



Annual Security & Fire Safety Report 2025

Lenoir-Rhyne University — Hickory, N.C.
Center for Graduate Studies — Asheville, N.C.
Center for Graduate Studies — Columbia, S.C.
Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary — Hickory N.C.

LENOIR-RHYNE
UNIVERSITY

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PRESIDENT’S CABINET FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2025

- Fred Whitt, B.S., M.A., Ed.D., President
- Summer McGee, B.A., Ph.D., President (July 2025)
- Jennifer Burris, Ph.D., Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost.
- Jeremy Shreve, B.S., Vice President for Administration & Finance
- Catherine Niekro, B.A., M.A., M.B.A., Vice President of Institutional Advancement
- Daron Montgomery, B.A., M.A., Vice President of Athletics
- Cameron Womack, B.S., M.A., Executive Assistant to the President

INTRODUCTION: ABOUT THE JEANNE CLERY ACT

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Public Safety Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (the “Clery Act”) is a federal law that requires public and private colleges and universities participating in federal student aid programs to collect and disclose campus crime statistics, disseminate certain safety and security information such as policies and crime prevention programming, and issue timely warnings about campus crime that poses a serious and ongoing threat to the campus community. The campus crime statistics disclosures are made once per year in an Annual Security Report (“ASR”) that is to be made available throughout the year to current and prospective students and employees.

The Clery Act is named in memory of Jeanne Clery. On April 5, 1986, Ms. Clery was raped and murdered by another student in her residence hall room at Lehigh University. Her parents championed laws requiring the disclosure of campus crime information, and the federal law that now includes their daughter’s name was first enacted in 1990. The Clery Act has been amended since its enactment to keep up with changes in campus safety; as in the update in 2013, when the law expanded concerning sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking (known more specifically as the Campus SaVE Act).

No later than October 1st each year, institutions are required to send notifications to all enrolled students, faculty, and staff about its Annual Security Report, including how and where to access the report. A notice about the availability of the report is also provided to all prospective students and employees throughout the year. The ASR includes crime statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on campus or other property owned or controlled by the institution. The report also includes institutional policies on campus security concerns, including crime prevention, emergency management and preparedness, educational and awareness programming, alcohol and drug use, the reporting of crimes, and other matters. Institutions must also submit their crime statistics annually to the U.S. Department of Education.

The Clery Act specifically requires colleges and universities to do the following:

- Collect, classify, and count crime reports and crime statistics for reportable crimes occurring on or around campus, and disclose those statistics to enrolled students, faculty, and staff, and provide notice of the report to prospective students and employees. Other safety- and security-related information, such as policies and programming, should be included in the Annual Security Report;
- Issue timely warnings based on the report of a Clery Act crime that poses a serious and ongoing threat to the safety of students and/or employees;
- Issue notifications about an emergency or dangerous situations involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students and/or employees occurring on or around campus;
- Provide educational programs and campaigns to promote awareness of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking;
- Maintain public crime and fire logs and make them available upon request.

LENOIR-RHYNE UNIVERSITY'S ANNUAL SECURITY REPORT

This Annual Security and Fire Safety Report is Lenoir-Rhyne University's annual disclosure for 2025 (the "ASR" or "Report"). LRU's Public Safety and Compliance/Title IX departments are responsible for collecting and compiling information for Lenoir-Rhyne's Annual Security Report, and for preparing and distributing the Report. Public Safety and Compliance/Title IX works with other Departments at all three LRU campuses and with outside agencies in Hickory, Asheville, and Columbia to compile the necessary information for the Report. These campus departments and outside agencies include, but are not limited to the Assistant Provost and Dean of Student Life, Counseling Center, Student Health Center, Residence Life, Athletics, Human Resources, Admissions, Hickory Police Department, Hickory Fire Department, Catawba County Sheriff's Department, Asheville Police Department, Buncombe County Sheriff's Department, Asheville Fire Department, Columbia Police Department, Columbia Fire Department, Richland County Sheriff's Department, and Alcohol Law Enforcement.

