

Clery Report for 2021

Annual Security and Fire Safety Report

Contains statistics for 2021, 2020, and 2019

October 1, 2022



Contents

Message from President Wooten	6
Welcome from Simmons University Police and Public Safety	7
Preparation of the Annual Security Report and Disclosure of Crime Statistics	8
Simmons University Police and Public Safety	9
Mission Statement	9
Department Personnel	9
Law Enforcement and Arrest Authority	9
Police and Public Safety Dispatch Center	10
Campus Building Access	10
Residence Halls	10
Academic Buildings	10
Campus Security	11
Maintenance of Campus Facilities	11
Reporting Crimes and Emergencies	11
Campus Emergencies	11
Contacting Police and Public Safety	11
Voluntary Confidential Reporting	12
Pastoral and Professional Counselors	12
Emergency Phones	12
Off-Campus Emergency Assistance	13
Medical Emergency Response Services	13
Response to Reports of Crimes/Emergencies and Incident Reporting System	13
Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures	14
Emergency Notification System	14
Monthly Testing	15
Annual Testing	16
Timely Warnings	17
How Will Public Safety Keep Our Campus Informed and Safe?	18
Evacuation Procedures	18
Coordination with Others in the Longwood Medical Area	18
Monitoring Crimes at Non-Campus Locations	19
Crime Prevention and Security Awareness Education	19
Rape Aggression Defense (RAD)	19

Campus Safety Escort Program	19
Safety Planning	19
Security Surveys	20
Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, as Amended by the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA)	20
VAWA Definitions	20
Programs Available on Campus to Prevent Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking	23
Simmons University Violence Prevention and Educational Outreach Program	23
Betsy's Friends	23
The Title IX Core Team	23
Bystander Intervention Training	23
How to Be an Active Bystander	24
Risk Reduction	24
Education and Prevention Programs	25
Violence Prevention and Educational Outreach Program	28
Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking	31
Seeking Safety and Preserving Evidence	31
Seeking Immediate Safety	31
Preserve Evidence	31
Reporting Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking	32
Title IX and the Title IX Coordinators	32
Public Safety	33
Confidential Resource Persons	33
Procedures the University Will Follow When Receiving a Complaint of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking—starting August 14, 2020	34
Adjudication of Violations	34
Supportive and Protective Measures	34
Assistance for Victims: Rights and Options	35
Confidentiality	36
On- and Off-Campus Services for Victims	36
Victim Bill of Rights	39
Investigative Process—Starting August 14, 2020, Pursuant to the University's Sexual Harassment Policy	40
Sexual Harassment Policy and It's Processes	40
Student Life Policies	41

Student Internal Judicial Process	41
Alcoholic Beverages and Illegal Drug Policies	41
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs	42
Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act	42
Missing Student Policy	42
Responding to a Missing Student Report	43
Crime Definitions	44
Crime Definitions from the Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook	44
Sex Offenses	47
Sex Offenses—Non-Forcible	47
Procedures for Preparing the Annual Disclosure of Crime Statistics	48
Crime Statistics	49
Safety Tips	50
Safety in Your Off-Campus Home	50
Safety When Traveling on Foot	51
Safety in the Car	51
Safety on Public Transportation	52
Safety at the Office/Workplace	52
Important Phone Numbers and Resources	53
Annual Fire Safety Report and Residence Hall Fire Safety Policies 2021	54
Fire Reporting Policy	54
Procedures for Student Housing Evacuation	54
Fire Evacuation Preparedness	54
Fire Alarm and Evacuation Procedures for Students and Employees	54
Fire Safety Policy	55
Items Prohibited in Residence Halls	55
Furniture	55
Cooking	55
Smoking	56
Fireplaces	56
Exits, Corridors, Stairwells, and Fire Doors	56
Posting and Hanging of Items	56
Fire Extinguishers	56
Fire Safety Inspections	56

Fire Drills.....	56
Fire Safety Education and Training Programs	56
Improvement Plans for Future	57
Fire Log.....	57
Fire Safety Systems in Residence Halls (On Campus)	58
Fire Safety Systems in Residence Halls (Off Campus).....	59
Fire Statistics 2021.....	60
Fire Statistics 2020	61
Fire Statistics 2019.....	62

Message from President Wooten

Dear Students, Parents, Faculty, and Staff:

In 1990, the U.S. Congress enacted the Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act. Today, this law is more commonly referred to as the “Clery Act” in memory of Jeanne Clery, a university student who was slain in her dorm room in 1986.

The Clery Act requires schools, including Simmons, to give timely warnings of crimes that represent a threat to the safety of students or employees, and to share with the community our campus security policies and programs. It also requires Simmons to collect, report, and disseminate to you, and to the U.S. Department of Education, our campus crime data.

This Annual Security and Fire Safety Report is intended to provide employees, students, and their families with accurate, complete, and timely information about campus safety so you can make informed decisions; learn how to stay safe; and where and how to seek help when you need it.

I hope you will take a few moments to read it.

Lynn Perry Wooten

President, Simmons University

Welcome from Simmons University Police and Public Safety

Greetings to everyone who is new or returning to Simmons! I hope that you have had an enjoyable and restful vacation. We here at the Police and Public Safety department have been working hard in preparation for the upcoming school year.

In furthering our department's commitment to Simmons, our team has endeavored to foster understanding and rapport with the community we serve. Some endeavors involve new and innovative strategies designed to enhance our support of the Simmons community.

One innovation is our newest team member, Athena. Athena comes to us in the role of a Comfort/Therapy Dog. She is a very mild-mannered, fun-loving German Shepherd and she is a sucker for a good treat or a belly rub! Athena is quickly proving to be a very welcome addition to the campus and the department.

Another method is simply a friendly approach to your safety and security on campus, especially with all the new areas opening on our academic campus. We are determined to make sure that all these new spaces are safe and secure and to assist our students, faculty, and staff, ensuring they have what they need and can find their way. We have conducted security assessments in all the new spaces to make sure that our protocols are up-to-date and effective.

This Annual Security and Fire Safety Report is provided to you not only to be compliant with federal law, but more importantly to help you make informed decisions about your safety and security here at Simmons. For us to be successful in this effort, the support and assistance from everyone at Simmons is essential.

Please review this report carefully and know that your feedback will always be welcomed. My office is always open to members of the Simmons community, and I welcome all to stop by with any questions or concerns they may have.

Yours faithfully,

P. Lombardo

Paul Lombardo

Chief of Police and Director of Public Safety

Preparation of the Annual Security Report and Disclosure of Crime Statistics

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act requires each institution of higher education to prepare, publish, and distribute an annual security report containing crime statistics and specific policy and security information. The act has been amended many times to include information to help college students and their families make informed choices. In 2013, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) further amended the Clery reporting requirements to include domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking in the list of reported crimes.

The Simmons University Annual Security and Fire Safety Report provides statistics for the previous three years of select reported crimes that occurred on campus and in certain off-campus buildings or properties owned, leased, or controlled by Simmons University. This report also includes security policies, procedures, and information on basic rights guaranteed to victims of sexual assault.

Information and statistics are compiled from information maintained by Simmons University Police and Public Safety and provided by University officials from Student Life, Residence Life, Student Conduct, campus security authorities (CSA), and other law enforcement agencies.

To demonstrate Simmons University's commitment to safety and security, this report contains a variety of security resources, programs, and policies available to you as members of the campus community. Simmons distributes a notice of the availability of this Annual Safety and Fire Report by October 1 of each year. Anyone may obtain a paper copy of this report by contacting Police and Public Safety at 617-521-1112 or by visiting our website (simmons.edu/public-safety) to download a copy.

This publication is required by the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act. It has been produced under the direction of the Associate Vice President of Administration and through the efforts of Simmons University Police and Public Safety. This document is intended to inform the University community of Simmons' safety and prevention programs and security procedures.

Simmons University Police and Public Safety

Mission Statement

Simmons University Police and Public Safety works in partnership with the University community to provide a safe and secure environment in which students, faculty, and staff may learn, work, and live. We engage in joint problem-solving partnerships to identify issues of community concern and work collaboratively to continuously improve the safety and security of our campus.

Department Personnel

Your safety is of the foremost importance for everyone in the Police and Public Safety department as we strive to provide the ideal environment for learning, working, and living. Police and Public Safety has instituted numerous policies and procedures to enhance security. The Police and Public Safety organization is set up with a combination of sworn police officers and non-sworn public safety officers. Our officers are assigned to patrol the campuses by foot and vehicle, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. All members of Police and Public Safety are trained in First Aid, CPR, and AED use and are designated as first responders to all medical emergencies on campus.

There are two levels of patrol officers in Simmons Police and Public Safety:

- Police officers are sworn officers of the law; they carry firearms and maintain all certifications to handle police matters on campus, including legal training, domestic violence, sexual assault investigation, and first-responder certification. Police officers wear a traditional police uniform of dark blue shirt and pants.
- Public safety officers are trained in security concepts, such as crime prevention and security surveys, and as communications specialists who work as dispatchers. Public safety officers wear a dark blue shirt and navy pants.

Law Enforcement and Arrest Authority

All Simmons police officers (chief/director, captain/assistant director, lieutenants, sergeants, and police officers) are sworn officers under Massachusetts General Law Ch. 22c, sec. 63. All have attended a Commonwealth of Massachusetts state-certified police academy or its equivalent and have arrest authority on Simmons University property. Most officers are also Suffolk County Deputy Sheriffs, providing jurisdiction beyond the immediate boundaries of the University when needed, such as when traveling between the academic and residence campuses. (The City of Boston is within Suffolk County.) Public safety officers (unarmed) do not have arrest powers and provide security services only on Simmons University properties. Simmons public safety officers patrol Simmons property and have the authority to ask for identification and to determine whether individuals have lawful business at Simmons.

The Simmons police officers' scope of authority as special state police officers allows for "the power to make arrests and preserve the peace on property owned, used, or leased by Simmons University." These powers shall be invoked by the officer only while on duty and only within the geographical boundaries of the University, except when a delay in invoking such powers would likely result in death or serious bodily harm to themselves or others. Officers shall also recognize that their primary duty and responsibility is to the persons and property of the employing institution. Officers shall neither encroach nor infringe upon the responsibilities and functions of other law enforcement agencies. Officers are cautioned not to respond to other agencies' calls unless authorized to do so by the shift supervisor. Officers must complete annual in-service training

provided through the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to maintain first-responder medical certification and to remain current regarding the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Additionally, Simmons Police and Public Safety conducts regular training to supplement the training received at the state level.

The Simmons University public safety officer (PSO) is a non-sworn position, and PSOs do not have “the power to make arrests and preserve the peace on property owned by Simmons University.” The primary duty and responsibility of the public safety officer is to dispatch emergency services and routine calls for service coming into Simmons Police and Public Safety. PSOs also patrol the Simmons campuses, providing security services to the community. PSOs are required to read and understand all department policies and procedures and satisfactorily complete CPR, first aid, and any other required training.

Police and Public Safety Dispatch Center

The Police and Public Safety dispatch center is located at One Palace Road on the academic campus. The center is staffed around the clock, every day of the year, by public safety officers specially trained as dispatchers. Dispatchers take all calls for service received from the Police and Public Safety non-emergency line at 617-521-1112, as well as all emergency calls for service at 617-521-1111. Dispatchers also monitor life safety systems, including card access control, CCTV, alarms, fire detection and suppression systems, two-way radio systems, and radio transmissions of police, fire, and emergency medical services (EMS) in the area. Through a two-way radio system that connects all Simmons Police and Public Safety officers, the dispatcher can direct immediate responses to all breaches of security or suspicious activity on campus.

Campus Building Access

To enhance the physical security of the buildings on campus, the University maintains an electronic access control system which is monitored at dispatch. All buildings are equipped with electronic card readers which can be accessed with a Simmons University identification card. Requests for access after normal operating hours must be authorized by the Simmons staff or faculty members responsible for the space and approved by Simmons University Police and Public Safety.

Residence Halls

Residence halls are locked 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Resident students and other authorized personnel are provided access through their Simmons University identification card, which can be used at a card reader located at the front entrance of each residence hall. In addition to unlimited access to their own residence hall, resident students may access other residence halls from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily. Guests must be escorted into the residence hall by their host. Escort policies for guests vary during the school year according to schedules established by the Office of Residence Life. For further details on guest policies, please refer to the Student Handbook at simmons.edu/handbook.

Academic Buildings

Academic buildings are generally open to students, employees, and visitors from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except during holidays and other times when the University is closed. Saturday hours are 7:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., and the University is normally closed to the public on Sundays. Students have access to all academic buildings until 11:00 p.m. daily via their Simmons ID card. Employees have 24-hour access.

Campus Security

Uniformed police and public safety officers are on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week throughout the year. Officers are highly visible and patrol the interior and exterior of Simmons University property, including patrolling the interior and exterior of all academic, administrative, and residential facilities. Officers respond to emergencies, observe and report suspicious persons and/or activities, provide assistance, and maintain a visible presence on campus. Officers carry two-way radios and are in communication with the dispatcher at all times.

Safety equipment on campus includes fire extinguishers, automated external defibrillators (AEDs), panic buttons, door ajar alarms, motion detectors, emergency blue light telephones, and CCTV recording cameras in key areas on campus. Buildings and Grounds and Police and Public Safety test and maintain this equipment on a regular basis.

Any person on campus, including faculty, staff, and students, may be asked by Police and Public Safety to produce their current and valid Simmons University identification card at any time. After 9:00 p.m., Police and Public Safety locks the gates around the residence campus. After 9:00 p.m., all visitors must enter through the main door at the Simmons Hall Security Office. There is a police officer assigned to the residence campus at all times.

