



CAMPUS SECURITY REPORT 2024

Reporting Period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

Tennessee College of Applied Technology – Dickson
740 Highway 46 South, Dickson, TN 37055

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The following is the annual Campus Security Report for Tennessee College of Applied Technology-Dickson (TCAT Dickson) for 2023. The Office of the President prepares this report to comply with the *Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act*. The report can also be accessed on the TCAT's web page at <https://tcatdickson.edu/about/campus-safety-and-security-disclosures>. This report contains security policies, procedures, and guidelines. Crime statistics for 2021-2023 are included in the report. These statistics are based on incidents reported at four (4) campus locations. You may request a paper copy from the Business Office on the TCAT campus at 740 Highway 46 S, Dickson, TN, 37055, or at the Clarksville Campus at 135 International Blvd., Clarksville, TN, 37040.

Crime Statistics: Statement Concerning Law Enforcement (All Campuses)

Nashville State Community College (NSCC) Police Department assumed jurisdiction over the Clarksville Campus of TCAT Dickson on July 10, 2023. Officers employed by the NSCC Police Department are commissioned officers with full police powers on the TCAT campus and certain other areas. Security officers (except off-duty police officers) are not armed and do not have arrest authority. Contact information for the NSCC Police Department is 120 White Bridge Pike, Nashville, TN, 37209, phone (615) 353-3273.

Before the Nashville State Community College Police Department assumed jurisdiction, the local law enforcement agencies listed below had jurisdiction over the TCAT campuses. The TCAT maintains a close working relationship with local law enforcement agencies and may work with such agencies as deemed necessary if criminal activity occurs or is suspected. The following is a list of TCAT campuses, along with the local law enforcement agency that continues to have jurisdiction over each one:

- The main campus is located in Dickson, TN, and is under the jurisdiction of Dickson City Police, 202 S. Main St, Dickson, TN 37055, (615) 446-5403.
- The Advanced Manufacturing Campus is located in Dickson, TN, and is under the jurisdiction of Dickson City Police, 202 S. Main St, Dickson, TN 37055, (615) 446-5403.
- The Clarksville extension campus is located in Clarksville, TN, and is under the jurisdiction of the Nashville State Community College, 120 White Bridge Pike, Nashville, TN 37040, (615) 353-3273.
- The Williamson Extension Campus is located in Franklin, TN, and is under the jurisdiction of the Columbia State Community College (CSCC) Police Department. The CSCC Police Department is based at 1665 Hampshire Pike, Columbia, TN, 38401, (615) 465-5700.

How to Report Criminal Offenses [34 CFR §668.46(b)(2)] (All Campuses)

To report an emergency, always dial 911. To report a crime to the Nashville State Community College Police Department, call 931-572-1694 and ask to speak with the Campus Police Officer. Depending on your campus location, you may also contact the local law enforcement agency at the phone numbers listed below. Any suspicious activity or person seen in the parking lots or loitering around vehicles and inside buildings may also be reported to one of the Campus Security Authorities listed below.

Law Enforcement Agency Contacts by Campus Location:

Advanced Manufacturing Campus	Dickson Police Department	(615) 446-5403
Clarksville Extension Campus	Nashville State Police Department	(615) 353-3273
	Montgomery Co. Sheriff's Department	(931) 648-0611
Dickson Main Campus	Dickson Police Department	(615) 446-5403
Williamson Campus	Columbia State Police Department	(615) 465-5700

Campus Security Authorities:

In addition to reporting crimes to the Nashville State Community College Police Department or local law enforcement, a crime may be reported to a college Campus Security Authority (CSA). The CSAs for the TCAT are listed below:

Dickson Main Campus

Laura Travis, President, Laura.Travis@tcatdickson.edu (615) 551-8923.
Corey Choate, Vice President of Operations, Corey.Choate@tcatdickson.edu, (615) 422-7903
Levi Mayer, Vice President of Academics and Compliance, Levi.Mayer@tcatdickson.edu
Pam Bigham, Student Services Coordinator, Pam.Bigham@tcatdickson.edu, (615) 422-7604.
Cathleen Clark, Human Resources Coordinator, Cathleen.Clark@tcatdickson.edu, (615) 551-8928.
Stephanie Murphy, Director of Healthcare Programs, Stephanie.Murphy@tcatdickson.edu,
(615) 422-7867.
Brandon Rives, SkillsUSA/Student Government Association Advisor,
Brandon.Rives@tcatdickson.edu, (615) 420-4379.

Advanced Manufacturing Campus

Ed Hutchinson, Instructor, Ed.Hutchinson@tcatdickson.edu, (615) 431-1889.
Bryan Johnson, Instructor, Bryan.Johnson@tcatdickson.edu, (615) 422-7947.

Clarksville Extension Campus

Deanna Griffin, Director of Clarksville Campus, Deanna.Griffin@tcatdickson.edu, (931) 444-6503.
Salvatore Evangelista, SkillsUSA Advisor, Salvatore.Evangelista@tcatdickson.edu, (931) 999-7106.
Cian Page, Lead Facilities Associate, Cian.Page@tcatdickson.edu, (931) 444-6531.
Lisa Sullivan, Student Services Counselor, Lisa.Sullivan@tcatdickson.edu, (931) 551-2667.
Dawn Vandygriff, Student Government Advisor, Dawn.Vandygriff@tcatdickson.edu, (931)444-6494.

Franklin Instructional Service Center (Williamson Campus effective January 2024)

Stephanie Murphy, Director of Healthcare Programs, Stephanie.Murphy@tcatdickson.edu,
(615) 422-7867.
Lisa Buckley, Associate Instructor, lisa.buckley@tcatdickson.edu (615) 365-1507.

Emergency Notifications and Timely Warnings [34 CFR §668.46(b)(2)(i)] (All Campuses)

The TCAT will issue an emergency notification in case of an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees on campus. Examples include a building fire, hazardous material spill affecting a large area, tornadoes or other severe weather events, or an active shooter on campus.

The TCAT will issue a timely warning notice to the campus community in a timely manner of specific crimes that occurred on campus. A timely warning notice aims to offer safety tips and information to aid in the prevention of similar crimes. A timely warning notice will not be issued for the circumstances that led to the issuance of an emergency notification.

Process for Confirmation

The TCAT President (or designee in the President's absence) is responsible for confirming emergencies or dangerous situations after receiving input from knowledgeable sources. Once confirmed, the President will issue orders to release emergency notifications and/or timely warnings as needed. All employees are to reference the *Emergency Preparedness Response Guide*, posted in each classroom and office, for specific plans for individual emergency types. In addition to the President, the following individuals may be involved in deciding whether to issue timely warning notifications and/or emergency notifications, as well as preparing and disseminating the notifications.

- Vice President of Academic Affairs and Compliance
- Vice President of Fiscal Services
- Vice President of Operations
- Director of Clarksville Campus
- Director of Healthcare Programs
- Student Services Coordinator
- Human Resources Coordinator

All employees can contact the President directly with information about emergencies and dangerous situations, or information may be submitted to the CSAs identified above. Leadership staff members will relay information to the President. In the absence of the President, a minimum of two leadership staff members, when possible, shall discuss any situations and determine how to proceed with notifications.

Decisions to Notify Certain Campuses

Depending on the assessed need, TCAT Dickson will notify students, employees, and staff. If large segments of the TCAT population are affected, notifications may be made to all campuses (Dickson, Clarksville, Franklin, Advanced Manufacturing). When conditions causing the notice are localized, notifications may be made to individual campuses; however, a continuing assessment of situations may warrant additional notifications to other segments of the community.

Content of Notifications

The TCAT President or the President's leadership staff designee will determine what information will be contained in notifications; depending on the affected segments, notifications may vary between targets.

Means of Communication

Notifications will be disseminated using methods likely to reach campus community members. Those include electronic communication (email, text, cell), public address systems, or via alarms based on the timeliness of need for the message being communicated. Any leadership staff member may initiate the notification systems.

Timeliness

The TCAT will inform the community of a confirmed significant emergency or dangerous situation in a timely manner (as soon as pertinent information is available). The institution will consider the safety of the community, determine the content of any notifications, and initiate the notification system. The institution may withhold a notification when the professional judgment of responsible authorities indicates that issuing a notification will compromise efforts to assist a victim or contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency.

Emergency Personnel

- Emergency Confirmation:
President/Leadership Staff Designees
(a minimum of 2 designees in the absence of the President)
- Emergency Notice Content:
President/ Leadership Staff Designees
(a minimum of 2 designees in the absence of the President)
- Emergency Notification Initiation:
President/ Leadership Staff Designees
(a minimum of 2 designees in the absence of the President)
- Call 911:
President/ Leadership Staff/Any employee with immediate access to phone
- Emergency Preparedness Operations:
Vice President of Operations/Lead Facility Associate
- Emergency Preparedness Canvas Areas:
Vice President of Operations/Director of Clarksville Campus
- Emergency Preparedness Traffic Control:
Student Services Coordinator/Automotive Instructor
- Emergency Preparedness First Aid:
Director of Healthcare Programs/Nursing Instructors

Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures [34 CFR §668.46(b)(13)]

The TCAT maintains at least one version of an Emergency Preparedness Response Guide. The plan is easily recognizable in a red flip book located in centralized areas for faculty, staff, and student access. The Guide contains Emergency Response Plans, Emergency Notifications, Medical Emergency Plans, Active Shelter Protocols, Floor Plans, Evacuation Routes, and Safe Places.

In the event of a serious incident that poses an immediate threat to members of the TCAT community, the TCAT has various systems in place for communicating information quickly. Some or all of these methods of communication may be activated in the event of an immediate threat to the campus community. These methods of communication include the RAVE message system (text/phone/email), the college e-mail

system, TCAT Dickson's Facebook page, computer desktop alert software, emergency notification beacons located at various points on campus, and TCAT Dickson's website.

The TCAT will, considering the safety of the community, determine the content of the notification and initiate the notification system, unless issuing a notification will, in the professional judgment of responsible authorities, compromise efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency.

The TCAT conducts emergency preparedness drills annually to test the emergency response and evacuation procedures of each facility at all campuses. The results of each drill are recorded, documenting the date, time, and whether it was an announced or unannounced drill.

Preparation of Disclosure of Crime Statistics [34 CFR §668.46(b)(2)(ii)] (All Campuses)

The Office of the President prepares this report to comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act. Copies of the crime statistics for the reporting period covered under this report have been included as Appendix A-C. The full text of this report can be located on our website at <https://tcatdickson.edu/about/campus-safety-and-security-disclosures>. The statistics contained in this report are prepared in cooperation with the Nashville State Community College Police Department and local law enforcement agencies surrounding our main campus and alternate sites. Campus crime, arrest, and referral statistics include those reported to Campus Security Authorities and local law enforcement agencies when reported to the TCAT. Upon completing the Annual Security Report, an e-mail notification is sent to all enrolled students, faculty, and staff, providing the website access to this report. Copies of the report may also be obtained from the Business Office located at 740 Highway 46 S, Dickson, TN; from the Clarksville Student Services Office located at 135 International Blvd., Clarksville, TN, 37040; or by calling (615) 441-6220.