The information and policies in this Report apply to all three LRU campuses in Hickory, Asheville, and Columbia unless otherwise stated. The crime statistics for each campus individually are presented in separate charts, as required by law. This Annual Security Report, which covers the prior calendar year, is always available on LRU's website at [LRU Public Safety](#). We encourage students and employees to review the report and become familiar with LRU's campus safety and security information and policies. We also provide notice of the availability of the Report to all prospective students and prospective employees in the Admissions and Human Resources areas of LRU's website. You may request a paper copy of Lenoir-Rhyne University's Annual Security Report by contacting Public Safety at 828.328.7146.

REPORTING CRIMES AND OTHER SAFETY AND SECURITY CONCERNS

The University employs a staff of trained security personnel for its Hickory Campus. In addition, in January 2020, the University entered into a formal relationship with the Hickory Police Department to employ sworn and dedicated police officers to protect the LRU community in Hickory ("HPD Officers"). At this time, LRU's Security Services changed its name to LRU Public Safety. Lenoir-Rhyne's Public Safety protects and assists all members of LRU's three campuses - Hickory, Asheville, and Columbia. Public Safety and sworn officers also have the responsibility of responding to emergencies, protecting university property, and enforcing all traffic rules and regulations. LRU Public Safety is comprised of a combination of armed and unarmed officers. LRU Public Safety Officers are prepared and trained for various safety and enforcement actions. They have no powers of arrest. Our sworn HPD officers do have the powers of arrest. Public Safety and HPD Officers assist each other as needed, and Public Safety and HPD officers are collectively hereinafter referred to as "Public Safety."

On the Columbia Campus, Lenoir-Rhyne University provides security 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The Public Safety team in Columbia is led by LRU's Assistant Director of Public Safety and is located in the Yost building. A Public Safety Officer patrols the Columbia campus every two hours. LRU employs approximately three Public Safety Officers in Columbia who are prepared and trained for various safety and enforcement actions. They are comprised of a

combination of armed and unarmed officers. They too have no power to arrest and rely on local law enforcement for this function. The Center for Graduate Studies is located within the city limits of Columbia, South Carolina, and in Richland County. Columbia Police Department (CPD) has primary jurisdiction for law enforcement activities on LR's campus in Columbia.

On the Asheville campus, the Director of Public Safety works with the Chair of the School of Counseling and Human Services. The Center for Graduate Studies is located within the city limits of Asheville, North Carolina, and in Buncombe County. Asheville Police Department (APD) has primary jurisdiction for law enforcement activities at LR's building and parking lot in Asheville. Local law enforcement agencies regularly patrol the adjacent streets, sometimes visit the campus, and always provide assistance when needed. APD responds to calls for service when needed.

While Public Safety strives to make all LRU campuses a safe place to live and work, they request assistance and cooperation at all times. Suspicious-looking acts or individuals should be reported to Public Safety or local law enforcement immediately. Accurate and prompt reporting of all crimes or potential safety concerns is strongly encouraged. All who live and/or work on campus are expected to cooperate with Public Safety as they perform their duties. Individuals should take responsibility for their own safety by taking precautions at all times while on or off campus.

SUMMARY OF CONTACT INFORMATION FOR LRU CAMPUS PUBLIC SAFETY AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

Hickory

- Public Safety Office — ext. 7146 or 828.328.7146
- On-Duty Officer (24-hours) & Emergencies — ext. 7146 or 828.328.7146 or 911
- Text Message to On-Duty Officer — 828.238.6588
- Hickory Police & Emergencies — 911 or 828.328.5551

Hickory Campus Emergency Phones

The Hickory campus had two emergency phones which were located at 4th St. Apartments. These emergency phones provided direct access to the Public Safety officers on duty. These emergency phones were taken out of service during the summer of 2025.