Maintenance of Campus Facilities

Facilities and landscaping are maintained in a manner that minimizes hazardous conditions. Police and Public Safety regularly patrols the campus and reports malfunctioning lights and other unsafe physical conditions to Buildings and Grounds for correction. All members of the University community can easily report equipment problems to Police and Public Safety or to Buildings and Grounds either through an easy-to-use online work order system or by calling Police and Public Safety at any time, day or night.

Reporting Crimes and Emergencies

Campus Emergencies

All members of the Simmons community and all visitors are encouraged to accurately and promptly report potential criminal activity, suspicious behavior, and any emergencies on campus to Police and Public Safety by calling 617-521-1111, extension 1111 from a campus phone, or 911. Crimes should be accurately and promptly reported to Simmons Police and Public Safety or the appropriate police agency, when the victim of a crime elects to, or is unable to, make such a report.

Emergency blue light telephones located outdoors throughout the campus are equipped with emergency buttons that call the Police and Public Safety emergency line when activated. Reports may be made in person at the dispatch center located at One Palace Road on the academic campus and can be made any time of the day or night. Students and employees should report criminal offenses to Simmons University Police and Public Safety for the purpose of assessing the crime for potential distribution of a timely warning notice and for the annual statistical disclosure of crimes.

Contacting Police and Public Safety

Police and Public Safety Contact Numbers		
Public Safety – Emergency Line	617-521-1111	1111 from a campus phone

Boston Police, Fire, and EMS	911	9-911 from a campus phone
Public Safety – Non-Emergency Line	617-521-1112	1112 from a campus phone
Public Safety – Anonymous Tip Line	617-521-3885	3885 from a campus phone
Public Safety – Emergency Button on Phone	617-521-1111	Automatically dials 1111

Voluntary Confidential Reporting

If you are the victim of a crime and do not want to pursue action within the University system or the criminal justice system, you may still want to consider making a confidential report. With your permission, a police officer can file a report on the details of the incident without revealing your identity (except to the Title IX Coordinator in the event of a reported sex offense or sexual harassment). The purpose of a confidential report is to comply with your wish to keep the matter confidential, while taking steps to enhance the future safety of yourself and others. With such information, the University can keep an accurate record of the number of incidents involving students, employees, and visitors; determine whether there is a pattern of crime with regard to a particular location, method, or assailant; and alert the campus community to potential danger in a timely manner. Reports filed in this manner are counted and disclosed in the annual crime statistics for the University.

Pastoral and Professional Counselors

As a result of the negotiated rulemaking process which followed the signing into law of the 1998 amendments to 20 U.S.C. Section 1092 (f), clarification was given to those considered to be campus security authorities. Campus “pastoral counselors” and campus “professional counselors,” when acting as such, are not considered to be a campus security authority and are not required to report crimes for inclusion in the annual disclosure of crime statistics. As a matter of policy, the professional counselors at Simmons University are encouraged, if and when they deem it appropriate, to inform persons being counseled of the procedures to report crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis to Simmons Police and Public Safety.

Pastoral counselor – A pastoral counselor is defined as an employee of an institution who is associated with a religious order or denomination, who is recognized by that religious order or denomination as someone who provides confidential counseling, and who is functioning within the scope of that recognition as a pastoral counselor.

Professional counselor – A professional counselor is defined as an employee of an institution whose official responsibilities include providing psychological counseling to members of the University’s community and who is functioning within the scope of their license or certification.

Emergency Phones

Exterior phones equipped with emergency buttons are located at the entrances of each residence hall, except Simmons Hall, where the Police and Public Safety security annex is located, and at various locations throughout the residence campus, academic campus, and parking garages. These phones are equipped with “emergency” buttons that automatically connect with the Police and Public Safety dispatcher. When activated, the phones display the location of the origin of the call to the dispatcher, who then dispatches a patrol unit to the scene. On the academic campus, these phones are located at all levels of the parking garage and at many entrances to the academic buildings.

Exact locations of emergency phones can be found online on the Police and Public Safety webpage (simmons.edu/public-safety/emergency-preparedness).

Off-Campus Emergency Assistance

When Simmons Police and Public Safety is notified or becomes aware of an off-campus emergency involving a Simmons student, faculty, or staff member, Police and Public Safety will notify the Boston Police Department (or appropriate department of jurisdiction) immediately and assist in coordinating the response. Simmons University does not have any officially recognized student organizations which have off-campus housing facilities, although from time to time, the University does house students in apartments in the neighborhood adjacent to the University. If this occurs, the University does report crime statistics for these locations. Students not physically housed on campus are advised to call 911 to report crimes prior to contacting Simmons Police and Public Safety.

For reporting purposes, the Simmons University campuses are located in Area B2 and D4 of the Boston Police Department. Simmons University Police and Public Safety has a strong relationship with and routinely interacts with area police stations in reporting crimes and exchanging information, transporting arrested individuals, conducting investigations, and scheduling police details for special events. Simmons University Police and Public Safety also works cooperatively with the Massachusetts State Police, the Boston Police Department, and with all Colleges of the Fenway public safety departments.

Medical Emergency Response Services

In a medical emergency, members of the Simmons community should dial 911 and then call the Simmons Police and Public Safety emergency telephone line at 617-521-1111. All Simmons police officers are trained first responders and will respond immediately.

For routine care, students should contact the Simmons University Health Center, located on the residence campus. The Health Center is open Monday through Friday during business hours. In the event that medical assistance of a non-emergency nature is needed after normal business hours, a medical professional from the Health Center can be reached 24 hours a day, seven days a week throughout the year by the Office of Residence Life or Police and Public Safety.

The Simmons University Counseling Center has professional counselors who offer support for students in an atmosphere of understanding and confidentiality. Services offered include assessments of mental health and referral to both on- and off-campus resources. There is a counselor on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week during the undergraduate academic year.

The Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC) is located in close proximity to the residence campus. The University maintains a close working relationship with this world-renowned medical center. Students requiring hospitalization or specialized treatment are generally referred to the BIDMC by the Simmons University Health Center.

Response to Reports of Crimes/Emergencies and Incident Reporting System

All Simmons University Police and Public Safety professionals are trained to observe and report incidents that occur on campus. When an emergency call is received by the dispatcher, a police officer is dispatched immediately to the location of the incident to render aid and assistance, take a report, and conduct a preliminary investigation, if necessary.

In response to a reported emergency, Simmons Police and Public Safety will respond and summon the appropriate resources to assist in the response to the incident. Simmons Police and Public Safety investigators will investigate a report when it is deemed appropriate.

Police and Public Safety reports are entered into a records management system (RMS) where they are stored and retrievable. An RMS allows officers to record an incident, conduct follow-up investigations, and compile statistical data from a centralized repository of incident data. Crime statistics and general information are available to the public during business hours. Information that must remain confidential is closely protected. Using an RMS allows Simmons Police and Public Safety to maintain all required statistical data on crimes occurring on campus or reported to Police and Public Safety.

Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures

The University's emergency management plan includes information about incident teams, University operating status parameters, incident priorities and performance expectations, shelter-in-place and evacuation guidelines, and local contingency and continuity planning requirements. Campus departments are responsible for developing contingency plans and continuity-of-operations plans for their staff and areas of responsibility.

Simmons University public safety officers and supervisors have received training in incident command and responding to critical incidents on campus. When a serious incident occurs that causes an immediate threat to the campus, the first responders to the scene are usually Simmons Police and Public Safety, the Boston Police Department, and the Boston Fire and Emergency Medical Services Departments, and they typically respond and work together to manage the incident. Depending on the nature of the incident, other Simmons departments and other local or federal agencies could also be involved in responding to the incident.

The Simmons University Emergency Management Council (EMC), in conjunction with Simmons University Police and Public Safety and the Colleges of the Fenway, has designed and posted emergency management flip charts in all of the academic and residential buildings on campus. The flip charts serve as a guide and directs students, faculty, staff, and visitors about what actions to undertake in the event of an emergency on campus.

Emergency Notification System

Simmons University has multiple systems for alerting our community to campus emergencies. The University contracts with Rave Alert for emergency notification services known as Simmons Alert. This allows authorized users to send an immediate notification to all or selected members of the Simmons community who have provided emergency notification contact information. Messages about immediate or potential threats to the health or safety of members of the community can be simultaneously sent to on-campus phones, cell phones (voice and text), home phones, emergency contact phones, and multiple email addresses. All members of the Simmons community are asked regularly to provide updated emergency contact information so that they can receive messages from the emergency notification system.

Simmons students, faculty, and staff can update their emergency notification information at any time in Workday (workday.simmons.edu).

In the event of an emergency, Simmons University will initiate and provide, without delay, immediate notifications to the appropriate segment(s) of the University community upon the confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students, employees, and/or visitors.

The Simmons Alert emergency notification system will be activated upon confirmation of an emergency situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of students, faculty, and staff on campus, or when there is an event that requires closing the campus or limiting access (e.g., severe weather). The emergency notification system will not be used to send messages about criminal activity in the area unless the crime presents an immediate threat to safety on campus. The confirmation of an emergency or dangerous situation and the decision to issue a Simmons Alert emergency notification system message is typically made by the Chief of Police/Director of Public Safety in consultation with the Simmons University Emergency Management Council. The Director may also confer with local first responders and/or the National Weather Service when confirming an emergency. All members of Simmons Police and Public Safety are trained in the emergency notification system so that they are able to develop and determine the content of the message and initiate the system. The Chief of Police/Director of Public Safety and Vice President for University Real Estate Development and Facilities Management make the decision to send a message if time permits. Depending on the type of emergency, Police and Public Safety and/or members of the EMC will confirm the emergency with the assistance of key administrators, local first responders, and/or the National Weather Service and will determine the appropriate segment(s) of the campus community to receive the notification. A decision on the content of the notification will then be made by the EMC chair and members, and the notification will be initiated.

Simmons University will, without delay, and taking into account the safety of the community, determine the content of the emergency message and initiate the emergency messaging system, unless issuing a message will, in the judgment of the Simmons University Police and Public Safety or other responsible authorities, compromise efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency situation. Simmons Police and Public Safety maintains a set of pre-recorded messages in the emergency notification system to support rapid communication in the event of an immediate threat to the campus community.

In addition to the emergency notification system, Simmons Police and Public Safety and the EMC may rely on other communication systems to provide information regarding an emergency situation, including:

- Simmons website (simmons.edu)
- Public address systems on both campuses
- Simmons email system
- Simmons Police and Public Safety vehicles
- Bullhorns maintained by Simmons Police and Public Safety
- Simmons main switchboard (617-521-2000)
- Media outlets, including local television and radio stations
- TV monitors in certain campus building lobbies
- Notices posted in central locations in all campus buildings
- Social media outlets

Monthly Testing

In 2017, the Simmons University Police Department implemented a simple and easy-to-use system to supplement the Simmons Alert System emergency notifications to the University community. The department installed five colored Alertus “push buttons” in the Dispatch Center. Lockdown (Yellow), Shelter in Place (Red), Severe Weather (White), All Clear (Green), and Test (Blue). To activate an emergency notification, the dispatcher simply pushes the corresponding button and the predetermined message, already created in the Simmons Alert RAVE system, is sent to the University community via email, text, voice, digital signage (TV

monitors), computer desktop, and the outdoor loudspeakers. The button system saves time, disseminating an emergency message quickly and accurately.

The Simmons Alert System is tested on a monthly basis. The test contains the following message, ***"This is a test of Simmons Alert. If this were an actual emergency, you would be given instructions on how to respond. This is only a test."*** The test message is activated by pressing the Blue Alertus Test Button in the Dispatch Center and is sent out via text, email, outdoor loudspeakers, digital signage, and computer desktops. Monthly testing may be cancelled and or rescheduled in the event the University is closed or an actual emergency is taking place.

System to Use	Primary Message Creator	Backup Message Creator	Authority for Approving and Sending Messages	Primary Message Sender/Distributor	Backup Message Sender/Distributor
Primary Simmons Alert (text, email, PA), Alertus Buttons	Chief of Police	Police Captain	Chief of Police, EMC Chair, AVP for Administration, Chief of Staff, Provost, AVP for Communications and Public Affairs	Chief of Police, Public Safety Staff	Technology Director, AVP for Communications and Public Affairs
Media	AVP for Communications and Public Affairs	Social Media Manager	AVP for Communications and Public Affairs	AVP for Communications and Public Affairs	Social Media Manager
Secondary Facebook, Twitter, Simmons Emergency Website	AVP for Communications and Public Affairs	Social Media Manager	AVP for Communications and Public Affairs, Social Media Manager	AVP for Communications and Public Affairs, Social Media Manager	Chief of Police

If any of the systems using technology fail, the campus will initiate face-to-face communication using Police and Public Safety personnel and other appropriate staff and students on campus. Some or all of the systems listed above will be used to communicate follow-up information to the Simmons University community.

Parents not on our Simmons Alert emergency notification system, neighbors, and other members of the larger community can access information during an emergency at Simmons via the website or local/national media. Other Colleges of the Fenway public safety chiefs are on the Simmons Alert (Rave) emergency notification system in order to advise their communities of emergencies at Simmons.

Annual Testing

The Emergency Management Council, in conjunction with Simmons Police and Public Safety, is responsible for testing the University's emergency response and evacuation procedures at least once per year by conducting an announced or unannounced exercise. The drills may be announced (such as some residence

hall fire safety drills) or unannounced (such as tests of the emergency notification system). Police and Public Safety is responsible for maintaining records of all exercises and drills. Each test is documented and includes a description of the exercise, the date and time of the exercise, and whether it was announced or unannounced.

The campus publicizes a summary of the emergency response and evacuation procedures via electronic communications at least once each year in conjunction with a test (exercise and drill) that meets all the requirements of the Higher Education Opportunity Act.