Copies of the Daily Crime Log are available for public inspection at the Dickson Main Campus, 740 Highway 46 South, Dickson, TN. Individuals at other locations may obtain access to the Daily Crime Log by contacting the highest-ranking administrator on the campus. The log is available during the college's normal operating hours.

Voluntary Confidential Reporting of Crimes [34 CFR §668.46(b)(2)(iii)] (All Campuses)

TCAT Dickson encourages anyone who is a victim, witness or knows about any crime to promptly report the incident to one of the CSAs described above. The confidentiality of people reporting criminal activity can be requested. It will be respected, when possible, but it cannot be ensured as police reports for closed cases are generally available under the Tennessee Public Records Act. The annual crime statistics do not include personally identifiable information.

Security and Access [34 CFR §668.46(b)(3)] (All Campuses)

The college will be open to students, parents, employees, contractors, guests, and invitees during business hours. During non-business hours, access to all college facilities is limited. Some facilities may have individual hours, varying at different times of the year. In these cases, the facilities will be secured according to schedules developed by the person responsible. Emergencies may necessitate changes or alterations to any posted schedules.

The TCAT examines security issues such as landscaping, locks, alarms, lighting, and communications. Any

maintenance needs may be reported to the Vice President of Operations or Director of Clarksville Campus. Any identified security concern will be evaluated by the Vice President of Operations and facilities staff.

Memorandum of Understanding/Mutual Aid Agreement with Local Law Enforcement [34 CFR §668.46(b)(4)(i and ii)] (All Campuses)

The Nashville State Community College Police Department and staff at the TCAT Clarksville campus maintain close working relationships with their local law enforcement agencies. TCAT staff at the Dickson, Advanced Manufacturing, and Franklin campuses also maintain close working relationships with their local law enforcement agencies. There is no written memorandum of understanding between the TCAT and law enforcement agencies in Montgomery County or the city of Franklin. However, the college does have a written MOU with the Dickson Police Department.

Encouragement of Accurate and Prompt Crime Reporting [34 CFR §668.46(b)(4)(ii)] (All Campuses)

The campus community (students, faculty, and staff), as well as others, are strongly encouraged to report any criminal behavior or suspected criminal acts promptly to the Nashville State Community College Police Department, to a local law enforcement agency identified above, or to a Campus Security Authority identified above. Call 911 to obtain immediate assistance from local law enforcement agencies in an emergency, then contact a CSA. It is a core objective of the TCAT to maintain a safe environment for the entire campus population and visitors. To help achieve this, each person is encouraged to promptly and accurately report criminal activity.

Security Awareness Programs for Students and Employees [34 CFR §668.46(b)(5)] (All Campuses)

During orientation, staff and students are informed of the need to exercise personal safety and help maintain security on the TCAT Dickson main campus and all extension campuses. Once enrolled in class, all students receive an orientation promoting safe environments and a review of an active shooter video. All students and employees are notified to review the active shooter video each trimester.

Using common-sense safety practices such as walking in groups, reporting suspicious activities, protecting money, books, and other personal items, locking cars and office doors when leaving, observing speed limits, and generally being alert to personal welfare will help ensure personal safety on and off campus.

The TCAT provides information on how to prevent crime through workplace violence prevention policy, firearms, and other weapons policy, bystander intervention strategies, and risk reduction strategies. These resources are available on the college's website or through training available on the website.

Monitoring Off-campus Student Organizations [34 CFR §668.46(b)(7)] (All Campuses)

The TCAT does not have officially recognized student organizations with off-campus locations.

Alcohol Awareness and Illegal Drugs [34 CFR §668.46(b)(8) & (b)(9)] (All Campuses)

TCAT students and employees are prohibited from engaging in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, use of, or being under the influence of illicit drugs as defined in the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. § 812 and/or alcohol on any TCAT campus, property owned or controlled by the TCAT, or as part of any TCAT activity. The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages on property owned or controlled by the college is prohibited, except as provided in TBR Policy 1.07.00.05, General

Policy on Alcoholic Beverages. Students are subject to TBR Policy 3.02.00.01, General Policy on Student Conduct and Disciplinary Sanctions.

It is unlawful for any person under the age of twenty-one (21) to buy, possess, transport (unless fulfilling job duties), or consume alcoholic beverages, wine, or beer, such offenses being classified as Class A misdemeanors punishable by imprisonment for not more than 11 months, 29 days, or a fine of not more than \$2,500, or both. (T.C.A. § 1-3-113 and T.C.A. § 57-5-301). It is further an offense to provide alcoholic beverages to any person under the age of twenty-one (21); such an offense is classified as a Class A misdemeanor. (T.C.A. § 39-15-404). Public intoxication is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 30 days or a fine of not more than \$50, or both. (T.C.A § 39-17-310).

The complete Student Conduct Policy, which describes possible penalties for student violations, can be accessed through this link: [TBR Student Conduct Policy](#). The complete Employee Disciplinary Policy, which describes possible penalties for employee violations, can be accessed through this link: [TBR Employee Disciplinary Policy](#).

Policy Statement Addressing Substance Abuse Education [34 CFR §668.46(b)(10)]

A. General

Drug and Alcohol Awareness

The TCAT is committed to raising the awareness of students and employees of the health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol. A synopsis of those health risks is presented below.

B. Alcohol

Alcoholism is a complex, progressive disease that interferes with health and social and economic functioning. Untreated alcoholism results in physical incapacity, permanent mental damage, and/or premature death. Alcohol is involved in one-third of all suicides, one-half of all traffic accidents, and one-fourth of all other accidents and is involved in over 50% of all arrests. Alcohol is the third leading cause of birth defects involving intellectual disability. Use during pregnancy may cause spontaneous abortion, various birth defects, or fetal alcohol syndrome. Drinking is implicated in cancer, heart disease, gastrointestinal disease, and other illnesses. Alcoholism has been estimated to reduce life expectancy by twelve years. Alcoholic beverages can damage all body organs, leading to liver, heart, and digestive problems, circulatory system interference, change in personality, reproductive problems, and central nervous system disorders such as poor vision, loss of coordination, memory loss, loss of sensation, mental and physical disturbances, and permanent brain damage. The physical and psychological changes that occur because of alcohol addiction can pave the way for addiction to pharmacologically similar drugs.

C. Illicit Drugs

The use of illicit drugs results in many of the health risks that are involved with alcohol use. Illicit drug use increases the risk of mental deterioration, death from overdose, physical and mental dependence or addiction, hepatitis and skin infections from needle use, psychotic reactions, inducement to take stronger drugs, brain damage, danger of flashback phenomenon, hallucinations, unconsciousness, deep depression, distortion of time and space, permanent damage

to lungs, brain, kidneys, and liver, death from suffocation or choking, anemia, amnesia, AIDS, and other infections. If used excessively, the use of alcohol and drugs singly or in certain combinations may cause death.

D. Counseling, Treatment, and Rehabilitation Programs

The Student Services Coordinator will assist students, and the Human Resources Coordinator will assist employees by providing information concerning treatment resources in the surrounding area and assisting individuals in making initial contact with treatment providers. Regular employees may also use the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) by calling 1-855-437-3486 or on the web at <https://www.here4tn.com/>. Information concerning the EAP is available in the Human Resources Office.

Sexual Misconduct [34 CFR §668.46(b)(11)] (All Campuses)

Sexual misconduct, including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking, is a form of sex discrimination prohibited by Title IX. The TCAT is committed to eliminating all acts of sexual misconduct and discrimination on its campuses. A copy of the Sexual Misconduct Policy is contained in Appendix D and may also be found in the TCAT Handbook at <https://tcatdickson.edu/student-handbook/?page-id=4443>

Sexual Misconduct Educational Programs and Campaigns [34 CFR §668.46(b)(11)(i)]

The TCAT engages in comprehensive online educational programming to prevent sexual misconduct. Educational programming consists of primary prevention and awareness programs for all incoming students and new employees and ongoing awareness and prevention campaigns for students, staff, and faculty that:

1. Identifies domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking as prohibited conduct.
2. Defines what behavior constitutes domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
3. Defines what behavior and actions constitute consent to sexual activity.
4. Provides safe and positive options for bystander intervention that an individual may carry out to prevent harm or intervene when there is a risk of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking against a person other than the bystander.
5. Provides information on risk reduction so that students and employees may recognize warning signs of abusive behavior and how to avoid potential attacks.

Assistance for Victims of Sexual Misconduct: Rights and Options

A. Whether a victim elects to pursue a criminal complaint or whether the offense occurred on or off campus, the College will assist victims of sexual misconduct and provide each victim with a written explanation of her/his rights as a member of the college.

B. Additionally, in the Tennessee court system, a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking has the following rights: the right to confer with the prosecution, the right to be free from intimidation, harassment, and abuse throughout the criminal justice system, the right to be present at all proceedings where the defendant has the right to be present, the right to be heard, when relevant,

at all critical stages of the criminal justice process as defined by the General Assembly, the right to be informed of all proceedings, and the release, transfer or escape of the accused or convicted person, the right to a speedy trial or disposition and a prompt and final conclusion of the case after the conviction or sentence, the right to restitution from the offender and the right to be informed of each of the rights established for victims. Information related to these rights may be found at <https://www.tn.gov/correction/victim-services/tennessee-crime-victims--bill-of-rights.html>

C. Protection from abuse orders may be available through <http://www.tncourts.gov/programs/self-help-center/forms/order-protection-forms>, and additional information related to such orders may be found at <https://tncoalition.org/get-help/legal-services/>

D. The college does not publish the names of crime victims nor maintain identifiable information regarding victims in the Daily Crime Log or in the release of timely warnings.

Resources for Victims of Sexual Misconduct

The resources listed below are not exhaustive or limited to victims who wish to make an official report or participate in an institutional hearing, police investigation or criminal prosecution. However, in cases where a victim wishes to maintain complete confidentiality, the victim should review carefully the section “Reporting Confidentially” below related to the limits on the College’s ability to maintain confidentiality. Victims can seek information on treatment for injuries, preventative treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, and where and how to get a rape kit or find a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) from the resources listed in this section.

On campus resources

Office of the Title IX Coordinator, Levi Mayer	740 Hwy 46 South Dickson, TN 37055	(615) 551-8908 Levi.Mayer@tcatdickson.edu
Student Services Coordinator, Pam Bigham	740 Hwy 46 South Dickson, TN 37055	(615) 422-7604 Pam.Bigham@tcatdickson.edu
Director Of Clarksville Campus, Deanna Griffin	135 International Blvd. Clarksville, TN 37040	(615) 444-6503 Deanna.Griffin@tcatdickson.edu
Clinical Therapist, Family and Children’s Services Karista Blanton, LMSW	Location determined by appointment	(615) 852-8965 kblanton@fcsnashville.org Crisis Line: (615) 244-7444

Online Resources

<http://tncoalition.org/>- State Coalition Against Rape

<http://tncoalition.org/>- State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

<http://www.thehotline.org/>- National Domestic Violence Hotline for victims of sexual or domestic violence, including support for women, LGBTQ, and minority individuals.

