

In accordance with the "Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act" of 2000, which means the Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act, the Jeanne Cleary Act and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, the Niagara University Campus Safety Office is providing a link to the New York State Sex Offender Registry. This act requires institutions of higher education to issue a statement advising the campus community where law enforcement information provided by a State concerning sex offenders may be obtained. It also requires sex offenders already required to register in a State to provide notice of each institution of higher education in that State at which the person is employed, carries a vocation, or is a student. In the State of New York, convicted sex offenders must register with the New York State Sex Offender Registry maintained by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services.

The New York State Sex Offenders Registry is available online at http://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/SomsSUBDirectory/search_index.jsp. The Niagara County Sheriff's Office Sex Offenders Search is available online at <http://www.icrimewatch.net/index.php?AgencyID=54113&disc> or by visiting Niagara University Campus Safety Department's website at www.niagara.edu/public-registry-of-sex-offenders/.

Registry information provided under this section shall be used for the purposes of screening of current or prospective employees, volunteers or otherwise for the protection of the public in general and children in particular. Unlawful use of the information for purposes of intimidating or harassing another is prohibited and willful violation shall be as a Class 1 misdemeanor.

Hate or Bias Crime

Bias or hate crimes are crimes motivated by the perpetrator's bias or attitude against an individual victim or group based on perceived or actual personal characteristics, such as race, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, or disability. Hate/bias crimes are addressed in the federal Hate/Bias Crime Reporting Act of 1990, the New York State Hate Crimes Act of 2000 and New York State Education Law Article 129-A.

Bias-related incidents are acts of hostility against a person or property of another because of the targeted person's race, color, national origin, ancestry, gender identity or expression, religion, religious practice, age, disability, or sexual orientation. According to New York Penal Law Section 485, a person commits a hate crime when he or she commits a specified criminal offense and either:

- Intentionally selects the person against whom the offense is committed or intended to be committed in whole or in substantial part because of a belief or perception regarding the race, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, gender identity or expression, religion, religious practice, age, disability or sexual orientation of a person, regardless of whether the belief or perception is correct, or
- Intentionally commits the act or acts constituting the offense in whole or in substantial part because of a belief or perception regarding the race, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, gender identity or expression, religion, religious practice, age, disability or sexual orientation of a person, regardless of whether the belief or perception is correct.

Penalties for bias-related crimes are very serious and range from fines to imprisonment for lengthy periods, depending on the nature of the underlying criminal offense, the use of violence or previous conviction of the offender. Students, staff or faculty who commit bias crimes are also subject to University disciplinary procedures where a range of sanctions is available both up to and including suspension, expulsion or termination of employment.

Hate crime laws are designed to send the message that hate and bias motivated crimes will not be tolerated, because they are often attempts to silence and instill fear into entire groups. Reporting hate-related incidents helps survivors take advantage of recovery services and enables our community to build up statistics and patterns of crime, providing an opportunity of catching offenders or preventing the violence altogether.

The key criterion in determining whether or not any crime or incident fits into the definition of a hate or bias-related crime is the motivation behind the incident. A hate or bias-related crime is one that is motivated, at least in part, because of someone's bias or hatred of a person's or group's perceived race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or other characteristic. Victims of hate and bias related crimes often have intense feelings of vulnerability, anger, depression, physical ailments, learning problems, and difficult interpersonal relations. Hate crimes also have a psychological and emotional impact that extends far beyond the victim. Attacks motivated on the basis of bias against a person's beliefs, values or identity undermine freedom of expression, association, and assembly and tear at the pluralistic fabric of our society.

Using slurs and epithets is a way of showing someone that you believe they are less than human and undeserving of respect. Hate crimes are a way to send a message to members of certain groups or individuals that they are unwelcome in a particular neighborhood, community, school or workplace.

Calling someone a name, refusing to rent them an apartment, verbal threats, vandalism, abusive phone calls and Internet hate mail are all examples of hate crimes. The most common form of bias motivated incidents on college campuses are demeaning jokes or harassing or threatening phone calls or e-mails. However, bias-related physical attacks and vandalism do also occur. You can make a difference by speaking out when jokes or comments are made that are hateful or demeaning and by asking yourself if you use derogatory, degrading or offensive terms describing others.