Timely Warnings

Simmons Police and Public Safety will issue Timely Warnings through the campus email system to keep the Simmons community informed about crimes within the Simmons University Clery geography (On Campus, Public Property, Residential, and Non-Campus Property) that represent a serious or ongoing threat to the community. These alerts will provide pertinent information related to the crime and suspect(s), will seek information that may lead to arrest and conviction of the offender(s), and will provide safety tips for the Simmons community. The Chief of Police/Director of Public Safety or a designee in Simmons Police and Public Safety develops the content of the Timely Warning; police officers and public safety officers have the training and authority to send the campus-wide email to the campus community.

Depending on the situation, the means employed to convey the information may include any or all of the following:

- Campus email to students, faculty, and staff
- The RAVE Alert system
- Written notices posted in the Residence Halls and on campus bulletin boards

Timely Warnings are usually distributed for the following Uniformed Crime Reporting Program (UCR)/National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) classifications: major incidents of arson, murder/non-negligent manslaughter, and robbery. Cases of aggravated assault and sex offenses are considered on a case-by-case basis, depending on the facts of the case and the information known by Police and Public Safety, as well as when and where the incident occurred, and when it was reported. For example, if an assault occurs between two students who have a disagreement, there may be no ongoing threat to other Simmons community members, and a Timely Warning would not be distributed. Cases involving sexual assault are often reported long after the incident occurred, thus there is no ability to distribute a "Timely" Warning to the community. The Chief of Police/Director of Public Safety or designee reviews all reports to determine if there is an ongoing threat to the community and if the distribution of a Timely Warning is warranted. A Timely Warning may also be posted for other crime classifications, as deemed necessary.

Additionally, personally identifiable information about the victim will be treated as confidential and only shared with persons with a specific need to know who are investigating/adjudicating the complaint or delivering resources or support services to the complainant (for example, publicly available recordkeeping for purposes of Clery Act reporting and disclosures will be made without inclusion of identifying information about the victim, as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1395 (a) (20). Further, the University will maintain as confidential any accommodations or protective measures provided to the victim to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the University to provide accommodations or protective measures. Safety Alerts will be distributed as soon as pertinent information is available, in a manner that withholds the names of victims as confidential, and with the goal of aiding in the prevention of similar occurrences.

How Will Public Safety Keep Our Campus Informed and Safe?

Open lines of communication are extremely important in maintaining security on campus. In this regard Police and Public Safety will work diligently in keeping everyone informed about important events both on and off campus. The different ways in which we will keep the community informed include but are not limited to:

1. The Annual Campus Security and Fire Safety Report
 - a. The Clery Act requires all colleges and universities that participate in federal financial aid programs to keep and disclose information about crime on and near their respective campuses.
 - b. In addition, this report contains information about policies that are in effect to protect our community.
2. Timely Warnings
 - a. The Clery Act also requires that institutions give timely warnings of crimes that represent a threat to the safety of students or employees.
 - b. The institution is only required to notify the community of crimes which are covered by the Clery statistics.
3. Email Information Announcements
 - a. Public Safety will send email information announcements to students and employees to advise them of pertinent information which may affect their daily activities.
4. The Daily Crime Log
 - a. Any institution, regardless of whether it is public or private, that has a campus police or security department, must create, maintain, and make available a daily crime log upon request.
5. Signage
 - a. Electronic signage posted to monitors located around campus.
 - b. Public safety officers will post signs and/or caution tape that can provide safety information to students and employees.
6. Personal Interactions
 - a. Public safety officers on duty can provide information to students and employees advising them of pertinent information.

Evacuation Procedures

The EMC has responsibility for addressing all emergency evacuation situations, including, but not limited to, severe weather conditions, power outages, public health threats, building/property damage from fire or flood, and other kinds of threats to the health and safety of our community. All members of the Simmons community are required to follow instructions and procedures communicated by Simmons University Police and Public Safety, and/or the EMC, and/or local police and fire personnel, in the event that an evacuation of a part or the whole of the campus is necessary. In general, Police and Public Safety will advise which building(s) to evacuate, which exits to use (usually the closest unless in danger), and where to assemble once evacuated. In an emergency, community members should move away from the affected area and assemble in an area free from first responders and their equipment. Department leaders and Residence Life staff should attempt to account for personnel as much as possible.

Coordination with Others in the Longwood Medical Area

Simmons University Police and Public Safety is a member of the Medical Academic and Scientific Community Organization, Inc. (MASCO) security consortium and shares a common radio frequency with the MASCO community (tested twice daily), which enables Simmons Police and Public Safety to be immediately advised of

any safety or security concerns in the Longwood Medical Area. This information is reviewed by Police and Public Safety and the EMC to determine the potential impact on the Simmons community and whether a community notification is necessary and what type.

Following a U.S. Department of Education Emergency Management in Higher Education (EMHE) grant completed in 2012, the Colleges of The Fenway (COF) adopted emergency management plans that are common to the COF, although individualized to the colleges. The COF and MASCO conduct joint training in preparing for man-made and natural disasters. This training consists of monthly meetings and yearly tabletop exercises, as well as participation in actual drills.

Monitoring Crimes at Non-Campus Locations

Simmons does not have any student organizations that own or control non-campus facilities.

Crime Prevention and Security Awareness Education

Members of Simmons University Police and Public Safety are committed to educating our community regarding safety and security in an effort to prevent crime in and near our campus. Simmons Police and Public Safety conducts crime prevention and security awareness programs throughout the year for the benefit of students, faculty, and staff. These security awareness programs are designed to inform students and employees about campus security procedures and practices, and to encourage students and employees to be responsible for their own security and the security of others. Upon request, members of Simmons Police and Public Safety are often guest speakers at residence halls and provide safety and security presentations to address any security-related concerns for groups across campus, such as Simmons Staff Council, Simmons Commuter Student Organization, graduate student groups, and any other University-affiliated groups. Simmons Police and Public Safety also participates in all new student orientation programs. Anyone interested in scheduling a program can call Police and Public Safety dispatch at 617-521-1112. The following are some of the Crime Prevention programs handled by Simmons Police and Public Safety.

Rape Aggression Defense (RAD)

RAD is a popular self-defense program that is offered through the Simmons Police and Public Safety. The RAD course is available free of charge to all students, faculty, and staff. RAD is easy to learn, easy to retain, and easy to employ during confrontational situations. These courses are offered at least once each semester.

The course consists of approximately 12 hours of awareness, prevention, risk reduction strategies, and physical self-defense, all of which culminate in a final session where students participate in a realistic simulation exercise and can practice what they learned. To learn more about RAD, please email Simmons Police and Public Safety at commpol@simmons.edu and a Police and Public Safety representative will contact you.

Campus Safety Escort Program

Community members may request a walking safety escort at any time of the day or night from any location on campus to another location on campus. Safety escorts are available 24/7.

Safety Planning

Police officers who are trained in the prevention of crime are available to work with members of the community who feel that their personal safety could be in jeopardy for a variety of reasons. Safety planning is used to increase the probability of safety both on and off campus through proper planning and avoidance techniques. Safety Planning is offered upon request throughout the year.

Security Surveys

Security surveys are conducted by trained members of Police and Public Safety to identify areas of the campus that may present vulnerabilities to the safety and security of the community. A member of our staff is tasked with evaluating our campus on a continuous basis.

Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, as Amended by the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA)

Simmons University prohibits the offenses of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking (as defined by the Clery Act) and reaffirms its commitment to maintaining a campus environment that emphasizes the dignity and worth of all members of the University community. Toward that end, Simmons University issues this statement of policy to inform the campus community of our programs to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, as well as the procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, which will be followed regardless of whether the incident occurs on or off campus when it is reported to a University official.

VAWA Definitions

Consent – In Massachusetts, it is illegal to have sex with someone who is incapable of giving consent. A person cannot give consent if they are intoxicated; if they are unconscious; are mentally incompetent; or are under the legal age of consent. Someone who is drunk, high, unconscious, or mentally incompetent may not be able to give consent to a sexual act. Submission is not necessarily consent. Force or a threat of force negates consent.

Simmons' Sexual Harassment Policy is based upon effective consent. Consent to engage in sexual activity must be given knowingly, voluntarily, and affirmatively. Consent must exist from the beginning to end of each instance of sexual activity and for each form of sexual contact. Past sexual activity does not constitute consent for future acts. For more on consent, refer to the University's Sexual Harassment Policy (simmons.edu/sites/default/files/2021-08/Simmons-University-Sexual-Harassment-Policy.pdf).

Domestic Violence – Domestic Violence is defined as felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse of the victim; by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common; by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner; by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred; or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts specifically defines Domestic Violence as:

"Abuse," the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between family or household members:

- (a) attempting to cause or causing physical harm;
- (b) placing another in fear of imminent serious physical harm;
- (c) causing another to engage involuntarily in sexual relations by force, threat, or duress.

"Court," the superior, probate and family, district, or Boston municipal court departments of the trial court, except when the petitioner is in a dating relationship when Court shall mean district, probate, or Boston municipal courts.

"Family or Household Members," persons who:

- (a) are or were married to one another;
- (b) are or were residing together in the same household;
- (c) are or were related by blood or marriage;
- (d) having a child in common regardless of whether they have ever married or lived together; or
- (e) are or have been in a substantive dating or engagement relationship, which shall be adjudged by district, probate, or Boston municipal courts' consideration of the following factors:
 - (1) the length of time of the relationship;
 - (2) the type of relationship;
 - (3) the frequency of interaction between the parties; and
 - (4) if the relationship has been terminated by either person, the length of time elapsed since the termination of the relationship.

Dating Violence – Dating Violence is defined as Violence committed by:

- (a) a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and
- (b) where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:
 - (i) the length of the relationship;
 - (ii) the type of the relationship;
 - (iii) the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts does not have a specific Dating Violence statute, but see the definition of "Family or household members" above.

Stalking – Stalking is defined as:

- (1) engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her safety or the safety of others or suffer substantial emotional distress.
- (2) For the purposes of this definition:
 - (i) "Course of conduct" means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about, a person, or interferes with a person's property.
 - (ii) "Substantial emotional distress" means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

(iii) "Reasonable person" means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts specifically defines Stalking as:

Whoever:

(1) willfully and maliciously engages in a knowing pattern of conduct or series of acts over a period of time directed at a specific person which seriously alarms or annoys that person and would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress; and

(2) makes a threat with the intent to place the person in imminent fear of death or bodily injury, shall be guilty of the crime of Stalking.

Sexual Assault – Sexual Assault is defined as an offense that meets the definition of rape, fondling, incest, or statutory rape as used in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting system. A sex offense is any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

Rape – Rape is defined as the penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts defines Rape as:

Whoever has sexual intercourse or unnatural sexual intercourse with a person, and compels such person to submit by force and against his will, or compels such person to submit by threat of bodily injury and if either such sexual intercourse or unnatural sexual intercourse results in or is committed with acts resulting in serious bodily injury, or is committed by a joint enterprise, or is committed during the commission or attempted commission of an offense defined in section fifteen A, fifteen B, seventeen, nineteen, or twenty-six of this chapter, section fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, or eighteen of chapter two hundred and sixty-six or section ten of chapter two hundred and sixty-nine shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for life or for any term of years.

No person serving a sentence for a second or subsequent such offense shall be eligible for furlough, temporary release, or education, training, or employment programs established outside a correctional facility until such person shall have served two-thirds of such minimum sentence or if such person has two or more sentences to be served otherwise than concurrently, two-thirds of the aggregate of the minimum terms of such several sentences.

Whoever has sexual intercourse or unnatural sexual intercourse with a person and compels such person to submit by force and against his will, or compels such person to submit by threat of bodily injury, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than twenty years; and whoever commits a second or subsequent such offense shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for life or for any term or years.

Fondling – Fondling is defined as the touching of the private parts of another person for the purposes of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.

Incest – Incest is defined as non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

Statutory Rape – Statutory Rape is defined as non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

Programs Available on Campus to Prevent Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking

Simmons University Violence Prevention and Educational Outreach Program

The Simmons University Violence Prevention and Educational Outreach program (VPEO) works to educate and spread awareness around forms of gender-based violence (sexual harassment, sexual assault, intimate partner violence, stalking, etc.), to prevent the occurrence of violence on our campus or impacting our community, to familiarize community members with Simmons policy and protocol, to address and respond to these issues if they arise, and to support and advocate for student survivors (victims) of violence. VPEO programs, advocacy, and survivor support services are available to all students* regardless of undergraduate or graduate degree status, age, sexuality, or gender identity who have been impacted by gender-based discrimination or violence on or off campus.

**Faculty and staff who need support around gender-based violence should contact the University's Assistant General Counsel, Title IX Coordinator Sara Simberg for support or resources. She can be reached at 617-521-3289 and sara.simberg@simmons.edu.*

Betsy's Friends

The Betsy's Friends Peer Education program is comprised of a passionate and diverse group of students who use peer education as a way to end gender-based violence in the Simmons community. This program focuses on prevention, education, and awareness around important topics such as domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, coercion, stalking, and bystander intervention. They also facilitate programming around healthy, safe, and respectful relationships and consensual sex. This program is advised by the Simmons University Violence Prevention and Educational Outreach program (VPEO). For more information, please contact VPEO at 617-521-3044.

The Title IX Core Team

The Title IX Core Team is comprised of members from the Office of Student Life, Police and Public Safety, and the Office of the General Counsel. The goals of the committee are to ensure that accurate and consistent information and resource options are shared with sexual assault survivors, to establish and review protocols for responding to sexual assault, to communicate and coordinate services while respecting the survivor's confidentiality, to compile resources to share with survivors of sexual assault, to make recommendations and assist in coordination of program development and prevention efforts, and to ensure accurate reporting and recordkeeping of sexual assault.