<http://www.rainn.org> – Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network

<https://www.justice.gov/usao-dc/information-victims-sexual-assault> -- Department of Justice

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html> -- Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights

Phone Number Resources

Free National Resources

National Domestic Violence Hotline----- 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)
National Sexual Assault Hotline ----- 1-800-656-HOPE (4673)
National Stalking Resources ----- 1-800-FYI-CALL (1-800-394-2255) National
Teen Dating Abuse ----- 1-866-331-9474

Local Resources

Crisis Intervention Center – Clarksville ----- 2-1-1 or 931-648-1000
Tennova Healthcare – Clarksville ----- 931-502-1000
TriStar Horizon Medical Center – Dickson ----- 615-446-0446
Centerstone – Dickson Location----- 615-446-3797
Centerstone – Clarksville Location ----- 931-920-7200
Centerstone at Gateway Crisis Center ----- 931-502-2025
Centerstone 24-Hour Crisis Intervention ----- 1-800-681-7444
Crisis Line ----- 1-888-291-HELP FREE (4357)

[Family Justice Centers \(tn.gov\)](http://www.tn.gov)

Reporting Confidentially

If a victim chooses to report an incident of sexual misconduct in a confidential manner, the victim can report the incident to the following agency that employs licensed counselors and is required by Tennessee state law to maintain the confidentiality of a victim:

Sexual Assault Center, Counseling & Education

101 French Landing Dr., Nashville, TN 37228; (615) 259-9055

24-hour hotline 1-866-811-7473.

1725-I Wilma Rudolph Blvd., Clarksville, TN 37040; (931) 241-4143

<http://www.sacenter.org/>

Counselors and health care providers not affiliated with the institution will generally maintain confidentiality and not share information with the institution unless the Complainant requests the disclosure and signs a consent or waiver form. However, these resources may have reporting obligations under state or federal law. For example, healthcare providers and certain other individuals are required to notify law enforcement when a person seeks treatment for injuries related to a violent crime, including injuries resulting from Sexual Misconduct or abuse of a minor.

Additional information about confidential reporting of sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking can be found in the Sexual Misconduct Policy attached as Appendix D and available at <https://tcatdickson.edu/student-handbook/?page-id=4443>.

Role of Title IX Coordinator

A. The College’s Title IX Coordinator is responsible for overseeing all Title IX incidents reported to the institution and for implementation of this policy, including but not limited to, identifying and addressing any systemic gender-based harassment, discrimination, and sexual misconduct. The Title

IX Coordinator's responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Investigation or oversight of investigations of allegations related to Title IX.
2. Coordinate and oversee educational programs, including mandatory training for new students and employees and awareness campaigns for current students and employees.
3. Coordination with local law enforcement on matters related to allegations related to sexual misconduct.
4. Coordinate and oversee training for anyone involved in responding to, investigating, or adjudicating sexual misconduct.
5. Coordinate and oversee employee training related to their responsibilities when they become aware of sexual misconduct.
6. Coordination and oversight of annual training for investigators, decision makers, hearing officers, and hearing committee members on the issues related to sexual misconduct and on how to investigate and hearing process that protects the safety of Complainants and promotes accountability; and
7. Attending appropriate training annually on responding to or investigating sexual misconduct allegations.

B. The Title IX Coordinator may designate deputies and investigators ("designees") to assist in carrying out any responsibilities related to implementing this policy.

The Title IX Coordinator shall report to the System Office the name and contact information of the College's Title IX Coordinator at the beginning of each new school year or any time there is a change in the assignment.

Bystander Intervention and Risk Reduction

Everyone has a responsibility to help prevent sexual harassment. Bystander intervention is one means of prevention and reducing risks. Bystander intervention essentially means interrupting problematic behavior. Bystanders can help prevent sexual harassment in a safe way by being involved before, during, or after a situation where an individual may make inappropriate jokes or comments, may make threats, or may behave in a way that is harmful to another person. Individuals are encouraged to review bystander tips and strategies published by national resources.

[Prevention Links | National Sexual Violence Resource Center \(NSVRC\)](#)

<https://www.rainn.org/articles/practicing-active-bystander-intervention>

[Prevention Strategies | Violence Prevention|Injury Center|CDC](#)

[Risk Reduction Strategies | National Sexual Violence Resource Center \(NSVRC\)](#)

Definitions [34 CFR §668.46(j)]

The TCAT prohibits Sexual Misconduct, which includes rape, fondling, incest, statutory rape, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking. Those terms are defined in the Sexual Misconduct policy (Appendix D) per federal Title IX and Clery Act regulations. The crime statistics reported in Appendices A-C are based on the Clery Act.

Crimes as defined by the Tennessee criminal code differ from the definitions in the Clery Act (and are not

used for purposes of Clery Act reporting). Tennessee's criminal code includes the following definitions.

Stalking (T.C.A. § 39-17-315) is a willful course of conduct involving repeated or continuing harassment of another individual that would cause a reasonable person to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested, and that actually causes the victim to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested.

- A "Course of conduct" means a pattern of conduct composed of a series of two or more separate, noncontinuous acts evidencing a continuity of purpose, including, but not limited to, acts in which the defendant directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to a person, or interferes with a person's property.
- "Emotional distress" means significant mental suffering or distress that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.
- "Harassment" means conduct directed toward a victim that includes, but is not limited to, repeated or continuing unconsented contact that would cause a reasonable person to suffer emotional distress, and that actually causes the victim to suffer emotional distress. Harassment does not include constitutionally protected activity or conduct that serves a legitimate purpose.
- "Unconsented contact" means any contact with another person that is initiated or continued without that person's consent, or in disregard of that person's expressed desire that the contact be avoided or discontinued. Unconsented contact includes, but is not limited to, any of the following: (1) following or appearing within the sight of that person; (2) approaching or confronting that person in a public place or on private property; (3) appearing at that person's workplace or residence; (4) entering onto or remaining on property owned, leased, or occupied by that person; (5) contacting that person by telephone; (6) sending to that person mail or any electronic communications, including, but not limited to, electronic mail, text messages, or any other type of electronic message sent using the Internet, web sites, or a social media platform; or (7) placing an object on, or delivering an object to, property owned, leased, or occupied by that person.
- "Victim" means an individual who is the target of a willful course of conduct involving repeated or continuing harassment.

Sexual Assault is not specifically defined in the Tennessee Code, but several sexual offenses are defined.

- **Rape** (T.C.A. § 39-13-503) is the unlawful sexual penetration of a victim by the defendant or of the defendant by a victim accompanied by any of the following circumstances: (1) Force or coercion is used to accomplish the act; (2) The sexual penetration is accomplished without the consent of the victim and the defendant knows or has reason to know at the time of the penetration that the victim did not consent; (3) The defendant knows or has reason to know that the victim is mentally defective, mentally incapacitated or physically helpless; or (4) The sexual penetration is accomplished by fraud.
- **Sexual Battery** (T.C.A. § 39-13-505) is unlawful sexual contact with a victim by the defendant or the defendant by a victim accompanied by any of the following circumstances: (1) force or coercion is used to accomplish the act; (2) the sexual contact is accomplished without the consent of the victim and the defendant knows or has reason to know at the time of the contact that the victim did not consent; (3) the defendant knows or has reason to know that the victim is mentally defective, mentally incapacitated or physically helpless; or (4) the sexual contact is accomplished by fraud.
- **Statutory Rape** (T.C.A. § 39-13-506) is the unlawful sexual penetration of a victim by the defendant or of the defendant by the victim when: (1) the victim is at least thirteen but less than fifteen years of age and the defendant is at least four years but less than ten years older than the

victim; or (2) the victim is at least fifteen but less than eighteen years of age and the defendant is more than five but less than ten years older than the victim.

- **Incest** (T.C.A. § 39-15-302) is sexual penetration as defined in T.C.A. § 39-13-501, with a person, knowing the person to be, without regard to legitimacy: (1) the person's natural parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, stepparent, stepchild, adoptive parent, adoptive child; or (2) the person's brother or sister of the whole or half-blood or by adoption.
- **Other sexual offenses** are included in T.C.A. § 39-13-501 through § 39-13-511.

Domestic Violence and **Dating Violence** are not defined in the Tennessee criminal code, but the **Domestic Assault** and domestic abuse victim (T.C.A. § 39-13-111) are defined as any person who falls within the following categories: (1) adults or minors who are current or former spouses; (2) adults or minors who live together or who have lived together; (3) adults or minors who are dating or who have dated or who have or had a sexual relationship, but does not include fraternization between two individuals in a business or social context; (4) adults or minors related by blood or adoption; (5) adults or minors who are related or were formerly related by marriage; or (6) adult or minor children of a person in a relationship that is described in subdivisions (1)-(5).

- For purposes of these definitions, as defined in T.C.A. § 39-13-101 a person commits **Assault** who: (1) intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury to another; (2) intentionally or knowingly causes another to reasonably fear imminent bodily injury; or (3) intentionally or knowingly causes physical contact with another and a reasonable person would regard the contact as extremely offensive or provocative.
- **Abuse** (T.C.A. § 36-3-601) means inflicting, or attempting to inflict, physical injury on an adult or minor by other than accidental means, placing an adult or minor in fear of physical harm, physical restraint, malicious damage to the personal property of the abused party, including inflicting, or attempting to inflict, physical injury on any animal owned, possessed, leased, kept, or held by an adult or minor, or placing an adult or minor in fear of physical harm to any animal owned, possessed, leased, kept, or held by the adult or minor.
- **Adult** means any person eighteen (18) years of age or older, or who is otherwise emancipated.

Consent is not specifically defined in the Tennessee criminal code, but with respect to most criminal offenses relating to sexual activity, sexual activity is criminal if: (1) the activity was accomplished without the consent of the victim and the defendant knows or has reason to know at the time of the activity that the victim did not consent; (2) force or coercion is used to accomplish the activity; (3) the defendant knows or has reason to know that the victim is mentally defective, mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless; or (4) the sexual activity is accomplished by fraud.

- “Coercion” (T.C.A. § § 39-13-501(1)) means a threat of kidnapping, extortion, force, or violence to be performed immediately or in the future.
- “Mentally defective” (T.C.A. § § 39-13-501(3)) means that a person suffers from a mental disease or defect which renders that person temporarily or permanently incapable of appraising the nature of the person's conduct.
- “Mentally incapacitated” (T.C.A. § 39-13-501(4)) means that a person is rendered temporarily incapable of appraising or controlling the person's conduct due to the influence of a narcotic, anesthetic or other substance administered to that person without the person's consent, or due to any other act committed upon that person without the person's consent.
- “Physically helpless” (T.C.A. § 39-13-501(5)) means that a person is unconscious, asleep or for any other reason physically or verbally unable to communicate unwillingness to do an act.
- Consent is not relevant to sexual activity with a person under the age of eighteen (18) years of age because under Tennessee law a minor is not capable of consenting to sexual activity.

Tennessee law, however, provides a close-in-age exception that allows minors who are at least thirteen (13) and less than eighteen (18) to give consent to sexual acts with another person who is less than four (4) years older than the minor.