Columbia

- Public Safety Office (Yost Building) — 828.303.6640
- After Hours & On-Duty Cell — 828.303-6640
- Emergencies — 828.303.6640 or 911
- Columbia Police General Information Line — 803.545.3500

Asheville

- Asheville Police Department — 828.252.1110
- Emergencies — 911

For more information regarding Public Safety, including parking regulations, please visit the Public Safety area of the LRU website, or visit the Public Safety Office, located at 715 6th St NE on the Hickory Campus or in the Yost building on the Columbia Campus. On the Asheville campus, please see the Chair of the School of Counseling and Human Services, located on the third floor of the Center.

CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING

Victims of crimes, particularly personal crimes of violence, should feel comfortable accessing any of the confidential resources below, even if they do not want to report the incident to law enforcement, LRU Public Safety, the Director of Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, or other University officials. The individuals listed below will maintain confidentiality of matters reported to them, except in cases of an immediate threat or danger to a person or persons, or a report of abuse of a minor.

Confidential Resources

- India McWhorter, University Counselor, 828.328.7959, india.mcwhorter2@lr.edu
- Ashley Clack, University Counselor, 828.328.7298, ashley.clack2@lr.edu
- Mary Frances Sears, Student Health Provider, 828.328.7958; maryfrances.sears@lr.edu
- Rev. Todd Cutter, Campus Pastor & Director of Spiritual Life, 828.328.7373, todd.cutter@lr.edu
- Rev. Vern Kinard, Campus Pastor & Director of Spiritual Life, 828.328.7373, vernon.kinard@lr.edu

CAMPUS SECURITY AUTHORITIES

Crimes may also be reported to a Campus Security Authority (“CSA”). CSAs are a group of individuals who have been designated by Lenoir-Rhyne University as responsible for reporting to Public Safety information or allegations of Clery Act crimes that are reported to them in their capacity as CSAs. CSAs are trained, and statistical information is collected from them periodically. The Director of Public Safety collects certain information about each incident reported to a CSA, including the date of report, the date and time of the alleged incident, the location of the incident, and a brief description of the incident.

Below is a list of CSAs at Lenoir-Rhyne University and their telephone number:

- President of the University and all members of the President’s Cabinet 828.328.7330
- Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Student Life and all employees of the Division of Student Life (including graduate assistants and resident assistants) 828.328.72
- Vice President for Athletics and all employees of Intercollegiate Athletics (including part-time and graduate assistants) 828.328-7128
- Director of Public Safety and all employees of Public Safety 828.328.7146
- Assistant Vice President and Director of Human Resources 828.328.7387
- Director of Compliance/Title IX Coordinator & Deputy Title IX Coordinators 828.328.7040 (Hickory); 828.407.4269 (Asheville); 803.461.3277 (Columbia)
- Assistant Vice President of Admissions and employees of the Admissions Department 828.328.7300
- Faculty and/or Staff Advisors to Student Organizations 828.328.7247

REPORTING OF DATING VIOLENCE, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING

The reporting of incidents of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking is covered extensively later in this Report. If a CSA becomes aware of one of these types of incidents, the CSA should also report the information to the Director of Compliance/Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator.

DAILY CRIME LOG

Lenoir-Rhyne University's Department of Public Safety maintains a crime log each day. The purpose of the crime log is to record all alleged criminal and other incidents that are reported to LRU Public Safety or a Campus Security Authority, regardless of where the alleged crime occurred. The crime log contains information collected about each incident reported, including the nature of the report, the date and time of the report, the date and time of the incident, the general location of the incident, and the disposition of the report (if known). A copy of the crime log for the most recent 60-day period is available for inspection at any time upon request to LRU's Public Safety office at 715 6th St NE, Hickory, NC, or by calling 828.328.7146.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LRU PUBLIC SAFETY & COOPERATION WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

The overall mission of Public Safety is to establish a safe and secure living, learning, and working environment for all students, faculty, staff, and visitors of Lenoir-Rhyne University on each of our campuses.