Bystander Intervention Training

Bystander intervention offers safe and positive options that may be carried out by an individual or individuals to prevent harm or intervene when there is a risk of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Bystander intervention includes recognizing situations of potential harm, understanding cultural conditions that facilitate violence, overcoming barriers to intervening, identifying safe and effective intervention options, and taking action to intervene. Such action should be prudent and with regard for one's own safety. Contact law enforcement and seek assistance from faculty, staff, or other persons in authority to end the abuse.

How to Be an Active Bystander

Bystanders play a critical role in the prevention of sexual and relationship violence. They are “individuals who observe violence or witness the conditions that perpetuate violence. They are not directly involved but have the choice to intervene, speak up, or do something about it.”¹ We want to promote a culture of community accountability where bystanders are actively engaged in the prevention of violence without causing further harm. We may not always know what to do, even if we want to help. Below is a list² of some ways to be an active bystander. If you or someone else is in immediate danger, dial 911. This could be when a person is yelling at or being physically abusive toward another and it is not safe for you to interrupt.

1. Watch out for your friends and fellow students/employees. If you see someone who looks like they could be in trouble or need help, ask if they are okay.
2. Confront people who seclude, hit on, try to make out with, or have sex with people who are incapacitated.
3. Speak up when someone discusses plans to take sexual advantage of another person.
4. Believe someone who discloses sexual assault, abusive behavior, or experience with stalking.
5. Refer people to on- or off-campus resources listed in this document for support in health, counseling, or with legal assistance.

Risk Reduction

With no intent to victim blame and recognizing that only abusers are responsible for their abuse, the following are some strategies to reduce one’s risk of sexual assault or harassment (taken from the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, rainn.org).

1. Be aware of your surroundings. Knowing where you are and who is around you may help you to find a way to get out of a bad situation.
2. Try to avoid isolated areas. It is more difficult to get help if no one is around.
3. Walk with purpose. Even if you don’t know where you are going, act like you do.
4. Trust your instincts. If a situation or location feels unsafe or uncomfortable, it probably isn’t the best place to be.
5. Try not to load yourself down with packages or bags, as this can make you appear more vulnerable.
6. Make sure your cell phone is with you and charged and that you have cab money.
7. Don’t allow yourself to be isolated with someone you don’t trust or someone you don’t know.
8. Avoid putting headphones in both ears so that you can be more aware of your surroundings, especially if you are walking alone.
9. When you go to a social gathering, go with a group of friends. Arrive together, check in with each other throughout the evening, and leave together. Knowing where you are and who is around you may help you to find a way out of a bad situation.
10. Trust your instincts. If you feel unsafe in any situation, go with your gut. If you see something suspicious, contact law enforcement immediately (local authorities can be reached by calling 911 in most areas of the U.S.).
11. Don’t leave your drink unattended while talking, dancing, using the restroom, or making a phone call. If you’ve left your drink alone, just get a new one.

¹ Burn, S.M. (2009). A situational model of sexual assault prevention through bystander intervention. *Sex Roles*, 60, 779-792.

² Bystander intervention strategies adapted from Stanford College’s Office of Sexual Assault & Relationship Abuse.

12. Don't accept drinks from people you don't know or trust. If you choose to accept a drink, go with the person to the bar to order it, watch it being poured, and carry it yourself. At parties, don't drink from the punch bowls or other large, common open containers.
13. Watch out for your friends and vice versa. If a friend seems out of it, is way too intoxicated for the amount of alcohol they've had, or is acting out of character, get them to a safe place immediately.
14. If you suspect you or a friend has been drugged, contact law enforcement immediately (local authorities can be reached by calling 911 in most areas of the U.S.). Be explicit with doctors so they can give you the correct tests (you will need a urine test and possibly others).
15. If you need to get out of an uncomfortable or scary situation, here are some things that you can try:
 - a. Remember that being in this situation is not your fault. You did not do anything wrong; it is the person who is making you uncomfortable that is to blame.
 - b. Be true to yourself. Don't feel obligated to do anything you don't want to do. "I don't want to," is always a good enough reason. Do what feels right to you and what you are comfortable with.
 - c. Have a code word with your friends or family so that if you don't feel comfortable, you can call them and communicate your discomfort, without the person you are with knowing. Your friends or family can then come to get you or make up an excuse for you to leave.
 - d. Lie. If you don't want to hurt the person's feelings it is better to lie and make up a reason to leave than to stay and be uncomfortable, scared, or worse. Some excuses you could use are: needing to take care of a friend or family member, not feeling well, having somewhere else that you need to be, etc.
16. Try to think of an escape route. How would you try to get out of the room? Where are the doors? Windows? Are there people around who might be able to help you? Is there an emergency phone nearby?
17. If you and/or the other person have been drinking, you can say that you would rather wait until you both have your full judgment before doing anything you may regret later.

For more information about bystander intervention or to get involved with campus-based bystander intervention initiatives, contact Violence Prevention and Educational Outreach (VPEO) at 617-521-3044.

Education and Prevention Programs

For the 2021 academic year, the University provided a variety of educational programs for students and employees regarding domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This educational programming consists of primary prevention and awareness programs for all incoming students and new employees, and ongoing awareness and prevention campaigns for students and employees that:

1. identifies domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking as prohibited conduct.
2. defines the behaviors that constitute domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking based on definitions provided by the Department of Education and as defined by state law as well.
3. defines the behaviors and actions that constitute consent to sexual activity in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and/or based on the definition of consent found in the Simmons University Sexual Harassment Policy, if state law does not define consent. It is illegal in Massachusetts to engage in sexual relations with someone who is under the age of 16 or who is incapable of giving consent. A person cannot give consent if they are intoxicated; if they are unconscious; are mentally incompetent; or are under the legal age of consent. Someone who is drunk, high, unconscious, or mentally

incompetent may not be able to give consent to a sexual act. Submission is not necessarily consent. Force or a threat of force negates consent. Simmons' Sexual Harassment Policy is based upon effective consent. Consent to engage in sexual activity must be given knowingly, voluntarily, and affirmatively. Consent must exist from the beginning to end of each instance of sexual activity and for each form of sexual contact. Past sexual activity does not constitute consent for future acts. For more on consent, refer to the University's Sexual Harassment Policy (simmons.edu/sites/default/files/2021-08/Simmons-University-Sexual-Harassment-Policy.pdf).

4. provides strategies for safe and positive options for bystander intervention.
5. provides information on risk reduction. Risk reduction means options designed to decrease sexual assault, relationship violence, and bystander inaction; and to increase empowerment for victims.
6. promotes safety and to help individuals and communities address conditions that facilitate violence.
7. provides an overview of the information contained in the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report in compliance with the Clery Act.
8. provides information regarding:
 - a. procedures victims should follow if a crime of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking occurs (as referenced in the "Procedures Victims Should Follow if a Crime of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking Occurs" section of this document).
 - b. how the institution will protect the confidentiality of victims and other necessary parties (as referenced in the "Assistance for Victims: Rights and Options" section of this document).
 - c. existing counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid, and other services available for victims, both within the institution and in the community (as referenced in the "Assistance for Victims: Rights and Options" section of this document).
 - d. options for, available assistance in, and how to request changes to academic, living, transportation, and working situations or protective measures (as referenced in the "Assistance for Victims: Rights and Options" section of this document).
 - e. procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking (as referenced in the "Adjudication of Violations" section of this document).
9. considers environmental risk and protective factors as they occur on the individual, relationship, collegial, community, and societal levels.

Programs to prevent domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking include both primary prevention and awareness programs directed at incoming students and new employees, and ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns directed at students and employees.

The University continues to develop an annual educational campaign³ consisting of presentations and distribution of educational materials to all new students, presentations and distribution of materials to all new employees during new employee orientation, and ongoing presentation of materials and educational sessions to employees and students through the academic year.

³ Under the 2013 Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, colleges must implement "primary prevention and awareness programs for all incoming students and new employees" AND "ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns for students and employees" that include certain specified information. While "campaign" is yet to be defined, examples of "primary prevention programs" as they relate to incoming students may be found here: justice.gov/sites/default/files/ovw/legacy/2008/01/11/campus-minimum-standards-orientation.pdf.

Violence Prevention and Educational Outreach Program

Prevention and Education Initiatives for January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021:

Name of Program	Date Held	Location Held	Description
Spring Student Orientation <i>(facilitated by Student Affairs)</i>	January 28, 2021	Online	Title IX and the Sexual Harassment Policy; resources on and off campus; sexual harassment prevention
RA and Orientation Leader Training <i>(facilitated by Residence Life)</i>	August 16, 2021	C-222	Title IX and the Sexual Harassment Policy; resources on and off campus; sexual harassment prevention
Training for Simmons Advising Team <i>(facilitated by Advising)</i>	August 26, 2021	Online	Title IX and the Sexual Harassment Policy; resources on and off campus; sexual harassment prevention
Fall Orientation for First Years	August 28, 2021	Online	Title IX and the Sexual Harassment Policy; resources on and off campus; sexual harassment prevention
Training for student <i>(who didn't feel comfortable taking the Everfi Sexual Harassment Prevention Online Module Training)</i>	October 4, 2021	Online	Title IX and the Sexual Harassment Policy; resources on and off campus; sexual harassment prevention
Training for student <i>(who didn't feel comfortable taking the Everfi Sexual Harassment Prevention online module training)</i>	October 7, 2021	Online	Title IX and the Sexual Harassment Policy; resources on and off campus; sexual harassment prevention
Training for student <i>(who didn't feel comfortable taking the Everfi Sexual Harassment Prevention online module training)</i>	November 3, 2021	Online	Title IX and the Sexual Harassment Policy; resources on and off campus; sexual harassment prevention
Training for the Title IX Team	November 6, 2021	Online	Training on what is required by the law, including the MA Campus Sexual Violence Act, including, but not limited to: Title IX; the Sexual Harassment Policy; resources on and off campus; sexual harassment prevention
Training for DPT Students	November 8, 2021	Online	Title IX and the Sexual Harassment Policy; resources on and off campus; sexual harassment prevention

The University offered the following programs from the Center for Excellence in Teaching (CET) in 2021:

Name of Program	Date Held	Location Held	Description
Pivotal Pedagogy: Prevent Pandemic Burnout (in Ourselves, in Our Students) with a Focus on Purpose and Connection	January 27, 2021	Zoom	The demands of teaching and learning against the backdrop of a pandemic create a situation rife with the potential for burnout. In this session, we will model and discuss teaching strategies that can be applied to motivate students by (re)surfacing their core values and sense of purpose and by building community to reduce feelings of social isolation in those first critical weeks of the class. Moreover, we'll consider ways our own burnout may affect our teaching and identify ways to recognize and cope to improve our well-being and motivation and to model humanity for our students.
Pivotal Pedagogy: Detecting Hidden Signals from Students in Need of Support	February 18, 2021	Zoom	How can faculty notice worrying behaviors and encourage online students to seek support in this challenging time? Join staff in the Center for Student Success to discuss how faculty can observe and act on behaviors signaling that a student would benefit from additional support and how their offices support students facing challenges. Bring your questions and ideas to share and discuss with colleagues about ways faculty can work with CSS offices and help bridge student support services in the classroom and beyond.
Pivotal Pedagogy: Cultivate Belonging to Build Inclusive and Equitable Class Climates	February 24, 2021	Zoom	Students who feel that they belong in their academic community feel empowered to take ownership of their learning, engage more fully in the classroom, and report higher motivation to achieve. In this interactive session, we will share psychological research on students' sense of belonging and model classroom strategies and activities that are intentional in fostering students' voice and role in our classrooms.

			Moreover, we'll exchange ideas with colleagues and be inspired to intentionally create a community where everyone belongs and where everyone's contribution is celebrated and elevated.
Keynote – Connected Teaching: How a Relational Approach Fuels Learning and Builds Faculty Resilience	April 6, 2021	Zoom	What does it mean to be a relational teacher in the current moment? How do we connect with students and energize the learning space? How do we balance care for our students and ourselves with commitment to the essential teaching of our disciplines? Through the lens of Relational Cultural Theory, a human development theory centered on growth-in-relation, we will explore connected teaching stances and strategies. In addition, we will discuss the emotional demands of teaching and consider approaches that help us respond to our students' humanity while also honoring our own.
Pivotal Pedagogy: Support Student Well-Being and Attention with Contemplative Practices	April 28, 2021	Zoom	Classroom introspective and contemplative practices focus attention, reduce anxiety, and deepen understanding of course concepts. In this session, we will share evidence for the benefits of mindfulness practice, consider best practices and limitations, and highlight applications of contemplative pedagogy in practice.
Your Questions Answered on Accommodations, Access, and the ADA	November 21, 2021	Zoom	In partnership with the Office of Accessibility Services and the General Counsel's Office, this session will include a review of the OAS registration, documentation submission, and request for accommodations processes as well as an overview of accommodations such as extended time on assessments, adjustments to assignment deadlines, adjustments to course attendance, and note provision. In addition, the benefit of universally accessible course materials will be highlighted.

Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking

Simmons University is committed to maintaining a safe environment for members of its community. Simmons University prohibits rape, any form of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or any other violence. Simmons University Police and Public Safety has sexual assault investigators who can be of assistance, including contacting the local police authorities, if desired. Police and Public Safety can also assist in identifying University support services for victims of crimes. Students who are victims of sexual assault will be offered immediate medical treatment and counseling support at either the on-campus Health Center or off campus at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC).

Simmons University Police and Public Safety can provide transportation to the Health Center or to the BIDMC whether or not an incident report is filed with the police. It is up to the victim to decide if such a report should be filed or not. A medical escort can be requested without divulging that an assault or rape has occurred.

When a rape or sexual assault is reported, there is no requirement that the victim files criminal charges or testifies in court. However, it is important to preserve any physical evidence as proof of an assault, should the victim decide to press charges at a later date. Students are also encouraged to report incidents of sexual assault to Simmons Police and Public Safety at 617-521-1111 or the Title IX Coordinator, Sara Simberg at 617-521-3289, in order to receive coordinated services from the University and/or the surrounding community. Victim witness assistance is available from Simmons Police and Public Safety for help in obtaining restraining orders or other legal proceedings in collaboration with local police authorities.