Sex Offender Registration [34 CFR §668.46(b)(12)] (All Campuses)

In accordance with the *Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act of 2000*, which amends the *Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act*, the *Jeanne Clery Act* and the *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974*, the TCAT is providing a link to the Tennessee State Sex Offender Registry. This act requires institutions of higher education to issue a statement advising the campus community where law enforcement information provided by a State concerning registered sex offenders may be obtained. It also requires sex offenders already required to register in a state to provide notice of each institution of higher education in that state at which the person is employed, carries a vocation, or is a student. Members of the campus community may obtain the most recent information received from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) concerning sex offenders employed, enrolled, or volunteering at this institution from the State of Tennessee's website listing of sex offenders located at <https://sor.tbi.tn.gov/home>.

Unlawful use of the information for the purpose of intimidating or harassing another is prohibited and willful violation shall be punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor.

Tennessee Incident Based Crime Reporting (TIBRS)

In compliance with the Tennessee "College and University Security Act" of 1989 (T.C.A. § Sections 49-7-2201 through 49-7-2207), all institutions of higher education are mandated to report all crimes that occur in Tennessee to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) in an effort to assist law enforcement, institution administrations, and government officials in planning their efforts to fight crime and continue to create an awareness that crime exists as a threat in our communities. TIBRS crime reporting differs from Clery Act crime reporting in those incidents are coded differently. TIBRS crime reporting does not meet all Clery Act requirements and the statistics for each will not correspond with one another. To view a full copy of TBI's publication "Crime on Campus 2023" including statistics from each institution, go to TBI's website or click the following link:

<https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tbi/documents/Crime%20on%20Campus%202023%20Final%20SECURED.pdf>

Appendix A

2023 Clery Crime Statistics – Year 2021

Crime Classification	2021				
	Dickson Main (On-Campus)	Dickson Non-Campus*	Dickson Public Property	Clarksville Extension (On-Campus)	Clarksville Ext. Public Property
Murder / Non-negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations (Arrests)	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Violations (Arrests)	1	0	0	0	0
Weapons Violations (Arrests)	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	0	0	0	0
Hate Crimes	0	0	0	0	0
Unfounded Crimes	0	0	0	0	0
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS					
Liquor Law Violations	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Violations	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons Violations	0	0	0	0	0

* Dickson Main Campus non-campus sites include the following locations: Franklin and Advanced Manufacturing Campus (formerly the Green Sustainable Energy Campus). Locations designated as ‘non-campus’ sites do not have public property as defined by the 2016 edition of the U.S. Dept. of Education’s Handbook for Campus Safety and Security Reporting.

Incident reports are requested from local law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over TCAT Dickson campus locations. Statistics based on those reports are included in the chart above if provided by the law enforcement agencies.

Appendix B 2023 Clery Crime Statistics – Year 2022

Crime Classification	2022				
	Dickson Main (On-Campus)	Dickson Non-Campus*	Dickson Public Property	Clarksville Extension (On-Campus)	Clarksville Ext. Public Property
Murder / Non-negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations (Arrests)	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Violations (Arrests)	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons Violations (Arrests)	0	0	0	1	0
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	0	0	0	0
Hate Crimes	0	0	0	0	0
Unfounded Crimes	0	0	0	0	0
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS					
Liquor Law Violations	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Violations	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons Violations	0	0	0	0	0

* Dickson Main Campus non-campus sites include the following locations: Franklin and Advanced Manufacturing Campus (formerly the Green Sustainable Energy Campus). Locations designated as 'non-campus' sites do not have public property as defined by the 2016 edition of the U.S. Dept. of Education's Handbook for Campus Safety and Security Reporting.

Incident reports are requested from local law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over TCAT Dickson campus locations. Statistics based on those reports are included in the chart above if provided by the law enforcement agencies.

Appendix C

2023 Clery Crime Statistics – Year 2023

Crime Classification	2023				
	Dickson Main (On-Campus)	Dickson Non-Campus*	Dickson Public Property	Clarksville Extension (On-Campus)	Clarksville Ext. Public Property
Murder / Non-negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations (Arrests)	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Violations (Arrests)	1	0	0	0	0
Weapons Violations (Arrests)	0	0	0	1	0
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	0	0	0	0
Hate Crimes	0	0	0	0	0
Unfounded Crimes	0	0	0	0	0
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS					
Liquor Law Violations	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Violations	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons Violations	0	0	0	0	0

* Dickson Main Campus non-campus sites include the following locations: Franklin and Advanced Manufacturing Campus (formerly the Green Sustainable Energy Campus). Locations designated as 'non-campus' sites do not have public property as defined by the 2016 edition of the U.S. Dept. of Education's Handbook for Campus Safety and Security Reporting.

Incident reports are requested from local law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over TCAT Dickson campus locations. Statistics based on those reports are included in the chart above if provided by the law enforcement agencies.

Appendix D

TCAT Dickson Campus Violence Policy



Policy Name:	Campus Violence
TBR Policy Number:	6:03:00:00
TCAT-D Policy Number:	SES-108
Effective Date:	March 3, 2016
Date of Last Revision:	September 25, 2024
Functional Area:	Academic Affairs

TCAT Dickson Campus Violence Policy For Crimes of Violence and/or Sexual Misconduct

TCAT Dickson complies with [TBR Policy No. 6.03.00.00](#) regarding Sexual Misconduct. All other forms of sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, are also strictly prohibited. Allegations that are not within the scope of this policy are subject to the procedures described in TBR Policies 6.01.00.00 & 6.02.00.00 and TBR Guideline P- 080 located at <https://policies.tbr.edu/policies/sexual-discriminationharassmentmisconduct>.

I. Prohibition of Sexual Misconduct and General Information

- A. Sexual Misconduct is a form of sex discrimination prohibited by Title IX. TCAT Dickson is committed to eliminating any and all acts of Sexual Misconduct. As set forth in this policy, Sexual Misconduct includes Title IX Sexual Harassment, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Stalking, and Sexual Assault. TCAT Dickson strictly prohibits these offenses. For purposes of institutional policies, a reference to the institution includes the TBR System Office for any complaints, investigations, adjudications, and other proceedings that involve the TBR System Office.
 1. Because Sexual Misconduct is a subset of the broader category of sexual harassment, not all sexual harassment allegations will be handled according to this policy. Allegations of sexual harassment that do not fall within the more limited definition of Sexual Misconduct or otherwise do not meet the criteria for filing a Formal Complaint will be handled in accordance with TBR Guideline P-080 and institutional policy.
- B. With respect to allegations of Sexual Misconduct against faculty and staff in which a student is not the Complainant, additional laws and policies apply, most notably Title VII and anti-discrimination policies. In such situations and absent unusual circumstances, the Complainant may file a Formal Complaint pursuant to this policy or proceed pursuant to TBR Guideline P-080 and the appropriate institutional policy.
- C. With respect to allegations of Sexual Misconduct in which a student is either a Complainant or Respondent and meets the criteria for filing a Formal Complaint, absent unusual circumstances, pursuing a Formal Complaint pursuant to this policy will be the appropriate method of addressing the allegations.
- D. Upon receiving and assessing a report of Sexual Misconduct and/or sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator will decide whether the criteria for proceeding under this policy are met and whether another policy may apply. If there is a possibility of proceeding pursuant to TBR Guideline P-080 and another institutional policy, the Title IX Coordinator will explain the options.
- E. In addition to conduct by students, faculty, and staff, this policy applies to conduct by third parties. An example of a third party is a vendor with whom the institution contracts to provide services.
- F. This policy applies to all students and employees, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. **Title IX Coordinator** Complaints of Sexual Misconduct (or any sexual harassment or sex discrimination) should be made to:

TCAT Dickson Title IX Coordinator

Levi Mayer

740 Highway 46 South, Dickson, TN 37055

levi.mayer@tcatdickson.edu

(615) 551-8908

A Deputy Title IX Coordinator has the same authority under this policy as the Title IX Coordinator.

II. Lack of Bias and Equitable Treatment

- A. Neither the Title IX Coordinator, any investigator, any decision-maker, any person designated to facilitate an informal resolution process, nor anyone deciding an appeal will have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally, or against an individual Complainant or Respondent.
- B. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for appointing investigators, decision-makers, and appellate reviewers, and may appoint someone from another institution or someone not employed by a TBR institution in order to avoid potential bias or for other reasons. In the event of potential bias of the Title IX Coordinator, or if the Title IX Coordinator believes that another person should serve in that role for other reasons, the Title IX Coordinator should report the matter to TBR Central Office.
- C. TCAT Dickson will provide a prompt, fair, and impartial investigation, adjudication, and, if applicable, disciplinary process. TCAT Dickson will treat Complainants and Respondents equitably, which includes an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence, including both evidence that tends to prove or disprove the allegations.
- D. Credibility determinations will not be based on a person's status as a Complainant, Respondent, or witness.
- E. The investigation will proceed with a presumption that the Respondent is not responsible for the alleged conduct unless and until a Determination of responsibility for a violation of this policy is made at the conclusion of the decision-making process. The burden of proof and the burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility rests with the institution. The parties do not carry the burden of proof. It is the institution's responsibility to establish Sexual Misconduct by a preponderance of the evidence.
- F. The institution shall provide simultaneous written notification to the Parties of (1) any initial, interim, or final decision by an official authorized to resolve disciplinary matters, (2) any available appeal procedures for that decision, (3) any change to that decision, and (4) when that decision becomes final. The Parties will receive timely and equal access to information.

III. How to Report Sexual Misconduct

- A. TCAT Dickson takes seriously all complaints of sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, and Sexual Misconduct. This section explains the various reporting, complaint, and confidential disclosure options available to enable individuals to make informed choices about where to turn should they experience sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, or Sexual Misconduct.
 - 1. Sexual Misconduct should be reported to the Title IX Coordinator. Such a report can be made at any time, including during non-business hours, by using the telephone number or electronic mail address, or office mail address. The contact information for TCAT Dickson's Title IX Coordinator is:

TCAT Dickson Title IX Coordinator

Levi Mayer

740 Highway 46 South, Dickson, TN 37055

2. TCAT Dickson recommends that reports and complaints of all Sexual Misconduct be made to the Title IX Coordinator so that the institution can respond appropriately. Although reports and complaints of Sexual Misconduct may be made at any time, reports should be made as soon as possible so that the institution is best able to address the allegation.
3. TCAT Dickson encourages anyone who witnesses, experiences, or has information about possible Sexual Misconduct to take reasonable actions to prevent or stop such actions. This may include speaking up while the behavior is taking place or immediately afterwards, reporting the behavior (in accordance with the reporting options outlined in this policy), directly intervening when it is safe and reasonable to do so, contacting law enforcement, or other means. A person who has been subjected to any type of Sexual Misconduct need not confront the other Party. The appropriate process to address the conduct is through this or other applicable policy.