Hickory Campus

Public Safety/Security Officers (non-sworn)

The Public Safety Office is located inside the Public Safety house, 715 6th Street NE, Hickory, NC. Public Safety regularly employs approximately 12 Public Safety/Security Officers, including the Director and Assistant Director. Some of the Public Safety Officers are former police officers, and all of them have received training on all types of security protocols, responses, and emergency management and preparedness.

Public Safety Officers conduct foot and vehicle patrols of the campus community 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. In addition to patrolling the campus, Public Safety monitors video surveillance of the campus, develops and implements emergency preparedness plans, responds to specific incidents, and prepares reports. Public Safety provides a 24-hour escort service upon request on campus and to local medical facilities and pharmacies. Public Safety provides motor vehicle assistance, a lost and found service, sponsors crime prevention programs, and facilitates emergency drills and other emergency preparedness exercises. Public Safety can also issue No Contact and No Trespassing orders that will be enforced on Lenoir-Rhyne University property and can also enforce similar orders issued by a court, such as Domestic Violence Protective Orders and Civil No Contact Orders on university property. Lenoir-Rhyne Public Safety officers

are non-sworn and have no powers of arrest. Public Safety works closely with all law enforcement agencies, including the two HPD Officers assigned to our campus.

HPD Officers (sworn)

In January 2021, the University entered a formal relationship with the Hickory Police Department to employ sworn and dedicated police officers to protect the LRU community in Hickory (“HPD Officers”). Under the agreement, the City of Hickory provides two sworn HPD officers who are assigned to LRU for the purpose of providing law enforcement services within all LRU properties located within Hickory city limits. The HPD Officers are compensated by and work under the supervision and control of HPD and are assigned responsibilities by HPD, not LRU. The HPD Officers follow the policy and procedures manual of the HPD. Under the agreement, the HPD Officers remain on and around LRU property when on duty and are not dispatched to any calls for services outside of LR except in the case of emergencies. The primary duties of the HPD Officers are to provide law enforcement services to LRU and to investigate criminal activity committed on LRU property. HPD Officers are armed and have the power to arrest.

Other agencies that have jurisdiction on the LR campus in Hickory include the Catawba County Sheriff’s Department, the NC Highway Patrol, the NC State Bureau of Investigation, the NC Alcohol Law Enforcement, and all Federal agencies, if the circumstances fall under Federal jurisdiction.

All crimes and suspicious persons on the Hickory Campus should be reported immediately to the on-duty Public Safety officer at 828.328.7146 (7146 from a university phone) or to the Hickory Police Department at 911 or 828.328-5551.

Columbia Campus

On the Columbia Campus, Lenoir-Rhyne University provides security 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The security team is led by LRU’s Assistant Director of Public Safety, who oversees a staff of experienced Public Safety Officers. The Campus Public Safety Office is located in the Yost building.

A Public Safety Officer patrols the Columbia campus every two hours. In addition to patrolling the campus, Public Safety monitors video surveillance of the campus, monitors the LR Alerts (SafeZone) app, develops and implements emergency preparedness plans, responds to specific incidents, and prepares written reports. LRU employs approximately three Public Safety Officers in Columbia. Public Safety can also issue No Contact and No Trespassing Orders that will be enforced on LRU property, and can enforce similar orders of a court, such as Domestic Violence Protective orders and Civil No Contact orders on LRU property.

The Center for Graduate Studies is located within the city limits of Columbia, South Carolina, and in Richland County. The Columbia Police Department (CPD) has primary jurisdiction for law enforcement on LRU properties in Columbia. Local law enforcement agencies regularly patrol the adjacent streets, sometimes visit the campus, and always provide assistance to the campus for security when needed. Lenoir-Rhyne Public Safety works very closely with the CPD. CPD patrols the campus and responds to calls for service when needed. LRU Public Safety and CPD have formulated emergency response plans for police emergencies and have conducted table

top exercises and drills together. CPD has also participated in training and informational sessions conducted on campus.