Services of Simmons University Police and Public Safety, the Health Center, and the Counseling Center are confidential to the extent permitted by law and Simmons' obligations to protect the safety and well-being of members of its community. With a student's consent, a representative from Student Life may be notified to offer a coordinated response. Information is only shared on a "need-to-know" basis, generally only after receiving student permission.

Pursuant to the Campus Sex Crime Prevention Act, Simmons University Police and Public Safety will maintain records provided by the Massachusetts Sex Offender Registry Board of registered sex offenders who have indicated that they are employed or enrolled at Simmons University. Any member of the community who wishes to review such information should contact Simmons University Police and Public Safety during normal business hours. For further information concerning the crimes for which convicted offenders must register, or regarding additional access to records of registered sex offenders, contact the Massachusetts Sex Offender Registry Board at 978-740-6400 or visit mass.gov/eopss/agencies/sorb.

Seeking Safety and Preserving Evidence

Seeking Immediate Safety

Any person who is the victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking should seek safety immediately. On campus, individuals needing immediate assistance should call Simmons University Police and Public Safety at 617-521-1111 for assistance. Individuals not on Simmons' campus that require immediate assistance should call 911 to contact the local police department.

Preserve Evidence

After an incident of dating violence, domestic violence, and/or sexual assault, the victim should consider seeking medical attention as soon as possible at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. In Massachusetts, evidence may be collected even if the victim chooses not to make a report to law enforcement and will be

held for at least six months while the victim decides whether or not to file a complaint with police. It is important that a victim of sexual assault not bathe, douche, smoke, change clothing, or clean the bed/linen/area where they were assaulted if the offense occurred within the past 72 hours, so that evidence may be preserved that may assist in proving that the alleged criminal offense occurred, is occurring, or may be helpful in obtaining a protection order. In circumstances of sexual assault, if victims do not opt for forensic evidence collection, healthcare providers can still treat injuries and take steps to address concerns of pregnancy and/or sexually transmitted disease. Victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking are encouraged to also preserve evidence by saving text messages, instant messages, social networking pages, and other communications, and by keeping pictures, logs, or other copies of documents, if they have any, that would be useful to the University's administrative investigators or police.

Reporting Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking

At Simmons University, we recognize the inherent dignity and worth of each member of our community which includes the right to live, learn, and work in an environment free from sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

Title IX and the Title IX Coordinators

The Title IX Coordinator and Deputy Title IX Coordinators, working with other members of the Title IX Team, will ensure a timely, effective, impartial, and consistent response to all reports of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking. The Title IX Team consists of trained individuals from the General Counsel's Office, Student Affairs, Human Resources, and the Provost Office. Sometimes the Title IX Team may ask trained individuals who are not employees of Simmons to participate in Simmons' Title IX processes.

If you have been the victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, you are encouraged to report the incident promptly to the University's Title IX Coordinator. You may submit a report by calling, writing, or coming into the office to report in person.

Title IX Coordinator

Sara Simberg
Assistant General Counsel
300 The Fenway, Main College Building, Suite A-230
Boston, MA 02115
617-521-3289
sara.simberg@simmons.edu

Deputy Title IX Coordinators

Rae-Anne Butera
Dean of Student Experience
300 The Fenway
Boston, MA 02115
617-521-2117
rae-anne.butera@simmons.edu

David Hollinden
Assistant Vice President, Employee Relations, Compensation, and Benefits
300 The Fenway, Main College Building, Suite A-230

Boston, MA 02115

617-521-3812

jdavid@hollinden@simmons.edu

Public Safety

The University encourages all members of its community to report violations to law enforcement in the jurisdiction where the crime occurred. If the incident occurred on the University's campus, you can report the incident to Simmons University's Department of Public Safety and/or to the Boston Police Department's Sexual Assault Division at 617-343-4400. Reports of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking made to the University's Department of Public Safety will automatically be referred to the Title IX Coordinator for investigation regardless of if the complainant chooses to pursue criminal charges.

In the event the incident occurred out of the Boston area and/or off-campus, you can report the incident to the local law enforcement in the jurisdiction where the offense occurred.

It is a victim's choice whether or not to make such a report to the University's Public Safety or local law enforcement, and victims have the right to decline involvement by the police. If you would like assistance in contacting the Boston Police or your local law enforcement, call Simmons Police and Public Safety at 617-521-1111 and the police officers on duty will assist you.

Confidential Resource Persons

Any University student or employee who has experienced a sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, who wishes to speak to someone confidentially, is encouraged to speak to a Confidential Resource Person, designated by the University.

Confidential Resource Persons	Contact Information
Counseling Center (administrators and non-student staff)	617-521-2455
Sherri Ettinger, Director	617-521-2451
Health Center (administrators and non-student staff)	617-521-2455
Beth Grampetro, Administrative Director	617-521-1004
Matoaka Kipp, Violence Prevention and Educational Outreach Program, Case Manager, and Confidential Student Support Advocate	617-521-3044

Procedures the University Will Follow When Receiving a Complaint of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking—starting August 14, 2020

Adjudication of Violations

Upon receipt of a report of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, the Title IX Coordinator (or designee) will take a number of initial steps that are designed to assess the need of the University to take any immediate action to address the health and safety needs of the complainant and the University community, as well as the need for any supportive measures. Those steps include, but are not limited to:

- Contacting the Complainant to discuss the nature and circumstances of the reported conduct, reviewing relevant documentation, addressing the importance of preserving evidence, and discussing the Complainant's immediate physical safety and emotional needs. The Title IX Coordinator will discuss with the Complaint the availability of supportive measures.
- Explaining to the Complainant the process for filing a formal complaint, as defined by the University's Sexual Harassment Policy, as well as notify the Complainant of: (a) the availability of the University's Sexual Harassment Policy; (b) the right to report (or decline to report) the matter to Public Safety and/or to local law enforcement if the conduct is potentially criminal in nature and that the individual may receive assistance from campus authorities in making any such notification; (c) the right to concurrently utilize the University's Grievance Process or Alternate Grievance Process (as defined by the Sexual Harassment Policy), as appropriate, and any external civil or criminal processes available, and (d) that a report to law enforcement will not change the University's obligation to address the report, but it may briefly delay the timing of the University's response.
- Notifying the Complainant of the available resources for seeking medical treatment, counseling, or other support services, a list of which can be found on the Simmons Title IX website: simmons.edu/about-simmons/title-ix
- Assessing the reported conduct to determine whether the circumstances pose an immediate threat to the health or safety of the University community that warrants any campus-wide safety measures, such as recommendation of the issuance of a timely warning, emergency notification, or no trespass order, or implementation of an emergency removal of the Respondent. When needed, the Chief of Public Safety or their designee is responsible for distributing timely warnings.
- Provide the Complainant a written explanation of the Complainant's rights and options, regardless of whether the alleged behavior occurred on or off campus. This will include information about: (a) options for, available assistance in, and how to request changes to academic, living, transportation, and working situations and supportive measures; and (b) existing counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid, and other services available for victims, both within Simmons and in the Boston community. Below are the procedures that the University will follow if a report of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking is reported.

Supportive and Protective Measures

Supportive measures are non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to an individual who reports sexual assault, dating violence,

domestic violence, or stalking, whether or not the individual files a complaint. Such measures are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the University's education programs or activities without unreasonably burdening the other party. Supportive measures also include measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the University educational environment, or deter sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking. A respondent may also request supportive measures, which the University may implement, as appropriate.

- Counseling through the Simmons Counseling Center
- Assistance through Student Affairs or from other Simmons-related individuals
- Extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments
- Modifications of work or class schedules
- Campus escort services
- One-way or mutual restrictions on contact between the parties by way of a no contact order
- Change of student's on-campus housing to a different on-campus location
- Arranging a leave of absence or temporary withdrawal from the University/program
- Issuing a no trespass order on Simmons' campus (facilitated through Public Safety)
- Taking an incomplete in a class without penalty or identifying alternative course completion options
- Providing increased monitoring, supervision, or security at relevant locations or activities
- Providing support through the employee assistance program
- Changing work location, work schedule, or reporting structures in certain circumstances
- Other temporary, reasonable limitations on access to certain University programs or activities

Simmons will maintain as confidential any supportive measures provided to the Complainant or Respondent unless disclosure is necessary in order to implement and/or provide the supportive measures.

Assistance for Victims: Rights and Options

Regardless of whether a victim elects to pursue a criminal complaint or whether the offense is alleged to have occurred on or off campus, the University will assist victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and will provide each victim with a written explanation of their rights and options.

Such written information will include:

- procedures victims should follow if a crime of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking has occurred;
- information about how the institution will protect the confidentiality of victims and other necessary parties;
- a statement that the institution will provide written notification to students and employees about victim services within the institution and in the community;
- a statement regarding the institution's provisions about options for, available assistance in, and how to request accommodations and protective measures;
- an explanation of the procedures for institutional disciplinary action.

Simmons University assures the Rights of Victims and the Institution's Responsibilities for orders of protection, no contact orders, restraining orders, harassment prevention orders, no trespass letters, or similar lawful orders issued by a criminal, civil, or tribal court, or by the Institution.

Simmons University complies with Massachusetts State law in recognizing orders of protection, no contact orders, restraining orders, harassment prevention orders, no trespass letters, or similar lawful orders. Any person who obtains an order of protection from Massachusetts or any reciprocal state should provide a copy to Simmons Police and Public Safety and the Office of the Title IX Coordinator. A complainant may then meet with Police and Public Safety to develop a safety action plan, which is a plan for Police and Public Safety and the victim to reduce risk of harm while on campus or coming and going from campus. This plan may include, but is not limited to escorts, special parking arrangements, provision of a temporary cellphone, changing classroom locations, or allowing a student to complete assignments from home, etc. The University can support, but cannot apply for, a legal order of protection, no contact order, or restraining order for a victim from the applicable jurisdiction(s). The victim is required to apply directly for these services. The victim can apply to the court of jurisdiction with the support of Simmons Police and Public Safety or the Violence Prevention and Educational Outreach program clinician or apply themselves.

The University may issue an institutional no contact order if deemed appropriate or at the request of the Complainant or Respondent. If the University receives a report that such an institutional no contact order has been violated, the University will initiate disciplinary proceedings appropriate to the status of the Respondent (student, employee, etc.) and will impose sanctions if the Respondent is found responsible for violating the no contact order.

Confidentiality

Victims may request that directory information on file with the University be withheld by request from the Office of the Registrar at 617-521-2111.

Regardless of whether a victim has opted out of allowing the University to share directory information, personally identifiable information about the victim and other necessary parties will be treated as confidential and only shared with persons who have a specific need to know, i.e., those who are investigating/adjudicating the report or those involved in providing support services to the victim, including accommodations and protective measures.

The University does not publish the names of crime victims or include identifiable information regarding victims in Police and Public Safety's Daily Crime Log, in safety alerts issued, or online. Victims may request that directory information on file be removed from public sources by contacting the Office of the Registrar at 617-521-2111. The University will maintain as confidential any accommodations or protective measures provided to the victim, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the University to provide the accommodations or protective measures.

Upon written request, Simmons University will disclose to the alleged victim of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense, the report on the results of any disciplinary proceeding conducted by the University against a student or employee who is the alleged perpetrator of such crime or offense. If the alleged victim is deceased as a result of such crime or offense, the next of kin of such victim shall be treated as the alleged victim and be eligible to receive such a report upon request.

On- and Off-Campus Services for Victims

Upon receipt of a report of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, Simmons University will provide written notification to students and employees about existing assistance with and/or information about obtaining resources and services including counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid, and assistance in notifying appropriate local law enforcement. These resources include the following shown below:

On Campus	Type of Services Available	Service Provider	Contact Information
Counseling	Urgent care; short- and longer-term counseling; referral to relevant resources	Simmons Counseling Center	Room B-308/617-521-2455
Health	Primary care; forensic nurse available at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (forensic examination does not require a police report)	Health Center	94 Pilgrim Road/617-521-1020
Mental Health	Mental health urgent care; short- and longer-term counseling; referral to relevant resources; academic counseling	Simmons Counseling Center Accessibility Services Office of Student Life	Room B-308 617-521-2455 Center for Student Success 617-521-2474 Room A-160 617-521-2124
Victim Advocacy	Help students understand their options; help navigate processes; accompany to meetings; make referrals to on- and off-campus resources; ensure students/employees receive appropriate support under the Sexual Harassment Policy	Violence Prevention and Educational Outreach Program	Room A-075 vpeo@simmons.edu 617-521-3044
Legal Assistance	Referral to outside legal assistance organizations	Office of Student Life Violence Prevention and Educational Outreach Program	Room A-160 617-521-2124 Room A-075 vpeo@simmons.edu 617-521-3044
Visa and Immigration Assistance	Provide options; serve as a liaison to the State Department; assist with visa and passport issues	Center for Global Education	Ela Kijowska elzbieta.kijowska@simmons.edu Room L-011 617-521-2554
Student Financial Aid	Financial aid support; program information	Student Financial Services	Room A-200 617-521-2001

Other	Safety planning	Police and Public Safety	Room B-103 617-521-1112
Counseling Health	One-on-one therapy; psychiatry and support groups for survivors of sexual assault, partners, family, and friends	Boston Area Rape Crisis Center	1-800-841-8371 (24 hr. helpline)
	Referrals to counselors who specialize in victims of intimate violence	Casa Myrna SafeLink	877-785-2020 (24 hr.)
	LGBTQ support groups	The Network/ La Red	617-742-4911
	Short- and long-term therapy support groups	Beth Israel Deaconess Center for Violence Prevention and Recovery	330 Brookline Avenue, Boston 617-667-8141
	Primary and extended care; emergency services (forensic examination/nurse available, does not require a police report)	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	330 Brookline Avenue, Boston 617-667-8141

Off Campus	Type of Services Available	Service Provider	Contact Information
Mental Health	One-on-one therapy; psychiatry and support groups for survivors of sexual assault	Boston Area Rape Crisis Center	1-800-841-8371 (24-hr. helpline)
Victim Advocacy	24-hour hotline for advocacy and support; in-person case management for survivors of sexual assault; safety planning	Boston Area Rape Crisis Center	1-800-841-8371 (24-hour helpline)

Legal Assistance	Legal advocates available; make referrals to legal assistance programs for cases involving sexual assault	Boston Area Rape Crisis Center	1-800-841-8371 (24-hour helpline)
	Offer free civil and legal assistance to victims of sexual assault	Victim Rights Law Center	617-399-6720
	Advocacy/assistance to survivors of sexual assault, intimate partner violence, stalking	Massachusetts Office of Victim Assistance	617-586-1340
Visa and Immigration Assistance	Assist on issues regarding visas and immigration for survivors of sexual assault	Boston Area Rape Crisis Center	1-800-841-8371 (24-hour helpline)
Student Financial Aid	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other	Domestic violence shelter	Casa Myrna-SafeLink	877-785-2020 (24-hour)

Other resources available to persons who report being the victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking include:

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

A forensic nurse can be made available, usually through Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. The forensic examination can be conducted without the need to make a police report.

Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network

rainn.org

Department of Justice

justice.gov/ovw/sexual-assault

Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights

ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html

Victim Bill of Rights

The Massachusetts Victim Bill of Rights (M.G.L. c.258B) provides rights and services to crime victims and survivors in Massachusetts in order to ensure a meaningful role for them in the criminal justice system.

The links below provide a complete guidebook to your rights as a crime victim in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

The Massachusetts Victim Bill of Rights

mass.gov/service-details/victim-bill-of-rights

Protection from Abuse

mass.gov/lists/restraining-orderabuse-prevention-order-court-forms

Victims' Rights Resources

<https://www.mass.gov/resources-for-victims>

The Aftermath of Crime Guidebook

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/the-aftermath-of-crime-guidebook/download>

For a complete listing of all your state rights as a crime victim in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, please refer to the Victim Bill of Rights (M.G.L. c.258B) or visit the mass.gov website to download a summary brochure.

Investigative Process—Starting August 14, 2020, Pursuant to the University's Sexual Harassment Policy

Sexual Harassment Policy and It's Processes

A Complainant who wishes for the University to investigate sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking they assert they have experienced, may file a complaint with the University's Title IX Coordinator. The complaint is in writing and must: (1) allege a Respondent engaged in sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking against them, as applicable, (2) describe the alleged conduct; (3) request that the University investigate the allegations, and (4) contain the Complainant's physical or digital signature (or signature of the Title IX Coordinator in instances where the Title IX Coordinator is executing the complaint), or otherwise indicates that the Complainant (or Title IX Coordinator) is the person filing the complaint.

The filing of a complaint by a Complainant or signing of a complaint by the Title IX Coordinator will trigger one of the University's two prompt, fair, and impartial grievance processes, depending on the facts alleged at the time of filing and the requirements of federal and state laws and regulations. No party or witness will be compelled to participate in either grievance process. The University will not retaliate against anyone who does not participate in a grievance process. Each party may be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by an advisor of their choice.

If the complaint does not go through either of the two informal resolution processes available, or the parties to the complaint do not resolve the matter through either informal resolution process (when eligible to use an informal resolution process), the complaint will move into investigation. The investigator conducts a prompt, fair, and impartial investigation of the allegations contained in the complaint, reviews documentation, interviews witnesses (where deemed necessary and appropriate), and will prepare and disseminate a draft and final Investigative Report.

Depending on which grievance process the complaint is processed under, there may be a live hearing. The Complainant and Respondent shall both have the same opportunity to have an advisor of their choice present at the hearing. A hearing officer conducts the hearing, issues a determination regarding responsibility, and determines sanctions, in an impartial and non-biased manner. The Title IX Coordinator will issue a determination regarding responsibility on a complaint that does not go to a live hearing. All complaints shall be reviewed and decided upon pursuant to the preponderance of the evidence standard.

The University will notify the parties simultaneously, in writing, of the determination of responsibility, as well as provide information regarding sanctions and remedies to the parties as appropriate under the University's policies and the law and regulations. The University will further notify the parties on the process to appeal, as well as when the results become final. Should there be any change relating to the result of the matter, the University will notify the parties.

The University will in most cases resolve a complaint, including through the determination regarding responsibility, but exclusive of any appeal of the determination regarding responsibility, within ninety (90) calendar days of the date the Title IX Coordinator received the complaint, subject to any approved delays or extensions of deadlines permitted or granted by the Title IX Coordinator for good cause. The University will resolve any appeal of a determination regarding responsibility within thirty (30) days of the date the Title IX Coordinator receives the appeal, subject to any approved delays or extensions of deadlines permitted or granted by the Title IX Coordinator or appeals officer for good cause.

The individuals that conduct the grievance processes receive annual training on the issues related to dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking and on how to conduct an investigation and hearing process that protects the safety of victims and promotes accountability, as applicable.

By law, Simmons University Police and Public Safety may not name or identify the victim of a sexual crime in any manner to the news media, including campus publications. A brief account of the incident and the name of any arrested person is all that may be released.

Student Life Policies

Student Internal Judicial Process

The Honor Board is the judicial board of Simmons University and is responsible for investigating and hearing cases of violations of the Student Honor Code of Responsibility that are not cases of sexual misconduct. Sanctions may include suspension or permanent removal from Simmons University and its residence facilities. For a complete description of this code, see the Simmons University Student Handbook at the following link: simmons.edu/handbook.

Alcoholic Beverages and Illegal Drug Policies

Simmons University, through its programs and activities, is committed to creating an environment that promotes and reinforces health, responsible living, and respect for community laws, campus standards, and regulations. Simmons values the individual's responsibility within the community and the intellectual, social, emotional, spiritual, ethical, and physical well-being of its community members. Toward that end, we have established, and will enforce, clear policies that promote an educational environment free from the abuse of alcohol and other drugs. We also sponsor educational programs concerning alcohol and other drugs and provide counseling and referral through our various student service offices. Simmons promotes and supports alcohol-free institutional activity programming.

In compliance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, students who are not of legal drinking age (21 years old) may not purchase, sell, use, possess, or transport alcoholic beverages at any time. Simmons University Police and Public Safety is responsible for the enforcement of state underage drinking laws.

Students of legal drinking age are permitted to purchase, possess, and consume alcoholic beverages at University functions approved by the Office of Student Leadership and Activities and in their residence halls according to the policies listed below and in accordance with the University policies and procedures section

of the Student Handbook. They are not permitted to sell or distribute alcohol. Alcoholic beverages being transported on the Simmons campus must be covered appropriately. Kegs and beer balls are never permitted in residence halls, and delivery of alcohol to individuals is prohibited. Public intoxication by members of the University community, guests, or visitors is unacceptable. A Massachusetts driver's license, a passport, or a combination of a picture ID and proof of age are the only acceptable identification cards for the purpose of purchasing and consuming alcoholic beverages. Simmons University Police and Public Safety officers enforce all liquor laws, including state underage drinking laws and federal and state drug laws.

Further descriptions of the University's alcohol procedures and programs are included in the undergraduate Student Handbook (simmons.edu/handbook).

Simmons University prohibits the possession, sale, and use of illegal drugs.

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs

Alcohol and drug abuse workshops are offered through the University's Health Education program. In addition, these topics are addressed in the New Student Orientation and the First Year Seminar course, Simmons 101.

Residence Life conducts training on this topic for resident advisors before the beginning of each school year. The resident advisors offer programming for their residents which addresses the subject of alcohol and drug abuse. Police and Public Safety officers are available and often assist with a number of these programs.

Simmons University prohibits the unlawful possession, use, and sale of illegal drugs on campus.

Simmons University Police and Public Safety has primary responsibility for the enforcement of Federal and State drug laws on its properties.

Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act

The University is committed to a drug-free environment and has established clear policies that are included in the Student Handbook (simmons.edu/handbook). The Handbook also describes the drug and alcohol abuse education programs in compliance with the 1989 Amendments to the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988.

Missing Student Policy

Simmons University is committed to promoting and providing a safe and secure environment for the entire community. As part of our commitment, and in compliance with Section 488 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008, the Missing Student Policy has been developed for students who live in a residence hall or other housing facility operated by Simmons. Additionally, Suzanne's Law requires local authorities to notify the National Crime Information Center immediately if someone between the ages of 18 and 21 goes missing.

At the beginning of each academic year, all residential students will be asked to identify a contact person or persons who would be notified if the student is determined to be missing for 24 hours or more. Students enter this emergency contact information via Workday (workday.simmons.edu). This information will be registered confidentially and accessible only to authorized campus officials and will not be disclosed except to law enforcement personnel in furtherance of a missing student investigation. If a student is under 18 years of age and is not emancipated, Simmons is required to notify a custodial parent or guardian in addition to any other contact person designated by the student if the student is determined to be missing for 24 hours or more. For all missing students, Simmons University will notify the local law enforcement agency within 24 hours of the

determination that the student is missing, unless the local law enforcement agency was the entity that made the determination that the student is missing.

Anyone having information regarding a student who might be missing for 24 hours, is urged to call one of the following offices:

Simmons University Police and Public Safety	617-521-1111
Office of Residence Life	617-521-1096
Office of the Dean for Student Life	617-521-2124

If a missing person is reported to the Office of Residence Life or the Office of the Dean for Student Life, the officials in those areas will immediately report the missing person to Simmons University Police and Public Safety.

Responding to a Missing Student Report

In the event that a student is reported missing, the following procedure will be followed:

1. The University official who receives the report will immediately:
 - a. refer the report to Simmons University Police and Public Safety.
 - b. contact the University administrator on call through the Office of the Dean for Student Life on-call rotation.
2. Simmons University Police and Public Safety, or other University officials working in conjunction with Police and Public Safety, will make reasonable efforts to determine if the student actually is missing. Those efforts may include, for example, some or all of the following:
 - a. attempting to contact the student by phone, email, text messaging, or other means.
 - b. attempting to obtain information about the student's recent or planned whereabouts from the student's Resident Advisor (RA), roommates, friends, or others.
 - c. accessing information in the student's email account.
 - d. accessing information about recent use of the student's identification card.
3. If at any point it is determined that the student has been missing for 24 hours or more, then—within 24 hours of that determination—University officials will:
 - a. notify local law enforcement regardless of whether the student has identified a contact person, is above the age of 18, or is an emancipated minor.
 - b. notify any person the student has identified as a confidential emergency contact on the Academic and Administrative Resource Center (AARC) website.
 - c. notify the student's custodial parent(s) or guardian(s) if the student is under the age of 18 and is not emancipated and any other designated contact person within 24 hours.
 - d. notify the Dean for Student Life (or their designee).
 - e. The Dean for Student Life (or their designee), exercising their judgment under the circumstances, will determine whether to notify the President or other senior University officers and whether to notify the student's parent(s) or guardian(s). As stated above, notifying a parent or guardian is required if the student is under the age of 18 and is not emancipated.

Crime Definitions

Simmons University provides information relating to crime statistics and security measures to prospective students and families, matriculated students, employees, and applicants for employment. Simmons University Police and Public Safety maintains records of reported crimes that have occurred on Simmons University properties and has compiled the statistics in the on-campus and non-campus property sections of this document. Simmons Police and Public Safety gathers crime statistics from all individuals who are defined as campus security authorities by federal law. Simmons University Police and Public Safety is also required to report crimes in the area immediately surrounding the campus. These statistics are derived from the Boston Police Department, Massachusetts State Police, and Brookline Police Department.

Crime Definitions from the Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook

The Clery Act requires that certain crimes be reported each year. The following definitions are excerpted from the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Handbook published by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (with the exception of the sex offense definitions, which are taken from the National Incident-Based Reporting System Edition of the UCR Handbook). These definitions are provided to assist the reader in understanding the crimes that are contained in this report.

Arson – Any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.

Criminal Homicide – Manslaughter by Negligence – The killing of one human being through gross negligence by another.

Criminal Homicide Murder and Non-Negligent Manslaughter – The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.

Robbery – The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force, threat of force, or violence, and/or by putting the victim in fear.

Aggravated Assault – An unlawful attack by one human being upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. (It is not necessary that injury result from an aggravated assault when a gun, knife, or other weapon is used which could and probably would result in serious personal injury if the crime were successfully completed.)

Burglary – Burglary is defined as the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft. For reporting purposes this definition includes unlawful entry with intent to commit a larceny or felony; breaking and entering with the intent to commit a larceny; housebreaking; safecracking; and all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned.

Domestic Violence – Domestic Violence is defined as felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse of the victim; by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common; by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner; by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred; or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts specifically defines Domestic Violence as:

"Abuse," the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between family or household members:

- (a) attempting to cause or causing physical harm;
- (b) placing another in fear of imminent serious physical harm;
- (c) causing another to engage involuntarily in sexual relations by force, threat, or duress.

"Court," the superior, probate and family, district, or Boston municipal court departments of the trial court, except when the petitioner is in a dating relationship when Court shall mean district, probate, or Boston municipal courts.

"Family or Household Members," persons who:

- (a) are or were married to one another;
- (b) are or were residing together in the same household;
- (c) are or were related by blood or marriage;
- (d) having a child in common regardless of whether they have ever married or lived together; or
- (e) are or have been in a substantive dating or engagement relationship, which shall be adjudged by district, probate, or Boston municipal courts' consideration of the following factors:
 - (1) the length of time of the relationship;
 - (2) the type of relationship;
 - (3) the frequency of interaction between the parties; and
 - (4) if the relationship has been terminated by either person, the length of time elapsed since the termination of the relationship.