IV. Supportive and Interim Measures

- A. After receiving a report of potential Sexual Misconduct, whether or not the report is a Formal Complaint, the Title IX Coordinator will contact the Complainant to discuss the availability of Interim/Supportive Measures, inform the Complainant of their availability, and consider the Complainant's wishes with respect to potential Interim/Supportive Measures. The Title IX Coordinator will also explain the process for filing a Formal Complaint.
- B. The Title IX Coordinator, in conjunction with the appropriate department, may implement interim, supportive, or protective measures while assessing, investigating, and resolving the report. These Interim/Supportive Measures are non-disciplinary, non-punitive, individualized services and are offered without fee or charge to the Complainant or Respondent before or after the filing of a Formal Complaint or where no Formal Complaint has been filed. These measures are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the institution's programs or activities without unreasonably burdening the other Party and may include measures designed to protect the safety of all Parties or the institution's educational environment or deter Sexual Misconduct.
- C. These measures may include, but are not limited to: mutual no-contact directives; access to counseling services and assistance in setting up an initial appointment; changing schedules, assignments, or job/study locations to lessen or minimize contact; extensions of deadlines and course-related adjustments; limiting or barring an individual's or organization's access to certain institutional facilities or activities; providing an escort to ensure safe movement on campus; providing academic support services, such as tutoring; arranging for a Party to re-take a course or withdraw from a class without penalty; administrative leave; leave of absence; institution-imposed leave or physical separation from individuals or locations.
- D. TCAT Dickson will attempt to maintain the confidentiality of such Interim/Supportive Measures, to the extent that it can do so without impairing its ability to effectuate the Interim/Supportive Measures or to investigate and adjudicate the complaint.

V. Formal Complaint

- A. Any person alleging to be a victim of Sexual Misconduct that took place within an education program or activity of TCAT Dickson in the United States may file a Formal Complaint under this policy.
- B. A Complainant who wants TCAT Dickson to conduct an investigation and take

action in accordance with this policy must file a Formal Complaint alleging Sexual Misconduct.

- C. A Complainant must submit a written Formal Complaint in person, by mail, or via electronic mail to the Title IX Coordinator. The document must contain the Complainant's physical signature or a "digital signature." (A digital signature is information transmitted electronically that enables the Title IX Coordinator to determine that the Complainant is the person submitting the complaint, including, but not limited to, an email from their TCAT Dickson institutional account or a typed version of the Complainant's name. A digital signature need not reproduce a written signature.) A Formal Complaint cannot be submitted anonymously. Only the Title IX Coordinator can submit a Formal Complaint on behalf of another person.
- D. Although TCAT Dickson will attempt to consider the wishes of Complainants, including that no investigation be conducted, TCAT Dickson will also consider their obligations under both TBR policy and applicable law, including Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Thus, when the Title IX Coordinator receives a report of Sexual Misconduct, and especially when the complaint involves an employee, the Title IX Coordinator may decide to investigate the matter pursuant to Guideline P-080 and institutional policy, even if the Complainant does not want the report investigated. If the Title IX Coordinator decides to file a Formal Complaint, the Title IX Coordinator is not a "Party" to any investigation, Determination or hearing process.
- E. Complainants should provide as much of the following information as possible: what happened, where, and when; names of all people involved, including witnesses (if any); supporting documentation (if any); and contact information. TCAT Dickson encourages reporting of Sexual Misconduct even if some or all information is unavailable or cannot be provided. The Title IX Coordinator will explain their role, the options for reporting an incident, potential available Interim/Supportive Measures, and the available resources for assistance.

VI. Confidential Resources (who will not share information with Title IX Coordinator)

- A. TCAT Dickson encourages victims of Sexual Misconduct to talk to someone about what happened, whether they want their report to be investigated or not, so that they can get the support they need. Some resources are confidential and should be considered if the Complainant does not want the institution to investigate the matter.
- B. TCAT Dickson contracts with WellVia to provide virtual telehealth and mental health services. Should a victim choose to utilize such services, WellVia will not report any information about an incident to the Title IX Coordinator without the victim's permission. 855-WELLVIA
- C. Counselors and health care providers not affiliated with TCAT Dickson will generally maintain confidentiality and not share information with the institution unless the Complainant requests the disclosure and signs a consent or waiver form. However, these resources may have reporting obligations under state or federal law. For example, healthcare providers and certain other individuals are required to notify law enforcement when a person seeks treatment for injuries related to a violent crime, including injuries resulting from Sexual Misconduct or abuse of a minor.

VII. Reporting by Employees

- A. All employees who learn of Sexual Misconduct (or any form of sexual harassment or sex discrimination, or retaliation) are encouraged to report such matters to the Title IX Coordinator.
- B. Supervisors and managers who learn of Sexual misconduct (or any form of sexual harassment or sex discrimination, or retaliation) *must immediately* report such concerns to the Title IX Coordinator.

VIII. Anonymous and Third-Party/Bystander Reporting

- A. TCAT Dickson encourages third parties to report incidents of Sexual Misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. TCAT Dickson may not be able to move forward with third-party reports if the Complainant does not wish to file a Formal Complaint or cooperate with an investigation.
- B. After providing a report, third parties are not entitled to information about the institution's investigation and response due to privacy concerns and applicable federal and state laws.

IX. Abuse of Minors

- A. Tennessee law mandates reporting by any person who has knowledge of physical or mental harm to a child if: (1) the nature of the harm reasonably indicates it was caused by brutality, abuse, or neglect; or (2) on the basis of available information, the harm reasonably appears to have been caused by brutality, abuse, or neglect. Tennessee law also mandates reporting by any person who knows or has reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been sexually abused, regardless of whether the child has sustained any apparent injury as a result of the abuse.
- B. In the event of a life-threatening emergency, a report of child abuse or child sexual abuse should be made by calling 911. In other cases, a report of child abuse or child sexual abuse must be made immediately to one of the following authorities:
 - 1. The Tennessee Department of Children's Services (the Central Intake Child Abuse Hotline is 1-877-237-0004);
 - 2. The sheriff of the county where the child resides;
 - 3. The chief law enforcement official of the city where the child resides; or
 - 4. A judge having juvenile jurisdiction over the child.
- C. In addition, TCAT Dickson employees shall make a report of child abuse or child sexual abuse in connection with an institutional program or activity to the Title IX Coordinator. Note that a report to TCAT Dickson law enforcement or security agency is not sufficient to comply with state law.

X. Law Enforcement

- A. The following law enforcement agencies listed in this policy are available for emergency response, facilitating medical transport, investigating incidents of a criminal nature, referrals, and preserving evidence. Law enforcement may be required to report potential violations of this policy to the Title IX Coordinator and to report incidents of sexual assault and other criminal acts of a serious nature to other law enforcement authorities.

XI. Reporting Pursuant to the Nottingham Act

- A. Unless the victim of a rape does not consent to the reporting of an offense, the chief security officer or chief law enforcement officer of each institution shall immediately notify the local law enforcement agency with territorial jurisdiction over the institution if the officer is in receipt of a report from the victim alleging that any degree of rape has occurred on the property of the institution. The chief security officer or chief law enforcement officer shall designate one (1) or more persons who shall have the authority and duty to notify the appropriate law enforcement agency in the absence of the chief security officer or chief law enforcement officer. In the case of an alleged rape, the institution's law enforcement agency shall lead the investigation. After notifying the local law enforcement agency, the institution shall cooperate in every respect with the investigation conducted by the law enforcement agency. T.C.A. § 49-7-129.
- B. If the victim does not consent to the reporting, the Administration at TCAT Dickson shall not report the offense to the local law enforcement agency. T.C.A. § 49-7-2207; T.C.A. § 49-7-129.

XII. Additional Information

- A. No Retaliation
 1. Retaliation against a person who makes a report or files a complaint, participates or assists in an investigation, encourages another to file a complaint, or opposes Sexual Misconduct (or any other form of discrimination prohibited by institutional policy) is prohibited. Individuals must not interfere with an investigation. Retaliation will result in disciplinary measures, up to and including termination or expulsion.
 2. In order to help prevent retaliation, TCAT Dickson's policy is to keep confidential the identity of anyone who has made a report or complaint of sex discrimination, including anyone who has filed a Formal Complaint of Sexual Misconduct, any Complainant, any Respondent, and any witness except as is required to carry out TCAT Dickson's responsibilities under this policy, as permitted by FERPA, or as required by law.
 3. Anyone who wishes to file a complaint of retaliation should contact the Title IX Coordinator.
- B. Emergency Removal/Administrative Leave
 1. If it appears, based on an allegation of Sexual Misconduct, that a student may constitute an immediate and direct threat to the physical health or safety of another individual, TCAT Dickson will conduct an individualized inquiry and risk analysis and may place the student on interim suspension on an emergency basis. If the institution implements an interim suspension, the student shall be given the opportunity at the time of the decision, or as soon thereafter as reasonably possible, to contest the interim suspension.
Institutions shall follow the procedures set forth in TBR Policy 3.02.00.01-General Regulations on Student Conduct & Disciplinary Sanctions (and applicable institutional policies) before placing any student on interim suspension.
 2. TCAT Dickson may place employees on administrative leave or similar action while addressing allegations of Sexual Misconduct.
 3. Visitors, vendors, and other third Parties may be removed from the premises consistent with applicable policies and procedures.
- C. Court Orders
 1. Individuals may seek orders of protection, restraining orders, or other similar orders from a court of law.
- D. Participation in the Formal Complaint process by a Complainant, Respondent, institution, or other person does not waive applicable privileges, including attorney-client privilege, doctor- patient privilege, the peer review/quality improvement privilege, etc. The holder of a privilege may waive it in certain circumstances.

XIII. Investigation and Outcomes

- A. The Office of General Counsel shall always be consulted prior to investigation.
- B. Intake and Assessment of Formal Complaints
 1. Where Formal Complaints involving more than one Complainant and/or more than one Respondent arise out of the same facts and circumstances, the Title IX Coordinator may consolidate Formal Complaints.
 2. As part of the assessment, the Title IX Coordinator or designee may contact the Complainant and ask for information about the allegations. Supporting documents, such as emails, photos, text messages, and any other evidence should be preserved. If witnesses were present or have relevant knowledge, it is important to identify them, state what they may know, and inform the investigator how they can be contacted.
 3. The Title IX Coordinator will assess the nature of reports and Formal Complaints,

including whether one or more allegations meet the criteria for the filing of a Formal Complaint (e.g., whether the allegations include conduct that, if proven, took place in the United States and will constitute Sexual Misconduct in an education program or activity by a participant or someone attempting to participate in the education program or activity). If a Formal Complaint includes some allegations that, if proved, constitute Sexual Misconduct and some that do not meet that definition, the Title IX Coordinator will decide whether all allegations will be investigated pursuant to this policy or whether the allegations will be investigated according to another policy or guideline. As appropriate, the Title IX Coordinator may initiate proceedings under another policy, refer the matter to another department, and/or inform the Complainant about the availability of other methods to address the allegations.

