

Title IX: Know Your Rights

Title IX is a federal law that protects students, parents, and school employees from sex-based discrimination in any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. Below is a summary of your rights under Title IX:

1. Protection from Discrimination:

- Schools cannot discriminate based on sex in academics, athletics, or extracurricular activities.
- Title IX protects against sexual harassment and sexual violence.

2. Right to Report:

- Students and parents have the right to report any Title IX violation, including harassment, discrimination, or retaliation.
- Schools must have a designated Title IX Coordinator to handle complaints.
- Complaints can be filed with the school or the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR).

3. Prompt and Fair Investigations:

- Schools must respond promptly and fairly to Title IX complaints.
- Investigations should be completed in a timely manner (typically 60-90 days).
- Schools cannot delay their process just because a law enforcement investigation is ongoing.

4. Supportive Measures:

- Schools must provide accommodations, such as schedule changes, counseling, or no-contact orders, to protect affected students.
- These measures should be available regardless of whether a formal complaint is filed.

5. Participation in Athletics:

- Title IX requires equal opportunities for boys and girls in sports, including scholarships and resources.
- Schools must ensure fair treatment in coaching, facilities, and funding.

6. Protection Against Retaliation:

- Schools cannot punish students, parents, or employees for filing a Title IX complaint.
- Retaliation, such as lower grades, exclusion from activities, or harassment, is illegal.

7. Pregnancy and Parenting Rights:

- Title IX protects pregnant and parenting students from discrimination.
- Schools must allow students to continue their education and provide reasonable accommodations.

How to Take Action:

- **Contact your school's Title IX Coordinator** for guidance.
- **File a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights** at www2.ed.gov/ocr
- **Know your school's policies and procedures** regarding Title IX protections.

For more information, visit: www.titleix.info or www.ed.gov/titleix