Dating Violence – Dating Violence is defined as Violence committed by:

- (a) a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and
- (b) where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:
 - (i) the length of the relationship;
 - (ii) the type of the relationship;
 - (iii) the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts does not have a specific Dating Violence statute, but see the definition of "Family or household members" above.

Stalking – Stalking is defined as:

- (1) engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her safety or the safety of others or suffer substantial emotional distress.

(2) For the purposes of this definition:

- (i) "Course of conduct" means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about, a person, or interferes with a person's property.
- (ii) "Substantial emotional distress" means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.
- (iii) "Reasonable person" means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts specifically defines Stalking as:

Whoever:

- (1) willfully and maliciously engages in a knowing pattern of conduct or series of acts over a period of time directed at a specific person which seriously alarms or annoys that person and would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress; and
- (2) makes a threat with the intent to place the person in imminent fear of death or bodily injury, shall be guilty of the crime of Stalking.

Sexual Assault – Sexual Assault is defined as an offense that meets the definition of rape, fondling, incest, or statutory rape as used in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting system. A sex offense is any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

Rape – Rape is defined as the penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts defines Rape as:

Whoever has sexual intercourse or unnatural sexual intercourse with a person, and compels such person to submit by force and against his will, or compels such person to submit by threat of bodily injury and if either such sexual intercourse or unnatural sexual intercourse results in or is committed with acts resulting in serious bodily injury, or is committed by a joint enterprise, or is committed during the commission or attempted commission of an offense defined in section fifteen A, fifteen B, seventeen, nineteen, or twenty-six of this chapter, section fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, or eighteen of chapter two hundred and sixty-six or section ten of chapter two hundred and sixty-nine shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for life or for any term of years.

No person serving a sentence for a second or subsequent such offense shall be eligible for furlough, temporary release, or education, training, or employment programs established outside a correctional facility until such person shall have served two-thirds of such minimum sentence or if such person has two or more sentences to be served otherwise than concurrently, two-thirds of the aggregate of the minimum terms of such several sentences.

Whoever has sexual intercourse or unnatural sexual intercourse with a person and compels such person to submit by force and against his will or compels such person to submit by threat of bodily injury, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than twenty years; and whoever commits a second

or subsequent such offense shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for life or for any term or years.

Fondling – Fondling is defined as the touching of the private parts of another person for the purposes of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.

Incest – Incest is defined as non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

Statutory Rape – Statutory Rape is defined as non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

Motor Vehicle Theft – Motor Vehicle theft is defined as the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. (Classify as motor vehicle theft all cases where automobiles are taken by persons not having lawful access even though the vehicles are later abandoned, including joyriding.)

Weapon Law Violations – The violation of laws or ordinances dealing with weapon offenses, regulatory in nature, such as manufacture, sale, or possession of deadly weapons; carrying deadly weapons, concealed or openly; furnishing deadly weapons to minors; aliens possessing deadly weapons; and all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned.

Drug Abuse Violations – Drug Abuse Violations are defined as violations of state and local laws relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing, and making of narcotic drugs. The relevant substances include opium or cocaine and their derivatives (morphine, heroin, codeine); marijuana; synthetic narcotics (Demerol, methadone); and dangerous non-narcotic drugs (barbiturates, Benzedrine).

Liquor Law Violations – The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, transporting, furnishing, possessing of intoxicating liquor; maintaining unlawful drinking places; bootlegging; operating a still; furnishing liquor to a minor or intemperate person; using a vehicle for illegal transportation of liquor; drinking on a train or public conveyance; and all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned. (Drunkenness and driving under the influence are not included in this definition.)

Sex Offenses

Any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Rape – Penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim. Rape can be perpetrated on any gender, male or female.

Fondling – The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity. All genders can be victims.

Sex Offenses—Non-Forcible

According to the Clery Handbook, Non-Forcible Sex Offenses are defined as unlawful, non-forcible sexual intercourse.

There are two types of Non-Forcible Sex Offenses:

Incest – Non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

Statutory Rape – Non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

Consent – In Massachusetts, it is illegal to have sex with someone who is incapable of giving consent. A person cannot give consent if they are intoxicated; if they are unconscious; are mentally incompetent; or are under the legal age of consent. Someone who is drunk, high, unconscious, or mentally incompetent may not be able to give consent to a sexual act. Submission is not necessarily consent. Force or a threat of force negates consent.

Simmons' Sexual Harassment Policy is based upon effective consent. Consent to engage in sexual activity must be given knowingly, voluntarily, and affirmatively. Consent must exist from the beginning to end of each instance of sexual activity and for each form of sexual contact. Past sexual activity does not constitute consent for future acts. For more on consent, refer to the University's Sexual Harassment Policy (simmons.edu/sites/default/files/2021-08/Simmons-University-Sexual-Harassment-Policy.pdf).

Procedures for Preparing the Annual Disclosure of Crime Statistics

The procedures for preparing the annual disclosure of crime statistics include reporting statistics to the University community obtained from the following sources: Simmons University Police and Public Safety, Boston Police Department, Massachusetts State Police, Brookline Police Department, and non-police officials identified by federal law as campus security authorities. For statistical purposes, crime statistics reported to any of these sources are recorded in the calendar year the crime was reported.

A written request for statistical information is made on an annual basis to all campus security authorities (as defined by federal law). Statistical information is requested by Simmons University Police and Public Safety from the employees at the University Counseling Center and the Student Health Center, even though they are not required by law to provide statistics for the compliance document.

All the statistics are gathered, compiled, and reported to the University community in the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report which is published by Simmons University. Simmons University Police and Public Safety submits the annual crime statistics published in this booklet to the Department of Education. The statistical information gathered by the Department of Education is available to the public through the Department of Education website (ope.ed.gov/campusafety).

Simmons University reports the crimes required by the Clery Act that occurred on or within an institution's Clery geography that were reported to a Campus Security Authority.

Crime Statistics

	All On Campus Property			Non Campus Property			Public Property			Residential Only		
	2021	2020	2019	2021	2020	2019	2021	2020	2019	2021	2020	2019
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	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
Burglary	6	2	8	0	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	1
Sex Offenses												
Rape	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Fondling	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Dating Violence	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0
Liquor Law Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	9	17	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	17	31
Drug Law Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Illegal Weapons Possession Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Illegal Weapons Possessions Referred for Disciplinary Action	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Non-Campus Property refers to "Any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the University," or "Any building or property owned or controlled by the University that is used in direct support of, or in relation to, the University's educational purposes, is frequently used by students, and is not within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the University."

Public Property is defined as "All public property, including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities, that is within the campus, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus." Since the publication of the 2007 report, Boston Police report statistics by area, not by specific address; therefore, the statistics that have been reported by the Boston Police have been included in the report. If you have any questions, please contact the Chief of Police/Director of Public Safety.

There were no unfounded crimes for 2021, 2020, and 2019.

The daily crime log can be reviewed at Simmons Police headquarters at One Palace Road during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).

Location	Year	Category of Bias for Offense Reported							
		Race	Gender	Religion	Sexual Orientation	Ethnicity	Disability	Gender Identity	National Origin
On-Campus Property	2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2020	1*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	1**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Campus Locations	2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	1*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*Intimidation

**Destruction/Damage/Vandalism

Safety Tips

- Listen to and act on your intuition. It is better to be safe and risk a little embarrassment than to stay in an uncomfortable situation that may be unsafe.
- If you are in danger or being attacked and want to get help, yell "Call 911!" or give specific directions to onlookers. For example: "You! Get the police!" or "Walk me to the store on the corner. I'm being followed."
- Have your keys ready when approaching your car or building.
- Vary your routine; drive or walk different routes every day.
- If you suspect that someone is following you by foot or in a car, do not go home (or they will know where you live). Go to a trusted neighbor, to a public place to call police, or directly to a police station.
- Do not label keys with your name or any identification.
- Do not talk about your social life or vacation plans where strangers can overhear you. Do not post your plans on any social networking sites that can be viewed by the public.
- Program the Simmons Police and Public Safety emergency telephone number (617-521-1111) into your cell phone.

Safety in Your Off-Campus Home

- Have lights in all entrances.
- Have secure locks on all doors and windows.
- Do not use your full name on the mailbox, in the phone directory, or on your answering machine.
- Do not leave a schedule of your times away from home on your answering machine or door.
- If you live alone, do not let strangers know. Make believe you have a roommate or big dog.

- Know which of your neighbors you can trust in an emergency.
- Check who is at the door before opening it, and do not open the door to an unexpected visitor.
- Do not hide extra keys in easily accessible places. Criminals will find them.
- Do not disclose your full address, full date of birth, or telephone number on any social networking sites that can be viewed by the general public.
- Ask for photo identification of all repair persons, etc. If you are still suspicious, call to verify employment.
- Never give personal information to telephone solicitors.
- Consider creating a “safe room” with a separate telephone line or cellular phone and strong locks.
- If someone breaks in, you can retreat there (with children) and call for help.
- Do not let strangers into your home to use the phone. Offer to make the call for them.

Safety When Traveling on Foot

- Do not wear headphones or talk on a cell phone while walking or jogging. Stay alert.
- Do not hitchhike.
- Be very careful using outside ATMs at night or in unfamiliar surroundings.
- When on the street, walk facing oncoming traffic. It will be harder for someone to pull you into a car and abduct you.
- Tell someone where you will be or if you will be with someone you do not know well, and what time you are supposed to return.
- Do not overload yourself with packages. If you must have your hands full, visualize how you would respond if approached, how you would get your hands free, etc.
- Do not read while walking or standing on the street.
- If you wear a purse or bag with a shoulder strap(s), be prepared to let it go if snatched. Otherwise, you may be hurt if the mugger knocks you down and drags you while fleeing with your purse/bag.
- If someone asks you for directions, and if you choose to reply, remain at least two arm lengths away.
- Try never to walk anywhere alone. If you are upset or under the influence of drugs or alcohol, avoid being on the street alone.
- When dropping someone off, make sure they are safely inside before driving away; have them do the same for you.

Safety in the Car

- Check inside and around your car before entering to ensure that no one is hiding there.
- Check your surroundings before getting out of your car.
- Do not pick up hitchhikers.
- Keep doors locked and windows rolled up so that a hand cannot reach in.
- If a group of suspicious people approaches you when you are stopped at a red light at a deserted intersection, run the light if your intuition tells you that the situation could get dangerous.
- Do not let your gas indicator fall below one-quarter of a tank.
- Plan your route and check a map before you start out.
- Park in well-lit, heavily traveled areas if possible.
- Try not to park next to a van, as you could be pulled in through the sliding door.
- Do not leave valuables in plain sight inside your car.

- Give only your ignition key to a parking attendant or valet.
- If you see an accident or stranded motorist, report it from the nearest telephone instead of stopping.
- Carry in your car: flashlight, flares, fix-a-flat, maps, comfortable warm clothing, first aid kit, empty gas can, white cloth to tie to antenna to signal distress, and cell phone.
- Learn basic auto maintenance.

Safety on Public Transportation

- Beware of overheard conversations. Do not tell anyone on the bus or subway where you are going.
- Stay awake and alert.
- Have exact change or your MBTA pass/ticket ready.
- Try to sit near the driver.
- If you sense someone following you when you disembark, walk toward a populated area. Do not walk directly home.

Safety at the Office/Workplace

- Do not leave your keys lying about.
- Notify security personnel if you notice suspicious persons or vehicles, especially after normal working hours.
- Be extra careful in stairwells and isolated or poorly lit restrooms.
- When in an elevator, stand near the controls and locate the emergency button.
- Do not get in an elevator with someone who looks suspicious to you.
- Know your coworkers and look out for each other.
- Place by every phone: emergency numbers for security, police, fire departments, and a list of employees who are trained in CPR or first aid.

Important Phone Numbers and Resources

On Campus	
Police and Public Safety Emergency Number	617-521-1111
Police and Public Safety Non-Emergency Number	617-521-1112
Paul Lombardo, Chief of Police and Public Safety	617-521-2226
Counseling Services	617-521-2455
Health Center	617-521-1020
Sara Simberg, Title IX Coordinator (faculty, staff, students, vendors)	617-521-3289
Rae-Anne Butera, Deputy Title IX Coordinator (students)	617-521-2117
Office for the Dean for Student Life	617-521-2117
Office of Residence Life	617-521-1096
Off Campus	
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC)	617-667-7000
Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (24-hour hotline)	617-492-RAPE (7273)
Boston Police Department Sexual Assault Division	911 or 617-343-4400
Casa Myrna Vasquez, Inc. SafeLink (for battered women)	877-785-2020
Center for Violence Prevention and Recovery	617-667-8141
Fenway Community Health Center's Victim Recovery Center	617-927-6250
National Domestic Violence Hotline	1-800-799-7233
Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN)	1-800-656-HOPE (4673)

Annual Fire Safety Report and Residence Hall Fire Safety Policies 2021

This report and statement of fire safety policies for Simmons University residence halls has been prepared and made available to the Simmons University community in accordance with the Higher Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 1092(i)) and the regulations promulgated there under by the U.S. Department of Education (34 C.F.R. § 668.49(b)-(d)).

Fire Reporting Policy

To report a fire on the residence campus, dial 911 and then call Simmons University Police and Public Safety at 617-521-1111 or x1111 from any Simmons phone. If a member of the Simmons community finds evidence of a fire that has been extinguished, and the person is not sure whether Police and Public Safety has already responded, the community member should immediately notify Police and Public Safety to investigate and document the incident. Pull stations are also located next to every egress door which, when activated, automatically contact the fire alarm monitoring company who then contacts the Boston Fire Department and Simmons University Police and Public Safety.