C. Notice of Allegations

1. Upon receipt of a Formal Complaint, the Title IX Coordinator will provide written notice to known Parties. (A Notice of Allegations will be provided even if the Formal Complaint is dismissed at the same time or shortly after the Notice of Allegations issues (e.g., the allegations if proven do not meet the definition of Sexual Misconduct)). The Notice of Allegations will enable both Parties to appeal the dismissal or to proceed under another policy.) The Notice of Allegations shall contain:
 - a. an explanation of the investigation and grievance process, including a copy of or link to TCAT Dickson I policy, as well as any other applicable policies;
 - b. the availability of an informal resolution process;
 - c. explanation of the allegations potentially constituting Sexual Misconduct in sufficient detail and with sufficient time to prepare a response before any initial interview. A Respondent will have at least three (3) business days after issuance of a Notice of Allegations prior to an initial interview, but depending on the nature of the allegations, additional time may be offered or requested;
 - d. the identity of the Parties involved in the incident, if known, and the date and location of the alleged incident;
 - e. a statement that the Respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct unless and until a Determination of responsibility has been issued;
 - f. a statement that the Parties may have an advisor of their choice at meetings they are permitted to attend. The advisor may be, but is not required to be, an attorney. (Parties may hire their own attorneys. At a live hearing only, TCAT Dickson will provide advisors to Parties who do not have their own);
 - g. any statements in TBR institutional policies, procedures, or guidelines that prohibit knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the process; and
 - h. a statement that retaliation against a person who makes a report or files a complaint, participates or assists in an investigation, encourages another to file a complaint, or opposes Sexual Misconduct is prohibited and will result in disciplinary measures, up to and including termination or dismissal.
2. If, during the course of an investigation, TCAT Dickson decides to investigate allegations about the Complainant or Respondent that are not included in the Notice of Allegations, TCAT Dickson will provide additional written Notice of Allegations to known Parties.

D. Dismissal of Formal Complaints

1. The Title IX Coordinator shall obtain advice from the Office of General Counsel before dismissing a Formal Complaint.
2. If the Title IX Coordinator concludes that the Complainant was not participating in

or attempting to participate in an institutional education program or activity at the time of the Formal Complaint or that the conduct alleged in a Formal Complaint would not constitute Sexual Misconduct even if proved, did not occur in an institution's education program or activity, or did not occur against a person while in the United States, the Title IX Coordinator shall dismiss the Formal Complaint.

3. The Title IX Coordinator has discretion to dismiss a Formal Complaint or any allegations in it, if at any time during the investigation or hearing a Complainant notifies the Title IX Coordinator in writing that the Complainant would like to withdraw the Formal Complaint or any allegations in it; the Respondent is no longer enrolled by, employed by, or associated with a TBR institution; or specific circumstances prevent the TBR institution from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a Determination as to the Formal Complaint or allegations therein.
4. The Title IX Coordinator may decide to dismiss a Formal Complaint of Sexual Misconduct and refer the matter for disposition pursuant to a different policy, guideline, or process when an allegation of Sexual Misconduct is dismissed or when a Formal Complaint ceases to include an allegation of Sexual Misconduct.
5. Upon dismissal of a Formal Complaint for any reason, the Title IX Coordinator will promptly send written notice explaining the reasons for dismissal to the Parties. The dismissal notice will also explain whether TCAT Dickson will investigate or respond to the allegations under another policy, guideline, or process and the availability of other methods to address the allegations.

XIV. Informal Resolution

- A. Because a full investigation and adjudication process may not be in the best interests of all concerned, the Title IX Coordinator may decide to offer an informal resolution process. The informal resolution process is designed to provide flexibility in crafting a resolution to a Formal Complaint that meets the needs of the Parties and TCAT Dickson. Informal resolutions may include meetings facilitated by TCAT Athens or third parties, resolutions facilitated by the Title IX Coordinator without formal meetings, mediations, and/or restorative justice concepts. Disciplinary action may or may not be part of any informal resolution. Both Parties must agree in writing to participate in any informal resolution process that the Title IX Coordinator may offer.
- B. An informal resolution process is only available after the filing of a Formal Complaint and prior to a Determination regarding responsibility. If the Title IX Coordinator believes an informal resolution may be appropriate, the Title IX Coordinator will propose an informal resolution process in either the initial Notice of Allegations or a subsequent written document. The Title IX Coordinator may discuss with the Parties the details of how the process will work. The written notice will contain the allegations or refer to the Notice of Allegations, set out the informal resolution process, explain that at any time prior to agreeing to a resolution, the Complainant, Respondent, or TCAT Dickson may withdraw from the informal resolution process and resume the investigation and adjudication process under this policy, and identify any records that will be maintained or shared related to the process.
- C. The Title IX Coordinator will not offer or facilitate an informal resolution process to resolve allegations that an employee engaged in Sexual Misconduct against a student.

XV. Investigation of Formal Complaints

- A. TCAT Dickson will investigate all Formal Complaints, unless dismissed or resolved. During the investigation:
 1. TCAT Dickson will not access, consider, disclose, or otherwise use a Party's records that are made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional acting in the professional's capacity and made or maintained in connection with the treatment to the Party, unless the Party

- voluntarily consents in writing;
2. The investigator will conduct an investigation that is appropriate under the circumstances. The investigation will include a review of documents and physical evidence, as well as interviews with the Parties and other witnesses, unless they decline to be interviewed. The investigator may request access to premises, records, and documents deemed relevant. As the investigation progresses, the investigator may seek clarification, including during a subsequent interview, from any person participating in the investigation regarding the incident or their statement. A Party who learns or remembers any additional information should notify the investigator immediately. The Parties will have an equal opportunity to provide evidence and to identify witnesses, including fact and expert witnesses. Parties are encouraged to provide, as soon as possible, any evidence that the Party believes to be relevant and wants the investigator to consider. If at all possible, all evidence should be provided in time for the investigator to make it available for inspection and review;
 3. Although the Parties are encouraged to provide TCAT Dickson with information and evidence related to the allegations, TCAT Dickson is ultimately responsible for gathering evidence sufficient to reach a Determination regarding responsibility;
 4. TCAT Dickson will not restrict the Parties from discussing the allegations under investigation or from gathering and presenting relevant evidence. Any restrictions on the ability of the Parties to discuss matters related to the proceeding but which are not under investigation will be explained in the Notice of Allegations;
 5. Each Party will have the opportunity to obtain and to be accompanied to a meeting or proceeding by an advisor of their choice, who may, but is not required to be, an attorney, in accordance with Section IV.H. below;
 6. When a Party is invited or expected to participate in a meeting, TCAT Dickson will provide written notice of the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of the meeting, interview, or hearing, with sufficient time for the Party to prepare to participate;
 7. Both Parties will have an equal opportunity to inspect and review any evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in a Formal Complaint, including evidence that is directly related to the allegations but upon which TCAT Dickson does not intend to rely in reaching a Determination regarding responsibility. TCAT Dickson will include both evidence that tends to prove and disprove the allegations, whether obtained from a Party or other source, so that each Party can meaningfully respond to the evidence prior to the conclusion of the investigation;
 8. Prior to the completion of an investigative report, TCAT Dickson will send to each Party the evidence subject to inspection and review. Unless a Party requests that TCAT Dickson not do so, TCAT Dickson will also send the evidence to each advisor who has been identified. TCAT Dickson may decide to provide access to evidence through electronic means that is not available for download. In such case, the Parties and their advisors are prohibited from, directly or indirectly, photographing or reproducing such evidence (unless the Party has access to the evidence independent of the portal, e.g., documents submitted by the Party or publicly available information); and
 9. TCAT Dickson will provide at least ten (10) calendar days for the Parties to respond to the evidence provided for inspection and review. The investigator will share any written response with the other Party and will consider any written response prior to completing the investigative report.

XVI. Investigation Report

- A. At the conclusion of the investigation, the investigator will prepare a written report. The

report shall:

1. fairly summarize the relevant evidence.
 2. explain the procedural steps taken between receipt of the Formal Complaint and the conclusion of the investigation, including all notifications to the Parties, interviews with the Parties, interviews with other witnesses, dates of all interviews, any site visits, and the methods used to gather evidence; and
 3. identify relevant policies, guidelines, and other standards;
 4. identify the allegations;
- B. The written report shall not make findings of fact or conclusions regarding the application of facts to this policy.
- C. At least (ten) (10) calendar days prior to a hearing, the investigator will send to each Party the investigation report in either electronic or hard copy, for review and written response. Unless a Party requests that TCAT Dickson not do so, TCAT Dickson will also send the investigation report to an advisor whom the Party has been identified.
- D. The Parties should provide any written response as soon as possible, as the investigator may issue an amended investigation report if the investigator deems appropriate and if a Party provides comments in sufficient time for the investigator to do so. The Parties' written responses and any amended investigation report will be sent to the decision-maker.

XVII. Advisors

- A. Both the Complainant and the Respondent will be permitted to have an advisor of their choosing present during meetings where their attendance is permitted or expected. Nothing in this policy shall be read to require that TCAT Dickson allow a Party to attend an interview of the other Party or of a witness.
- B. The advisor may accompany and confer privately with a Party, but the advisor may not interrupt, speak on behalf of a Party, or otherwise actively participate in any meeting, except for conducting cross-examination at a live hearing.
- C. An advisor's failure to comply may result in the termination of the meeting or the advisor no longer being permitted to be present.
- D. TBR and TCAT Dickson personnel employed in the offices responsible for the disciplinary proceedings described in this policy, along with those in the chain of command, personnel employed by OGC, and others whose participation could create a conflict of interest with their duties are not eligible to serve as advisors. TCAT Dickson shall not otherwise limit the choice of an advisor.
- E. If there is a question or concern about a possible advisor, the Title IX Coordinator should be consulted. A Party choosing to have an attorney present as an advisor must provide advance notice so that a member of OGC can attend any meeting at which an attorney will be present.

XVIII. Recordings

- A. Parties are not permitted to record any meeting conducted pursuant to this policy.
- B. When a live hearing is conducted, TCAT Dickson will create an audio recording, audiovisual recording, or transcript and make it available to the Parties for inspection and review.

XIX. Past Relationships and Conduct

- A. Previous sexual relationships of the Complainant and Respondent with third parties generally are irrelevant.
- B. A past sexual relationship between the Complainant and Respondent may or may not be relevant. For example, past sexual encounters may provide insight on communication patterns for purposes of determining whether consent was present.

- C. Questions and evidence about a Complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, unless such questions and evidence about the Complainant's prior sexual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the Respondent committed the conduct alleged by the Complainant, or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the Complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to Respondent and are offered to prove consent.

XX. Standard of Evidence

- A. In determining whether Respondent engaged in Sexual Misconduct, TCAT Dickson uses the preponderance of the evidence standard of evidence in evaluating whether Sexual Misconduct occurred. A "preponderance of the evidence" means the greater weight of the evidence or that, according to the evidence, the conclusion sought by the party with the burden of proof is the more probable conclusion.
- B. The burden of proof will remain with TCAT Dickson through the Determination.

XXI. Timeline

- A. Formal Complaints typically will be resolved (exclusive of any appeals) within 90 calendar days of filing.
- B. Appeals will be resolved within fifteen (15) calendar days of the filing of an appeal.
- C. Given the many variables and factors that may arise in such cases, additional time may be needed in some cases. Any departure from these time frames will be for good cause and communicated in writing or by email to both the Complainant and the Respondent simultaneously, along with a new timeline and explanation of the reasons. Good cause to extend the deadlines includes, but is not limited to, the absence of a Party, a Party's advisor, or witness; concurrent law enforcement activity; or the need for language assistance or the accommodation of disabilities.
- D. Incompletion of the process within such time frames is not cause for dismissal of a Formal Complaint.