When a crime is reported to LRU Security, CPD is requested to respond by LRU Public Safety. If a crime is reported to the Columbia Police, LRU Public Safety is notified and will respond to the incident and assist CPD. Victims of any crime are strongly encouraged to file a report with the CPD, and Public Safety can help you do this. If the crime is one of personal violence, such as sexual assault or intimate partner violence, the Director of Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, a Deputy Title IX Coordinator, or a Public Safety Officer can help you report to CPD.

Other agencies that have jurisdiction on the LR campus in Columbia include the Richland County Sheriff's Department, the SC Highway Patrol, the SC State Bureau of Investigation, the SC Alcohol Law Enforcement, and all Federal agencies, if the circumstances fall under Federal jurisdiction.

All crimes and suspicious persons on the Columbia Campus should be immediately reported to the on-duty Public Safety Officer at 828.303.6640 or to the Columbia Police Department at 803.545.3500 or 911.

Asheville Campus

Public Safety on the Hickory campus works with LRU staff on the Asheville campus and Asheville Police Department (APD) to ensure routine patrols and to ensure a rapid response to security concerns occurring in and around Lenoir-Rhyne's building and parking lot in Asheville. The Director of Public Safety and the Chair of Students of Counseling and Human Services work closely with local law enforcement and the fire department to develop safety drills and emergency preparedness for the Asheville campus.

The Center for Graduate Studies is located within the city limits of Asheville, North Carolina, and in Buncombe County. APD has primary jurisdiction for all law enforcement on LR's property in Asheville. Local law enforcement agencies regularly patrol the surrounding streets, occasionally visit the campus, and are always available to provide assistance when needed. Lenoir-Rhyne staff work very closely with the APD. APD patrols the campus and responds to calls for service when needed. LRU officials and APD have formulated emergency response plans for police emergencies and have conducted tabletop exercises and drills together. APD has also participated in training and informational sessions conducted on campus. If a crime is reported to APD, LRU Public Safety is notified. Victims of any crime are strongly encouraged to file a report with APD, and Public Safety can help you do this. If the crime is one of personal violence, such as sexual assault or intimate partner violence, the Director of Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, a Deputy Title IX Coordinator, or Public Safety can help you report to APD.

Other agencies that have jurisdiction on the LRU campus in Asheville include the Buncombe County Sheriff's Department, the NC Highway Patrol, the NC State Bureau of Investigation, the NC Alcohol Law Enforcement, and all Federal agencies, if the circumstances fall under Federal jurisdiction.

All crimes and suspicious persons on the Asheville campus should be reported to the Asheville Police Department at 911 or 828.252.1110.

Clery Act Geography

Under the Clery Act, institutions must collect, classify, and count crime reports and crime statistics for reportable crimes occurring on and around campus, or in their “Clery Geography.” A description of the different types of Clery geography is below.

For purposes of the Clery Act, an institution’s **on-campus geography** consists of buildings and properties that the institution owns and controls, are reasonably contiguous to one another, and that directly support or relate to the institution’s educational purposes – including residence halls. On-campus property is also any building or property that is within or reasonably contiguous to the area described in the first sentence above, that is owned by the institution but controlled by another person, is frequently used by students, and supports institutional purposes.

An institution’s **non-campus geography** includes any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by or registered with the institution; or any building or property owned or controlled by an institution that is used in direct support of, or in relation to, the institution’s educational purposes, is frequently used by students, and is not within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the institution.

An institution’s **public property** includes all public property, including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities, that is within the campus, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus.

Lenoir-Rhyne University has three campuses: (1) the Hickory campus located at 625 7th Ave. NE, Hickory, NC 28601; (2) the Asheville campus located at 36 Montford Ave., Asheville, NC 28801, within the Asheville Chamber of Commerce & Visitor’s Center Building; and (3) the Columbia campus, located at 4201 N. Main St., Columbia, SC 29203. All LRU buildings and properties are considered on-campus for the purpose of our Clery geography. Maps of LRU’s Clery geography for each campus are maintained by Public Safety and are included below.

