



Support Measures Available to You Under the Current Title IX Rule

Title IX is a civil rights law that was adopted under the Education Amendments in 1972. It protects people from being discriminated against on the basis of sex in education programs and activities receiving federal assistance. Discrimination can be harassment, sexual assaults, and denial of educational resources. Title IX applies to not only educational attainment but also access to athletic activities. Schools have traditionally failed to offer the same level of athletic opportunities to girls and young women as for boys and young men. Additionally, some educational offerings were not available to females, and young women were discouraged from taking a course (think engineering or calculus) with the biased assumption that women did not have the talent to understand course content.

A widespread problem of male students verbally harassing and sexually assaulting females often drove young women to drop out of school, especially when school administrations failed to adequately address complaints. Title IX and related guidance instructed schools how to respond in a manner that strove to protect the complainant and keep both students in school. This law is therefore crucial in ensuring that schools adequately respond to sexual violence and harassment claims.

Responding to an organized effort by groups representing students and former students accused or found guilty of sexual assault, the Trump Administration took measures to weaken Title IX. Those changes made it close to impossible for complainants to attain protection. To learn more about what these changes were, the effects of this lack of comprehensive protection for survivors of harassment and discrimination, and what is being done, please take a look at our recent blog post [enter Michelle's blog link]. **While Title IX has been weakened, there are still measures in place to protect students, and it is important to know what these measures are.**

Check out this [FAQ Fact Sheet on Title IX and supportive measures for K-12 students](#) as well as this [FAQ Fact Sheet on these supportive measures for higher education students](#), which the National Women's Law Center (NWLC) and Know Your IX (KYIX) published.

The [FAQs](#) outline what supportive measures are available to students, how to request them with or without filing a formal complaint, how to advocate for yourself if your school refuses to help, special

considerations for underage students, and how school-based supportive measures relate to court orders, among other useful information.

One of NOW's six [core issues](#) is ending violence against women, and this includes ensuring that women receive the support they deserve after such a crime has been inflicted upon them. The U.S. Department of Education intends on announcing a new Title IX rule in May 2022, and we call on the Biden Administration to implement additional protective measures until these new measures come into effect. Survivors have a right to be protected and supported after these horrific acts, and we are doing what we can to ensure this happens. In the meantime, learn about what [supportive measures](#) you currently have access to!

Sources:

https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/tix_dis.html

<https://www.insidehighered.com/quicktakes/2021/06/24/proposed-title-ix-rule-changes-expected-may-2022>

Compiled by Isabelle Homberg in December 2021