XXII. Parallel Investigations with Law Enforcement

- A. The filing of a police report or the pendency of civil or criminal proceedings does not preclude TCAT Athens from proceeding with its investigation and Determination.
- B. The investigation and Determination may be delayed until law enforcement has finished gathering evidence and indicated that TCAT Dickson may proceed with an investigation, but TCAT Dickson generally will not wait for the conclusion of any criminal proceeding.
- C. Civil or criminal proceedings are separate and distinct from internal TCAT Dickson proceedings, and they may or may not run parallel to one another. However, TCAT Dickson may be required by law to provide information in civil or criminal proceedings.
- D. TCAT Dickson policies shall set forth parameters and clarify what information may and may not be shared during a parallel investigation with law enforcement (e.g., via a memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement).

XXIII. Live Hearings

- A. TCAT Dickson will conduct a live hearing of Formal Complaints not dismissed pursuant to this policy in order to make a Determination whether this policy has been violated. The decision-maker appointed by the Title IX Coordinator has the authority to maintain order at the hearing and make all decisions necessary for the fair, orderly, and expeditious conduct of the hearing. The decision-maker shall be the final decider concerning all aspects of the hearing, including prehearing matters and at the hearing, how evidence is examined and the order of witnesses.
- B. At the request of either Party, TCAT Dickson will provide for the live hearing to be conducted

with the Parties located in separate rooms with technology enabling the decision-maker and Parties to simultaneously see and hear the Party or the witness answering questions.

- C. In cases involving more than one Respondent, any Party may request separate hearings by submitting a request at least five (5) business days before the hearing. The Title IX Coordinator will decide whether to grant the request.
- D. Live hearings may be conducted with all Parties physically present in the same geographic location or, at TCAT Dickson's discretion, any or all Parties, witnesses and other participants may appear at the live hearing virtually, with technology enabling participants simultaneously to see and hear each other.
- E. At least (ten) (10) business days prior to a live hearing, TCAT Dickson will provide both Parties with written notice of the following:
 - 1. The time, place, date of the hearing, and electronic access information, if applicable;
 - 2. The name of each witness TCAT Dickson expects to present or be present at the hearing and those TCAT Dickson may present if the need arises;
 - 3. The right to request a copy of the investigative file (other than portions that are protected by law or privilege), which includes all of the evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in the Formal Complaint;
 - 4. The right to request copies of all documents, copies of electronically stored information, and access to tangible evidence that TCAT Dickson has in its possession, custody, or control and may use to support claims or defenses;
 - 5. The right to have an advisor of the Party's choice, who may be, but is not required to be an attorney, and that if the Party does not have an advisor present at the hearing, TCAT Dickson will provide an advisor of TCAT Dickson's choice, without fee or charge, to ask the other Party and any witnesses all relevant questions and follow-up questions on behalf of that Party;
 - 6. Any Party in need of a TCAT Dickson provided advisor must inform the Title IX Coordinator at least five (5) business days before the hearing;
 - 7. Any cross-examination of any other Party or witness must be conducted by the advisor; and
 - 8. Additional information may be included in the notice of hearing.
- F. When notice is sent by U.S. mail or courier service, the notice is effective on the date the notice is mailed or delivered to the courier service. When notice is hand-delivered by TCAT Dickson, notice is effective on the date that the notice is delivered to a Party. When notice is sent by email, the notice is effective on the date that the email is sent to the Parties' TCAT Dickson provided email account.
- G. The decision-maker may conduct a pre-hearing meeting or conference with the Parties and their advisors to discuss pre-hearing issues, including any technology to be used at the hearing and the general rules governing the hearing.
- H. The decision-maker may allow a temporary delay of the process or the limited extension of time frames for good cause with written notice to the Parties of the delay or extension and the reasons for the action. Good cause may include, but is not limited to, considerations such as the absence of a Party, a Party's advisor, or a witness; concurrent law enforcement activity; or the need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities.
- I. If a Party fails to attend a hearing, the decision-maker may proceed without that Party's participation.
- J. During the hearing, the decision-maker will make evidence subject to review and inspection during the investigation phase available to give each Party equal opportunity to refer to that evidence, including for purposes of cross-examination.
- K. Questions and evidence about the Complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, unless such questions and evidence about the Complainant's prior sexual behavior are offered to provide that someone other than the Respondent

committed the conduct alleged by the Complainant, or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the Complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the Respondent and are offered to prove consent.

- L. Only relevant cross-examination and other questions may be asked of a Party or witness. Before a Complainant, Respondent, or witness answers a cross-examination or question from someone other than the decision-maker, the decision-maker will first determine whether the question is relevant and explain any decision to exclude a question as not relevant.
- M. The decision-maker will not require, allow, rely upon, or otherwise use questions or evidence that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information protected under a legally recognized privilege, unless the person holding the privilege has waived the privilege.
- N. The decision-maker will permit each Party's advisor to ask the other Party and any witnesses all relevant questions and follow-up questions, including those challenging credibility. Such cross-examination at the live hearing will be conducted directly, orally, and in real-time by the Party's advisor and never by a Party personally. Conducting cross-examination will be the advisor's only opportunity to speak. Advisors will not engage in other presentations of arguments or evidence, including opening statements, closing arguments, or direct examinations.
- O. If a Party does not have an advisor at the live hearing, TCAT Dickson will provide without fee or charge to that Party an advisor. TCAT Dickson will choose the advisor.
- P. This section is intentionally left blank.
- Q. For good cause shown, a decision-maker may permit the participation of witnesses who were not identified by the Party to the investigator, or the inclusion of evidence not provided by the Party to the investigator.
- R. TCAT Dickson will create an audio or audiovisual recording, or transcript, of a live hearing and make it available to the Parties for inspection and review.
- S. The decision-maker may dismiss the Formal Complaint or any allegations therein, if at any time during the hearing a Complainant notifies the Title IX Coordinator in writing that the Complainant would like to withdraw a Formal Complaint or any allegations therein, the Respondent is no longer enrolled or employed by TCAT Dickson, or specific circumstances prevent TCAT Dickson from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a Determination as to the Formal Complaint or allegations therein.
- T. If the decision-maker dismisses the Formal Complaint during the grievance process, the decision-maker will promptly notify the Title IX Coordinator, who will promptly send written notice of the dismissal and reasons therefore simultaneously to the Parties.

XXIV. Written Determination

- A. Within fifteen (15) business days of the hearing, the decision-maker will issue a written Determination, whether Respondent engaged in Sexual Misconduct based on a preponderance of the evidence standard, which will be provided to the Parties simultaneously.
- B. The Determination becomes final either on the date that TCAT Dickson provides the Parties with a written result of an appeal, or if an appeal is available but not filed, the day after the deadline to appeal.
- C. The Determination will include:
 - 1. Identification of the allegations potentially constituting Sexual Misconduct, as well as identification of any additional allegations that are being resolved but which do not constitute Sexual Misconduct;
 - 2. A description of the procedural steps taken between receipt of the Formal Complaint and the Determination, including all notifications to the Parties, interviews with Parties and witnesses, site visits, methods used to gather other evidence, and any hearings held;

3. Findings of fact supporting the Determination;
4. Conclusions regarding the application of this policy, as well as any other relevant policy, guidelines, or code, to the facts;
5. A statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation before the decision-maker, including a Determination regarding responsibility;
6. Any disciplinary action that the decision-maker imposes on the Respondent, including referral to another process,
7. Any remedies that TCAT Dickson will provide designed to restore or preserve equal access to the Complainant; and
8. The permissible bases and procedures, including timelines, for appeals by the Parties.

XXV. Remedies and Disciplinary Action Following Determinations of Violations

- A. TCAT Dickson will provide remedies where a Determination of responsibility for Sexual Misconduct has been made. TCAT Dickson will follow this policy before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions for Sexual Misconduct that are not supportive/interim measures.
- B. Remedies will be designed to restore or preserve equal access to education programs and activities and will include discipline under the applicable policies and procedures. Remedies may include verbal warnings, written warnings, final written warnings, suspension, termination of employment (including of tenured faculty), non-renewal of appointment, or dismissal from TCAT Dickson.
- C. Remedies should also consider improvements to the campus-wide environment. It is the intent of TBR that TCAT Dickson consider the impact of an incident of Sexual Misconduct on the campus as a whole or specific groups or areas of campus. For example, specific training may be needed for a student group.
- D. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for ensuring effective implementation of the remedies.

XXVI. Appeals/Post-Determination Procedures

- A. Parties are permitted to appeal to the TCAT Dickson's President (or other person appointed by the Title IX Coordinator) from a Determination regarding responsibility (or no responsibility) and from a dismissal of a Formal Complaint or of any allegations in a Formal Complaint on the basis of:
 1. procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;
 2. new evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the Determination or dismissal was made, but only if that new evidence could affect the outcome of the matter;
 3. The Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s), or decision-maker(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or the individual Complainant or Respondent that affected the outcome.
 4. A Party wishing to appeal a Determination regarding responsibility or the dismissal of a Formal Complaint or any allegations therein must file a written appeal with the Title IX Coordinator within seven (7) business days of the date of the Determination or the dismissal. The written appeal must identify the reasons for the appeal.
- B. As to all appeals, the Title IX Coordinator will:
 1. Notify the other Party in writing when an appeal is filed;
 2. Provide each Party five (5) business days to provide a written statement in support of, or challenging, the Determination.
 3. Ensure that the decision-maker(s) for the appeal is not the same person as the investigator, the decision-maker, or Title IX Coordinator;
 4. Implement appeal procedures equally for both Parties;
- C. The decider of the appeal will issue a written decision describing the result of the appeal

and the rationale for the result, and will provide the written decision simultaneously to the Parties.

XXVII. Victim Services

- A. The resources listed below are not exhaustive or limited to victims who wish to make an official report or participate in an institutional hearing, police investigation or criminal prosecution. However, in cases where a victim wishes to maintain complete confidentiality, the victim should carefully review Section II above related to the limits on the College’s ability to maintain confidentiality.