Campus Location Maps

Hickory Campus Residential Map

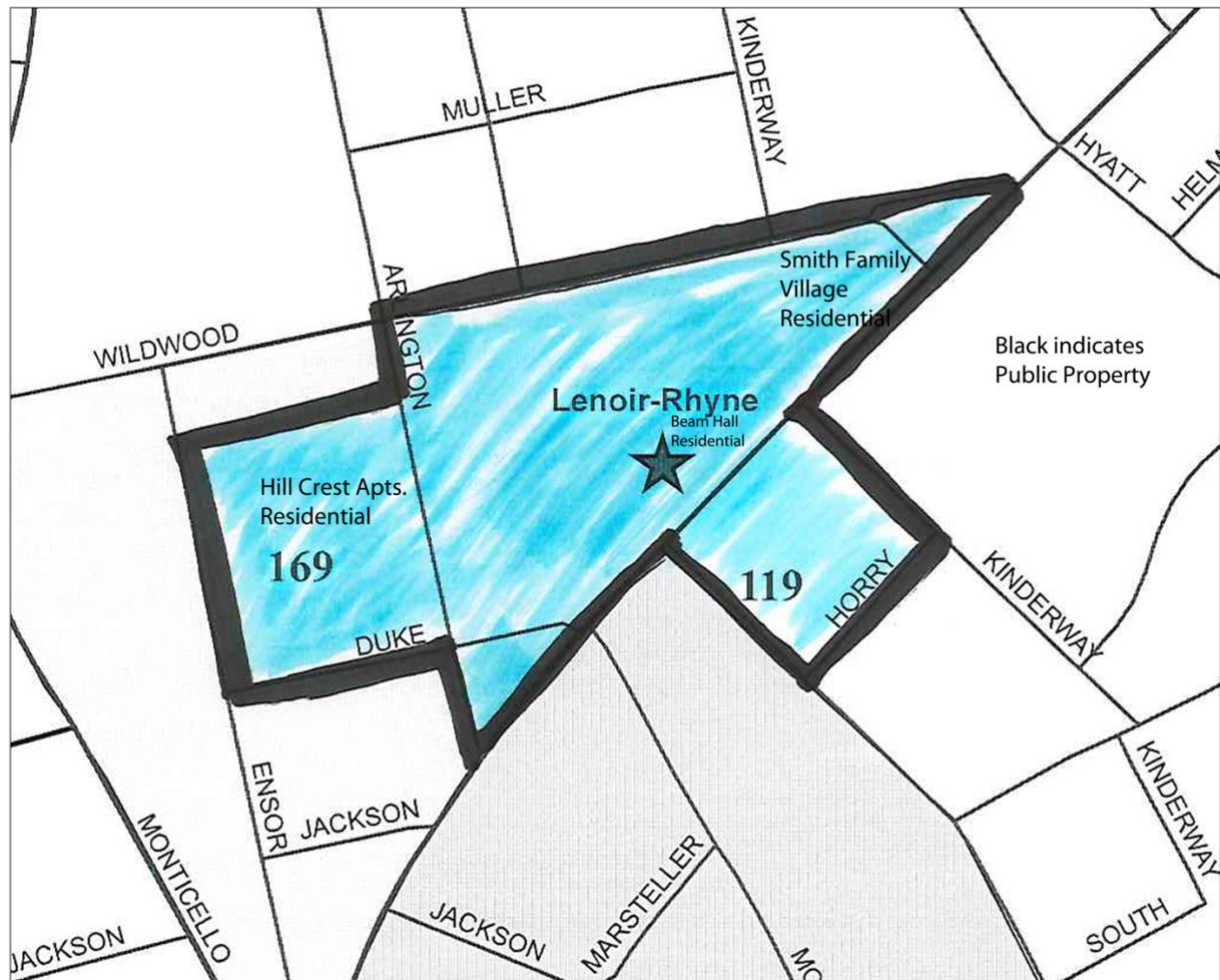


A detailed map of a city area, likely Clery, showing a network of streets and property lots. The streets are labeled with names such as 1ST AVE NE, 2ND AVE NE, 3RD AVE NE, 4TH AVE NE, 5TH AVE NE, 6TH AVE NE, 7TH AVE NE, 8TH AVE NE, 9TH AVE NE, 10TH AVE NE, 11TH AVE NE, 12TH AVE NE, 13TH AVE NE, 14TH AVE NE, 15TH AVE NE, 16TH AVE NE, 17TH AVE NE, 18TH AVE NE, 19TH AVE NE, 20TH AVE NE, 21ST AVE NE, 22ND AVE NE, 23RD AVE NE, 24TH AVE NE, 25TH AVE NE, 26TH AVE NE, 27TH AVE NE, 28TH AVE NE, 29TH AVE NE, 30TH AVE NE, 31ST AVE NE, 32ND AVE NE, 33RD AVE NE, 34TH AVE NE, 35TH AVE NE, 36TH AVE NE, 37TH AVE NE, 38TH AVE NE, 39TH AVE NE, 40TH AVE NE, 41ST AVE NE, 42ND AVE NE, 43RD AVE NE, 44TH AVE NE, 45TH AVE NE, 46TH AVE NE, 47TH AVE NE, 48TH AVE NE, 49TH AVE NE, 50TH AVE NE, 51ST AVE NE, 52ND AVE NE, 53RD AVE NE, 54TH AVE NE, 55TH AVE NE, 56TH AVE NE, 57TH AVE NE, 58TH AVE NE, 59TH AVE NE, 60TH AVE NE, 61ST AVE NE, 62ND AVE NE, 63RD AVE NE, 64TH AVE NE, 65TH AVE NE, 66TH AVE NE, 67TH AVE NE, 68TH AVE NE, 69TH AVE NE, 70TH AVE NE, 71ST AVE NE, 72ND AVE NE, 73RD AVE NE, 74TH AVE NE, 75TH AVE NE, 76TH AVE NE, 77TH AVE NE, 78TH AVE NE, 79TH AVE NE, 80TH AVE NE, 81ST AVE NE, 82ND AVE NE, 83RD AVE NE, 84TH AVE NE, 85TH AVE NE, 86TH AVE NE, 87TH AVE NE, 88TH AVE NE, 89TH AVE NE, 90TH AVE NE, 91ST AVE NE, 92ND AVE NE, 93RD AVE NE, 94TH AVE NE, 95TH AVE NE, 96TH AVE NE, 97TH AVE NE, 98TH AVE NE, 99TH AVE NE, 100TH AVE NE. The map shows a dense grid of streets with various property lots. A specific area, outlined in blue, represents the Clery Public Property. This area is located in the central part of the map, bounded by 10TH AVE NE to the north, 15TH AVE NE to the south, 10TH ST NE to the west, and 15TH ST NE to the east. The property is divided into several large lots, some of which are labeled with numbers like 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731

Asheville Location Map



Columbia Map



No Trespassing and No Contact Orders

The University reserves the right to issue a No Trespassing Order to any person whose presence is deemed unnecessary and unsuitable for any of Lenoir-Rhyne's buildings or properties. The University reserves the right to issue a No Contact Order if it is necessary to prevent further harm or escalation of a situation. A No Trespassing and No Contact order may be issued by the Director of Public Safety (or designee), Assistant Provost and Dean of Student Life, the Director of Residence Life, and the Director of Compliance/Title IX Coordinator. If a No Trespass or No Contact Order has been issued, subsequent violations may result in arrest and/or other criminal and/or civil action. Orders are effective from the time of notification for an indefinite period of time and will be kept on file in the Public Safety Office. No Trespassing and No Contact Orders can only be amended or revised by the Director of Public Safety or his designee, Assistant Provost and Dean of Student Life, the Director of Residence Life, and the Director of Compliance/Title IX Coordinator. To inquire about a No Trespassing or No Contact Order, dial 7146 from any University telephone, or 828.328.7146 from non-University phones, and speak

to the Public Safety Officer on duty. If the situation is an emergency, please call 911 or 828.328.5551. In Columbia, call 911 or 828.303.6640. In Asheville, call 911 or 828.252.1110.

