



Title IX COMPLAINT OVERVIEW AND TAKEAWAYS

OVERVIEW – LSU TITLE IX LAWSUIT

Louisiana State University athletics is being sued for allegedly failing to comply with basic Title IX rules. Women and LGBTQ+ identifying persons were allegedly told and forced not to report sex-based violations including rape, sexual assault, harassment, and stalking by LSU student-athletes and LSU employees. The lawsuit is pending in federal court in Louisiana.

MAIN TAKEAWAYS OF LSU TITLE IX LAWSUIT ALLEGATIONS AND THEIR APPLICABILITY FOR MAC INSTITUTIONS:

- Institutions should ensure they understand what constitutes a Title IX-related incident/complaint, communicate how a complaint can be submitted, as well as educate all student-athletes and staff on the basic process for submitting any complaints related to Title IX. All complaints should be taken with extreme seriousness by all staff.
 - In accordance with (34 C.F.R § 106.8), Title IX requires a recipient of federal funds to notify persons entitled to notification of its policy against discrimination based on sex and have in place a prompt and equitable grievance procedure providing for the resolution of sex discrimination complaints, including complaints of sexual harassment.
- Institutions should ensure that appropriate, consistent, and proper training surrounding Title IX is regularly scheduled and enforced.
- Institutions should follow ALL guidelines and rules put in place for Title IX violations. There is no special circumstance under which an institution or employee should create their own set of rules. These guidelines should be enforced by the designated Title IX officer. For questions or clarification on Title IX policies and procedures, contact your campus Title IX representative.



WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ENFORCING TITLE IX?

Institutions are responsible for complying with federal laws. The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) of the U.S. Department of Education enforces [Title IX](#). OCR has the authority to develop policy on the regulations it enforces. Regarding athletics programs, OCR developed an Intercollegiate Athletics Policy Interpretation that was issued December 11, 1979. The 1979 Policy Interpretation remains current policy. On April 2, 1990, OCR issued an athletics policy document called "Title IX Athletics Investigator's Manual" that has assisted athletics departments with enforcement and compliance issues with Title IX. Anyone may file an OCR complaint, and the identity of the party who files the complaint will be kept confidential.

WHO CAN I GO TO WITH TITLE IX QUESTIONS?

Compliance with Title IX is a shared responsibility of an entire institution, from top-level administration to individual staff members. Title IX mandates that institutions or other recipients of federal funds designate at least one employee as a Title IX coordinator to oversee compliance efforts. Institutions also are required to investigate any complaints of gender discrimination. In addition, all students and employees must be notified of the name, office address and telephone number of the designated Title IX coordinator. A student-athlete who has questions about Title IX specific to their institution may find the following individuals on their campus a good resource: (1) senior woman administrator; (2) director of athletics; (3) faculty athletics representative; (4) compliance coordinator; (5) legal counsel; or (6) Equal Employment Opportunities office.

DID YOU KNOW?

As of 9/30/2021, 197 cases of sexual violence mishandling have been resolved; 305 remain open.

[Tracker](#)

Resources:

[NCAA Title IX Resources](#)

[U.S. Department of Education Title IX Requirements](#)

[Title IX Sexual Assault Investigations Tracker](#)