Title IX / SHARE Procedures

Stanford has three different procedures for responding to sexual assault/violence/harassment. The Title IX office has a set of legal guidelines they use to decide which procedure applies to you depending on the circumstances of what occurred, so if you can’t tell which procedure your case falls under, don’t worry.

In general, Title IX cases must include Title IX Prohibited Conduct (see pg. 3 of the Title IX Procedure). Incidents must have occurred on campus or during a Stanford activity in the US. SHARE Investigation and Hearing procedures are used for cases that don’t fall under Title IX. SHARE procedures also apply to cases that occurred abroad or off-campus, during a non-Stanford activity, or before August 14, 2020.

What to Expect in the Title IX Process

Formal Complaint

A formal complaint is needed in order for the Title IX office to investigate and begin the process. Without a formal complaint, the university cannot impose disciplinary actions.

Investigation

The investigation lasts about a month, followed by an evidence review period. Afterwards, the Title IX Coordinator will decide if the case will go to a hearing.

Hearings are usually virtual. Unless both parties waive it, the hearing includes a live cross-examination. A non-Stanford neutral hearing officer will oversee the hearing.

Decision

After the hearing, the hearing officer will make a decision about responsibility and what actions the school will take. The possible outcomes vary depending on if the respondent is student, faculty, or staff.

Possible Outcomes:
- If found responsible:
  - contact restrictions
  - enrollment or campus restrictions
  - required time away
  - required educational discipline
  - community service
- If found not responsible:
  - can still face academic or housing-related consequences

Appeal

After the decision there is an option for an appeal process, which is decided by a non-Stanford private judge.

Prefer not to go through an investigation?

Intervention

A non-disciplinary alternative where the university helps you try to remedy the situation without the formal process. Contact the SHARE Title IX office for more information.

Withdraw Complaint

Complainants can withdraw from the process any time. However, the Title IX Coordinator may decide to continue anyways. If this happens, you don’t have to continue participating.

Informal Resolution

Parties can mutually opt into an informal resolution at any time after submitting a formal complaint. It’s flexible - not guided by a formal procedure or rules. You can decide you don’t want to do this at any time and go back to the formal process.

Title IX Estimated Timeline (takes 3 - 4 months)

- Formal Complaint: ~ 5 days
- Investigation and Evidence Review: ~ 2 months
- Pre-Hearing and Hearing: ~ 1 month
- Decision and Appeals: ~ 1 month

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