Niagara University is required to report the number of bias-related and hate crimes on or around campus annually. In order to effectively handle and investigate incidents and prevent future occurrences of such crimes, victims or witnesses of a bias-related or hate crime are encouraged to immediately report incidents to Campus Safety at (716) 286-8111 or to the Dean of Students at (716) 286-8405. Please remember that any evidence such as graffiti, e-mails, written notes or voice mail messages should be preserved. The Department of Campus Safety will investigate and follow all appropriate University adjudication procedures.

Anyone who is a victim of a bias-related crime is encouraged to seek counseling from a trained mental health professional. Counselors are available through Counseling Services to provide crisis intervention, in-office counseling, referral to other support services and self-help groups. For appointments with Counseling Services, call (716) 286-8536. Counseling Services can also refer victims to community based support groups and professional organizations. The University will assist any student, faculty or staff member wishing to contact outside agencies, including local police, regarding charges and complaints of a bias -related or hate crimes.

Fire Safety and Reporting

Fire Alarms

The New York state fire code requires that any building must be completely evacuated when a fire alarm sounds. Calls for assistance should be made immediately to Campus Safety and/or the Residence Life staff by any person who discovers or suspects a fire. Students should make sure that they are familiar with building exits and strictly follow all fire evacuation procedures.

Fire Evacuation Procedure

FIRST, activate the building fire alarm then call Campus Safety.

- Know the location of fire extinguishers, fire exits, and alarm systems in your area
- Evacuate all rooms, closing all doors to confine the fire and reduce oxygen. **DO NOT LOCK DOORS**
- When the building fire alarm is sounded, walk quickly to the nearest marked exit and alert others to do the same. If door is hot, do not open look for alternate exit

- Assist people with special needs to exit the building. **DO NOT USE ELEVATORS IN CASE OF FIRE.REMAIN CALM.** Residence life staff and/or Campus Safety may also assist with the evacuation of people with special needs. There could be times, special needs individuals could be led to the nearest stairway, away from the problem area
 - Once outside, move to a designated assembly area at least 500 feet away from the affected building(s). Keep streets, fire lanes, hydrants, and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and crews
 - Once outside, remain at the assembly area site until emergency personnel are able to account for all building occupants. Further directions will be provided while at the assembly area
 - Follow directions given by emergency personnel
 - An Incident Command Post (ICP) may be set up near the emergency site. Keep **“clear”** of the ICP unless you are requested to enter the area—
 - Do not return to evacuated building until the **“all-clear”** is given by emergency personnel
 - If you become **“trapped”** in a building during a fire and a window is available, place an article of clothing (shirt, coat, etc.) outside the window as a marker for emergency personnel. If possible, placed a soaked piece of clothing at the bottom of the door to prevent smoke from entering the room, if there is no window, stay close to the floor, where the air is less toxic. Shout at regular intervals to alert emergency personnel of your location.
- Building evacuations will occur when a fire alarm sounds and/or upon verbal/electronic directives given by Campus Safety or Emergency Coordinator
 - If you are a campus resident, be sure to familiarize yourself with the proper fire response procedures posted on the inside of your room door.
 - Building evacuation notices are posted in the main entrance of every building.
 - When the ability to evacuate the building is restricted, making your exit impossible, one should seek refuge in nearest enclosed stairwell furthest from the incident

Fire Drills

Fire drills are conducted with the frequency required by New York State fire code. All non-residential buildings conduct a minimum of (3) drills each year. All residential facilities conduct a minimum of four (4) fire drills during each academic year. Halls used for students during summer periods also conduct a total of four (4) drills each year.

Fire Prevention Policies

- The University provides fire safety education and training to the Residence Life staff. Information about fire safety and related policies is provided to residential students throughout the academic year.
- Tampering with fire alarms and fire-prevention, fire-detection and fire-fighting equipment is a violation of both the New York state fire and penal codes, and is considered a major student conduct violation that could result in sanctions including suspension or expulsion from the University.

- Candles, open flames, and incense are strictly prohibited in the residences, as well as excessively flammable furnishings and decorations.
- Electrical equipment such as air conditioners, portable heaters, heat lamps, halogen lamps, refrigerators larger than 4.5 cubic feet, and microwaves are prohibited in student rooms. Toasters are permitted in residential facilities for use in designated kitchenette areas only. Coffee pots with an automatic shut off are permitted in student rooms.
- Smoking is not allowed within any building or other enclosed facility on the Niagara University campus and is only allowed in temporary designated areas. Smoking is prohibited in all NU vehicles in any location, or any other vehicle within 50 feet of a building on campus.