XXVIII. On-Campus Resources

<p>TCAT Dickson Title IX Coordinator Levi Mayer 740 Highway 46 South, Dickson, TN 37055 Levi.Mayer@tcatdickson.edu (615) 551-8908</p>	<p>Student Services Coordinator Pam Bigham 740 Highway 46 South, Dickson, TN 37055 pam.bigham@tcatdickson.edu (615) 422-7604</p>	<p>Director of Clarksville Campus Deanna Griffin 135 International Blvd., Clarksville, TN 37040 Deanna.griffin@tcatdickson.edu (931) 444-6503</p>
<p>Clinical Therapist Family & Children’s Services Karista Blanton, LMSW kblanton@fcsnashville.org (615) 852-8965 Crisis Line: 615-244-7444</p>		

XXIX. Online Resources

- A. <http://tncoalition.org/>- State Coalition Against Rape
- B. <http://tncoalition.org/>- State Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- C. <http://www.thehotline.org/>- Website for LGBTQ survivors of sexual or domestic violence and minority women survivors of sexual or domestic violence
- D. <http://www.pandys.org/> Website providing information, support and resources to survivors of rape and sexual abuse
- E. <http://www.rainn.org> – Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network
- F. <http://www.justice.gov/ovw> - Department of Justice
- G. <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html> - Department of Education Office for Civil Rights

XXX. Victim Services Policy

- A. The following individual(s) may be able to assist in the event of an emergency
 - 1. On-Campus

TCAT Dickson Title IX Coordinator
Levi Mayer
 740 Highway 46 South, Dickson, TN 37055
Levi.Mayer@tcatdickson.edu
 (615) 551-8908

- 2. Off-Campus:
 - a. Dickson Police Department, 202 S. Main St, Dickson, TN 37055 - (615) 446-5403
 - b. Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office, 120 Commerce St, Clarksville, TN 37040 – (931)-648-0611

- c. Franklin Police Department, 900 Columbia Ave, Franklin, TN 37064 - (615) 989-2201
 - d. The following health care options are available to seek treatment for injuries, preventative treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, and where and how to get a rape kit or find a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE).
 - TriStar Horizon Medical Center, 111 Hwy70 E, Dickson, TN 37055 - (615) 446-0446
 - Tennova Healthcare, 641 Dunlop Lane, Clarksville, TN 37040 - (931) 502-1000 x 64
 - Williamson Medical Center, 4321 Carothers Pkwy, Franklin, TN - (615) 435-5000
 - Availability of a rape kit and location of a SANE (https://f62034bb-6cd2-4e27-a3c9-125b86bc97ef.filesusr.com/ugd/40dfdf_a13931824aba475b983e7cacbcd51c3.pdf)
 - Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic & Sexual Violence at 615-386-9406.
 - Sexual Violence Hotline at 1-800-273-87125.
 - National Helpline at 1-800-211-7996
- B. It is very important for the Complainant to seek medical attention immediately so that the Complainant can be screened for sexually transmitted diseases/pregnancy/drugs that may have been used to incapacitate, obtain emergency contraception, and receive treatment for any injuries. Valuable physical evidence can be obtained from the Complainant and the Complainant's clothing. Even those who are unsure whether to make a police report or take action may wish to have a forensic examination, which will facilitate the identification and preservation of physical evidence;
1. To help preserve evidence in the event of a sexual assault, it is important for the Complainant not to change clothes or bedding and not take a shower, douche, use the toilet, brush their teeth, or clean up until police have had a chance to gather evidence. However, if a Complainant has already changed clothes or cleaned up/showered, evidence may still be collected. The Complainant should leave any clothes or bedding unfolded and undisturbed, if possible. If clothing or bedding must be moved, items should be kept separate to prevent transfer of body fluids or other trace evidence. Parties should not delete or destroy any text messages, social media, emails, voicemails, written notes, or any other documents that may be relevant.
 2. The following sources are available to accompany a victim to the hospital or health provider; These services are available for victims of Sexual Misconduct whether or not a victim chooses to make an official report or participate in the institutional disciplinary or criminal process.

XXXI. Education, Training, and Awareness

- A. TCAT Dickson offers educational programming and training to their students, faculty, and staff that are intended to end Sexual Misconduct.
- B. TCAT Dickson utilizes the student handbook to provide user-friendly materials to explain the policy and how victims can get help, and provides these online and through other strategies appropriate for the campus. TCAT Dickson provides online training for sexual assault and misconduct prevention education to incoming students to promote awareness of rape, acquaintance rape, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This education also includes information on how to prevent sexual

assault, such as information on bystander intervention, as well as how to recognize abusive behavior and avoid potential abusive relationships. Within this training, students are given information the procedures for filing a report, as well as procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged sexual violence. The training also informs students of the sanctions and protective measures that the institution may impose once a report of sexual violence has been made.

- C. This policy is effective August 16, 2021 at community colleges and August 26, 2021 at TCATs.
- D. If any provision of the Title IX regulations on which this policy is based is enjoined or held invalid as it applies to the TBR institution or the Title IX regulations' application to any person, act, or practice is enjoined or held invalid as it applies to the TBR institution, the remainder of this policy or the application of its provisions to any person, act, or practice shall not be affected thereby.
- E. For conduct that occurs across multiple versions of this policy, complaints of Sexual Misconduct will be addressed utilizing the procedures outlined in the version of this policy in effect as of the date of the Notice of Allegations. The "Definitions" and "Clarifications" sections of the policy in effect as of the date of the alleged incident will be used. Complaints and reports of conduct spanning more than one version of the policy will be addressed using the "Definitions" and "Clarifications" sections in the version of the policy in effect at the time of the most recent alleged incident.

XXXII. Clarifications

- A. Consent
 - 1. Consent means an active agreement to participate in sexual activity. An active agreement is words and/or conduct that communicates a person's willingness to participate. The following individuals cannot give valid Consent:
 - a. A person who is under the age of eighteen (18), unless the person giving Consent is at least the age of thirteen (13) and the other person is less than four (4) years older than the person giving Consent.
 - b. A person who is Forced; or
 - c. A person who is Incapacitated, if either the person claiming to have obtained Consent knows that the other person is Incapacitated or a reasonable person would know that the other person is Incapacitated;
 - 2. During a sexual encounter, each person has responsibility for obtaining Consent from the other person. During an investigation, the institution has the burden of obtaining evidence whether Sexual Misconduct occurred without Consent. During any hearing, the institution has the burden of proving that Sexual Misconduct occurred without Consent. (In other words, it is not a Respondent's burden to prove Consent during an investigation or hearing). Whether a person has communicated Consent generally is evaluated from the perspective of what a reasonable person who perceived the individual's words and/or nonverbal conduct would have understood; however, in the context of a relationship that has involved sexual activity and a pattern of communicating Consent, whether Consent has been communicated may be evaluated based on a subjective standard (i.e., what did the specific person who initiated the sexual activity conclude based on the pattern of communication?).
 - 3. A verbal "no" (or words equivalent to "no") or the nonverbal communication of "no," even if it sounds or appears insincere or indecisive, means that Consent has not been communicated, or if previously communicated, has been withdrawn. The absence of a verbal "no" or the absence of a nonverbal communication of "no" does not necessarily mean that Consent has been communicated.
 - 4. Consent must exist from the beginning to the end of each sexual encounter and for each sexual act that occurs during a sexual encounter. A person has a right to change

their mind; thus, Consent may be withdrawn at any time. A withdrawal of Consent is communicated through clear words and/or conduct that indicate that a person no longer agrees to participate in sexual activity. Once a person's withdrawal of Consent has been communicated, the other person must cease the sexual act for which Consent was withdrawn and must obtain Consent before reinitiating that sexual act. Consent is automatically withdrawn when a person becomes incapacitated or is forced to participate in sexual activity.

5. Consent to one type of sexual activity (e.g., oral sex) does not constitute or imply Consent for another type of sexual activity (e.g., vaginal intercourse), whether during a sexual encounter or based on a previous sexual encounter.
6. The following do not communicate a person's willingness to participate in sexual activity:
 - a. Silence, unless accompanied by non-verbal conduct conveying a willingness to participate in sexual activity;
 - b. Consent communicated by the person on a previous occasion;
 - c. Consent communicated to a third person;
 - d. The person's failure to resist physical force (however, for purposes of the Policy, the person's resistance to physical force will be viewed as a clear demonstration that the person has not communicated Consent);
 - e. A current or previous dating, romantic, intimate, or sexual relationship with the other person;
 - f. Currently or previously cohabitating with the other person;
 - g. The person's attire, reputation, giving or acceptance of gifts, sexual arousal, or extension or acceptance of an invitation to go to a private residence, room, or other location.
 - h. One's own use of alcohol, drugs, or other substances does not diminish one's responsibility to obtain Consent from the other person. Another person's use of alcohol, drugs, or other substances does not diminish one's responsibility to obtain Consent from that person.

B. Force

1. Force includes physical force (such as pushing, hitting, pinning down), threats (direct or indirect expressions of intent to inflict harm to self or others), intimidation (implied or indirect threats), and/or other forms of coercion. To coerce is to attempt to cause another person to act or think in a certain way by use of force, pressure, threats, or intimidation; to compel is to coerce.

C. Incapacitation

1. A person violates this policy when they engage in sexual activity with another person who is incapacitated under circumstances in which a reasonable person would have known the other person to be Incapacitated. For evaluating Incapacitation, a "reasonable person" means a sober, objectively reasonable person in the same situation, with ordinary sensitivities, and with similar identities as the Respondent.
2. Incapacitation can be voluntary or involuntary. Signs of Incapacitation may include, without limitation: sleep; total or intermittent unconsciousness; lack of control over physical movements (e.g., inability to dress/undress without assistance; inability to walk without assistance); lack of awareness of circumstances or surroundings; emotional volatility; combativeness; vomiting; incontinence; unresponsiveness; and inability to communicate coherently. Incapacitation is an individualized determination based on the totality of the circumstances.
3. Blacking out is an amnesia-like state that may be brought on by drugs,

heavy drinking, or intoxication; blacking out is not necessarily incompatible with the ability to engage in simple or even complex behavior. After blacking out, a person has no recollection of all or part of the events that occurred during the blackout. There is a distinction between passing out (falling asleep or becoming unconscious) due to drug or alcohol use and blacking out in that a person in a blackout remains conscious and operative.

4. Incapacitation or Incapacitated means a person's inability, temporarily or permanently, to communicate a willingness to participate in an activity (e.g., sexual activity) because of mental or physical helplessness, sleep, unconsciousness, or other lack of awareness that the activity is taking place. Incapacitation can be voluntary or involuntary. Signs of Incapacitation may include, without limitation: sleep; total or intermittent unconsciousness; lack of control over physical movements (e.g., inability to dress/undress without assistance; inability to walk without assistance); lack of awareness of circumstances or surroundings; emotional volatility; combativeness; vomiting; incontinence; unresponsiveness; and inability to communicate coherently. Incapacitation is an individualized determination based on the totality of the circumstances. Alcohol and drugs (including "date rape" drugs) are common causes of Incapacitation. When alcohol or drugs are involved, Incapacitation is a state beyond mere drunkenness or intoxication.

D. Severe and Pervasive

1. Severe and Pervasive. Severe means behavior that is more than antagonistic, non-consensual, and crass, even where the behavior is based on differences in sex or gender. Pervasive means systemic or widespread, and it necessarily involves more than one incident of sexual harassment.

Retaliation

The College, its officers, employees, or agents are strictly prohibited from retaliating, intimidating, threatening, coercing, or otherwise discriminating against any individual for exercising their rights or responsibilities under any provision of this policy. Retaliation will result in disciplinary measures, up to and including termination or expulsion.

History

NEW Policy approved at Board Meeting, September 26, 2014; Revisions approved at August 12, 2020 Special Called Board Meeting; Revised June 18, 2021 Board Meeting (with an effective date of August 16, 2021 for Community Colleges and August 26, 2021 for TCATs); Ministerial changes made August 26, 2021.

TCAT Revisions: March 3, 2016; September 28, 2017; September 25, 2023; September 2024

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