Causing a false alarm or making a false report of fire are grounds for immediate disciplinary action, which may include, but is not limited to, immediate probation or suspension from the residence campus for a first violation.

Procedures for Student Housing Evacuation

When an alarm sounds, each person is required to immediately exit the building and move at least one hundred feet from the building. Individuals must follow the instructions of Simmons Police and Public Safety and/or the Boston Fire Department. No one may re-enter the building until directed to do so by Police and Public Safety or the Fire Department.

Any violation of this policy is grounds for immediate disciplinary action, which may include but is not limited to immediate probation or suspension from the residence campus for a first violation.

Fire Evacuation Preparedness

Students are urged to prepare and keep immediately available an emergency kit consisting of shoes, an outer garment, a towel, and a flashlight, and to bring these items with them upon emergency exit. Students should take their keys as they exit the building in the event their room doors are locked following the safety checks.

Persons needing special assistance should contact the Office of Residence Life, as well as Accessibility Services, to devise a fire evacuation plan in advance. Hearing-impaired students will be given a flasher device and/or bed shaker linked to the networked fire alarm system.

Fire Alarm and Evacuation Procedures for Students and Employees

When a fire alarm is activated, the alarm signals the fire alarm monitoring company, which then notifies the Boston Fire Department and Simmons Police and Public Safety, which is staffed around the clock, every day of the year. Officers from Simmons Police and Public Safety will promptly respond to the scene to aid the Fire Department in safety procedures.

For your own safety, it is imperative that you follow these procedures each time you hear or are made aware of a fire alarm:

- Do not ignore the alarm; everyone must evacuate.
- Do not panic; remain calm and proceed with an orderly evacuation.

- Leave the building immediately; do not use elevators.
- Follow the quickest evacuation route from where you are.
- Offer help to those needing assistance only if it is safe to do so (if you observe someone in need of assistance as you exit, be sure to alert Simmons Police and Public Safety or the Boston Fire Department).
- Once you are outside, move at least 100 feet away from the building.
- Await further instruction from Simmons Police and Public Safety and/or the Boston Fire Department.
- Do not return to the building until Simmons Police and Public Safety directs you to do so. Silencing of the alarm does not imply the emergency is over.

Fire Safety Policy

Tampering with fire safety equipment or violating any of the following fire safety rules is grounds for immediate disciplinary action, which may include, but is not limited to, immediate probation or suspension from the residence campus for a first violation.

Items Prohibited in Residence Halls

Students are not allowed to possess any of the following items in any residence hall:

- Candles and any other items that involve an open flame
- Incense and oil burners
- Electrical appliances with heating elements, including, but not limited to, hot plates, immersion heaters, popcorn poppers, crock pots, electrical heaters, electric frying pans, electric woks, stoves, toaster ovens, coffee makers, and tea kettles (with the exception of electric coffee makers and tea kettles that have automatic shutoffs)
- Electric lanterns or lamps
- Microwave ovens
- Air conditioners
- Refrigerators over 3.3 cubic feet (with the exception of micro-fridges available from the University)
- Torchiere-style halogen lamps
- Appliances that use over 1,000 watts of electricity (with the exception of hair dryers)
- Appliances that do not meet current Underwriters Laboratories ("UL") specifications
- Any machinery, device, or other item that involves the combustion of any kind of fuel, including, but not limited to, gasoline, kerosene, propane, oil, wood, charcoal, or any other liquid or solid fuel
- Large, combustible decorations

Furniture

Students are prohibited from possessing any type of upholstered furniture or mattress that does not meet the safety standards of California Technical Bulletin ("CAL") 133 or 117. Each piece of upholstered furniture or mattress not provided by the University must be suitably labeled as being in compliance.

Cooking

All cooking in the residence halls must be done in the kitchen facilities and must be attended to at all times. Students who cause fires or trigger fire alarms through negligent use of kitchen facilities will be referred for disciplinary action.

Smoking

Smoking cigarettes, cigars, or other tobacco products is not permitted anywhere on Simmons properties. Simmons became tobacco and tobacco product-free in 2015. Any student who causes a fire or triggers a fire alarm through the negligent use of cigarettes or other tobacco products will be referred for disciplinary action.

Fireplaces

Students may not use fireplaces in the residence halls. Any student who causes a fire or triggers a fire alarm through the negligent use of a fireplace will be referred for disciplinary action.

Exits, Corridors, Stairwells, and Fire Doors

All exits, including corridors, stairwells, and adjoining doors (fire doors) must remain unobstructed at all times. Adjoining doors must remain unobstructed and unlocked at all times.

Posting and Hanging of Items

Students are prohibited from posting signs, flyers, posters, or decorations on the outside or entrance doors, bathroom doors, supply closet doors, corridor walls, and common areas. Any posting(s) on a student room door may cover no more than one third of the surface of the door. Students are prohibited from hanging anything on or from any sprinkler or fire detector in any residence hall. In order to post on the community bulletin board located in each hallway, students must obtain permission from the Office of Residence Life.

Fire Extinguishers

Fire extinguishers are located next to every egress door and in the center of the corridor on every floor. Fire extinguishers should be used only for their intended purpose and should not otherwise be removed from their assigned locations. Access to fire extinguishers must remain unobstructed at all times.

Fire Safety Inspections

Residence Life staff perform regular fire safety inspections of all areas within the residence halls, including student rooms. Fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, and fire alarm sprinkler systems are checked by an independent company. The Boston Fire Department also conducts annual inspections of all residence halls. Any fire safety violations that are discovered by Residence Life or the Boston Fire Department are reported to the Director of Buildings and Grounds.

Fire Drills

Supervised fire drills are conducted in each residence hall four times a year (twice a semester). To ensure proper evacuation procedures, the first drill of each semester is announced while the second is unannounced. All drills are supervised by Simmons University Police and Public Safety in conjunction with Buildings and Grounds and Residence Life.

Fire Safety Education and Training Programs

All resident students are required to attend a meeting in their residence hall at the beginning of the school year to discuss fire safety, fire evacuation plans, and rules and regulations of the residence hall. All resident students sign a housing license agreement that lists prohibited items and describes health and safety checks that occur throughout the year by the Residence Life staff.

Students are encouraged to review and become familiar with all safety-related rules in the Simmons University Student Handbook, which is given to all new students and posted online (simmons.edu/handbook).

The Resident Advisor (RA)/professional staff team receives several weeks of intensive training in August, before the academic year, including training in fire safety procedures and how to react in emergency situations. The training is given in conjunction with Police and Public Safety and the Office of Residence Life.

Simmons Emergency Preparedness procedures includes evacuation drills and training for students, faculty, and staff. In these programs, procedures that students and employees should follow in case of a fire are reviewed. Faculty members are encouraged to make themselves aware each semester of where the nearest fire exit is located for each classroom in which they hold a class. If fire or smoke conditions or another imminent emergency condition exists while a faculty member is conducting class, the faculty member should direct the students to the nearest safe fire exit, assuring that all students have evacuated before exiting.

Improvement Plans for Future

While there are no immediate plans to replace/improve current systems, fire safety systems are typically enhanced as buildings are renovated.

Fire Log

Simmons Police and Public Safety maintains a fire log that records the nature, date, time, and general location of any fire that occurred in a residence hall. The fire log is organized by the date that the fire was reported. Police and Public Safety records information in the fire log within two business days of receiving the information.

The fire log for the most recent 60-day period will be open to public inspection at Simmons University Police and Public Safety's administrative office located at One Palace Road on the academic campus, during normal business hours. Police and Public Safety will make available any portion of the fire log older than 60 days within two business days of a request for public inspection.

Fire Safety Systems in Residence Halls (On Campus)

The table below provides information, by residence hall, regarding fire safety, fire detection, fire warning, and fire control systems.

Residence Hall	Fire Detection	Fire Warnings	Fire Control
Arnold Hall	Centrally monitored smoke detectors	Networked fire alarms, which employ horns and strobe lights	Fire extinguishers located by egress doors on each floor; wet sprinkler system throughout entire building; fire doors located at the ends of each hallway
Dix Hall	Centrally monitored smoke detectors	Networked fire alarms, which employ horns and strobe lights	Fire extinguishers located by egress doors on each floor; wet sprinkler system throughout entire building; fire doors located at the ends of each hallway
Evans Hall	Centrally monitored smoke detectors	Networked fire alarms, which employ horns and strobe lights	Fire extinguishers located by egress doors on each floor; wet sprinkler system throughout entire building; fire doors located at the ends of each hallway
Mesick Hall	Centrally monitored smoke detectors	Networked fire alarms, which employ horns and strobe lights	Fire extinguishers located by egress doors on each floor; fire doors located at the ends of each hallway
Morse Hall	Centrally monitored smoke detectors	Networked fire alarms, which employ horns and strobe lights	Fire extinguishers located by egress doors on each floor; fire doors located at the ends of each hallway
North Hall	Centrally monitored smoke detectors	Networked fire alarms, which employ horns and strobe lights	Fire extinguishers located by egress doors on each floor; wet sprinkler system throughout entire building; fire doors located at the ends of each hallway
Simmons Hall	Centrally monitored smoke detectors	Networked fire alarms, which employ horns and strobe lights	Fire extinguishers located by egress doors on each floor; fire doors located at the ends of each hallway
Smith Hall	Centrally monitored smoke detectors	Networked fire alarms, which employ horns and strobe lights	Fire extinguishers located by egress doors on each floor; wet sprinkler system throughout entire building; fire doors located at the ends of each hallway
South Hall	Centrally monitored smoke detectors	Networked fire alarms, which employ horns and strobe lights	Fire extinguishers located by egress doors on each floor; wet sprinkler system throughout entire building; fire doors located at the ends of each hallway

Fire Safety Systems in Residence Halls (Off Campus)

The table below provides information, by residence hall, regarding fire safety, fire detection, fire warning, and fire control systems.

Off Campus Housing*	Fire Detection	Fire Warnings	Fire Control
77 Park Drive	Centrally monitored smoke detectors	Networked fire alarms, which employ horns and strobe lights	Wet sprinkler system throughout entire building; fire doors located at the ends of each hallway
81 Park Drive	Centrally monitored smoke detectors	Networked fire alarms, which employ horns and strobe lights	Wet sprinkler system throughout entire building; fire doors located at the ends of each hallway

*Inclusion of off-campus housing is not required by law but included for informational purposes.

Fire Statistics 2021

Residence Hall	Residence Hall Address	Number of Fires	Cause of Fire	Number of Persons Receiving Treatment	Number of Fire Related Deaths	Value of Property Damage Caused by a Fire
Arnold Hall	78 Pilgrim Road	0	N/A	0	0	0
Dix Hall	30 Pilgrim Road	0	N/A	0	0	0
Evans Hall	305 Brookline Avenue	0	N/A	0	0	0
Mesick Hall	291 Brookline Avenue	0	N/A	0	0	0
Morse Hall	275 Brookline Avenue	0	N/A	0	0	0
North Hall	86 Pilgrim Road	0	N/A	0	0	0
Simmons Hall	255 Brookline Avenue	0	N/A	0	0	0
Smith Hall	54 Pilgrim Road	0	N/A	0	0	0
South Hall	321 Brookline Avenue	0	N/A	0	0	0

Fire Statistics 2020

Residence Hall	Residence Hall Address	Number of Fires	Cause of Fire	Number of Persons Receiving Treatment	Number of Fire Related Deaths	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire
Arnold Hall	78 Pilgrim Road	0	N/A	0	0	0
Dix Hall	30 Pilgrim Road	0	N/A	0	0	0
Evans Hall	305 Brookline Avenue	0	N/A	0	0	0
Mesick Hall	291 Brookline Avenue	0	N/A	0	0	0
Morse Hall	275 Brookline Avenue	0	N/A	0	0	0
North Hall	86 Pilgrim Road	0	N/A	0	0	0
Simmons Hall	255 Brookline Avenue	0	N/A	0	0	0
Smith Hall	54 Pilgrim Road	0	N/A	0	0	0
South Hall	321 Brookline Avenue	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Off Campus Housing	Residence Hall Address	Number of Fires	Cause of Fire	Number of Person Receiving Treatment	Number of Fire Related Deaths	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire
77 Park Drive	77 Park Drive	0	N/A	0	0	0
81 Park Drive	81 Park Drive	0	N/A	0	0	0
Boston University Peabody Hall	210 Riverway	0	N/A	0	0	0

Fire Statistics 2019

Residence Hall	Residence Hall Address	Number of Fires	Cause of Fire	Number of Persons Receiving Treatment	Number of Fire Related Deaths	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire
Arnold Hall	78 Pilgrim Road	0	N/A	0	0	0
Dix Hall	30 Pilgrim Road	0	N/A	0	0	0
Evans Hall	305 Brookline Avenue	0	N/A	0	0	0
Mesick Hall	291 Brookline Avenue	0	N/A	0	0	0
Morse Hall	275 Brookline Avenue	0	N/A	0	0	0
North Hall	86 Pilgrim Road	0	N/A	0	0	0
Simmons Hall	255 Brookline Avenue	0	N/A	0	0	0
Smith Hall	54 Pilgrim Road	0	N/A	0	0	0
South Hall	321 Brookline Avenue	0	N/A	0	0	0
Off Campus Housing	Residence Hall Address	Number of Fires	Cause of Fire	Number of Person Receiving Treatment	Number of Fire Related Deaths	Value of Property Damage Caused by a Fire
77 Park Drive	77 Park Drive	0	N/A	0	0	0
81 Park Drive	81 Park Drive	0	N/A	0	0	0
Wheelock Peabody Hall	210 Riverway	0	N/A	0	0	0
1023 Beacon Street, Brookline	1023 Beacon Street, Brookline	0	N/A	0	0	0