Plans for fire safety improvements

- Conduct campus wide review of fire evacuation announcements to standardize messaging and enhance coverage.
- Create new procedure to replace smoke detectors which activate for unknown cause after first unknown activation.
- Conducted an emergency drill for high rise residence hall fire in coordination with local first responders.

ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY STATISTICS

Calendar Year	2022					2021					2020				
	Fire Number	Cause Of Fire	Injuries Requiring Treatment	Deaths Related to Fire	Value of Damaged Property	Fire Number	Cause Of Fire	Injuries requiring treatment	Deaths Related to Fire	Value of Damaged Property	Fire Number	Cause Of Fire	Injuries requiring treatment	Deaths Related to Fire	Value of Damaged Property
Lynch Hall	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
O'Donoghue Hall	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Clet Hall	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Varsity Village	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
O'Shea Hall	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Seton Hall	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Eagle Circle Apartments	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

All Residence Hall street addresses are 5795 Lewiston Road, Lewiston, NY

Fire Safety Equipment

Each residence hall is equipped with a comprehensive fire detection and notification system. Individual rooms have smoke and heat detectors linked to a unified, building alarm system. Additionally, fire extinguishers are located throughout each residence. The NU apartments are equipped with a sprinkler system.

Residential Facility	Fire Alarms Monitored By Campus Safety	Sprinkler System	Smoke Detection	Fire Extinguisher Devices	Evacuation Plan Placards	Number of Evacuation (Fire) Drills Each Calendar Year
Lynch Hall	X		X	X	X	4
O'Donoghue Hall	X		X	X	X	4
Clet Hall	X		X	X	X	4
Varsity Village	X		X	X	X	4
O'Shea Hall	X		X	X	X	4
Seton Hall	X		X	X	X	4
Eagle Circle Apartments	X	X	X	X	X	4

NIAGARA UNIVERSITY ANNUAL SECURITY REPORT 2023

Campus Incidents Report Offense	On Campus Total			Campus Residences			Non-Campus			Public Property		
	2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020
Murder/non-negligent manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible sex offense <i>Rape</i>	6	7	1	6	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible sex offense - <i>Fondling</i>	3	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-forcible sex offense - <i>Incest</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-forcible sex offense - <i>Statutory Rape</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

VAWA Crime Categories	On Campus Total			Campus Residences			Non-Campus			Public Property		
	2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020
Domestic Violence	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	7	2	1	5	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Arrests	On Campus Total			Campus Residences			Non-Campus			Public Property		
	2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020
Weapons Possession	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Related Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Disciplinary Referrals	On Campus Total			Campus Residences			Non-Campus			Public Property		
	2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020
Weapons Possession	3	2	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Related Violations	26	38	29	26	38	29	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations**	15	55	15	15	55	15	0	0	0	0	0	0

Campus: Property owned or controlled by the institution within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the institution and used in direct support of the educational purposes, e.g. academic buildings, parking areas, other non-residential property, including residences.

Campus Residences: Building owned or controlled by the institution and used as a student residential facility on campus.

Public Property: Property near or adjacent to a facility owned or controlled by the institution, e.g. sidewalks, streets, public parking.

Non-Campus Building or Property: Property owned or controlled by a student organization and those owned or controlled by the institution, other than a branch campus not within the same reasonably contiguous geographical area.

***Incident information for Offenses and VAWA Crime was updated for 2021.** In 2022 the Title IX office received reports of incidents which occurred in 20

Unfounded Crimes

There were no crimes reported which were determined to be unfounded during the years 2020, 2021, 2022.

Hate Crime Statistics

Hate/bias crimes are addressed in the federal Hate/Bias Crime Reporting Act of 1990, the New York State Hate Crimes Act of 2000, New York State Education Law Article 129-A and New York Penal Law Section 485.

There were no hate crimes reported during the 2020 calendar year.

There were no hate crimes reported during the 2021 calendar year.

There were no hate crimes reported during the 2022 calendar year.