CRIME AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

The safety and security of Lenoir-Rhyne's students, faculty, staff, alumni, and other visitors is a top priority. We encourage everyone to become an active participant in the safety and security of LRU by learning safety tips, educating yourself about crime statistics, LRU policies, LRU safety-related services, and by being active bystanders who step up to help someone in need, help us prevent crime before it occurs, and report concerning behaviors. We have an entire website dedicated to public safety, which can be found at [LRU Public Safety](#).

Safety Tips

Although our crime statistics indicate that Lenoir-Rhyne's campuses are relatively safe, and it is our top priority to prevent crimes from occurring, we know that crimes can and do occur anytime and anywhere on all three LRU campuses. We encourage you to play an active role in preventing yourself from becoming a victim of crime. Below are some general safety tips that you can follow to reduce the possibility of becoming a crime victim.

Personal Safety

There are a variety of ways that you can increase your personal safety on campus. Do not give out any personal information over the phone. Do not give your name, address, or physical location to strangers. When leaving your residence hall or campus, ensure that someone knows where you are going. When you can, walk with a friend to increase safety, and at night, never walk alone. Public Safety offers an escort service to ensure that you can move around safely on campus. Consider using apps on your phone that keep track of your location and share that information with a trusted group of friends and/or family. If you do not wish to have your movements potentially tracked by others inadvertently, be sure to turn off tracking features in your phone and on your social media accounts.

Always have your key ready upon entering your car and dorm room, because keys can also work as a defensive weapon. When entering your car, ensure that you look inside and check for possible break-ins. Never leave valuable items in plain sight in your car, and never leave any personal property unattended on campus. When studying late at night, ensure that the door is locked, and never prop open a door for anyone to enter at any time. By following these guidelines, you can help to increase your personal safety and ensure you are doing all that you can to avoid being a victim of crime.

Residential Safety

As a residential student, you must take an active role in the security of your residence hall and larger living community. This is your home - treat it as your home. Don't let people do things in the residence halls that you wouldn't want them to do at your home. There are many ways to increase your residential safety. All incidents, suspicious persons, and crimes should be reported to your RA, AC, or Public Safety. When leaving your residence hall, even if only for a short time, lock all doors and take your keys. Residence hall doors should never be propped

open, and never allow strangers or people following behind you into a building. Further, never allow others to borrow your key or access card, or give others the residence hall combination (if any). When allowing visitors in your hall, you must escort them at all times.

In order to ensure that your property is as safe as possible, avoid keeping high-value items and large amounts of cash in your room. If you do have high-value items, purchase a locking device. Further, never leave notes on your door indicating you are not there, and ensure that your blinds are drawn when changing clothes or sleeping.

Vehicle Safety

Millions of dollars' worth of property is stolen from vehicles each year throughout America. Lenoir-Rhyne's campuses are no exceptions. A large number of the thefts occur at night; however, theft can also occur during the day. As with all crime prevention, you have some responsibilities. There are a few simple precautions that can go a long way in preventing you from becoming a victim. Park in well-lit areas when possible and avoid parking next to large vehicles. Always ensure that your car is locked, and high-value items are not lying visible. Never leave your keys in your car, and always report suspicious people in or around motor vehicles immediately.

Workplace Safety

Crime can also happen in the workplace, but there are some ways to keep yourself and your property safe and secure in your workplace. You should always report all incidents and suspicious or unescorted persons to Public Safety. When leaving your workplace, even if for a short time, lock the door and take a key. Avoid keeping high-value items in your workspace; instead, ensure they are kept with you on your person. It may also be beneficial to keep a list of serial numbers, names, and model numbers of your office equipment.

Crime Prevention Programs

Lenoir-Rhyne University facilitates crime prevention programs throughout the year. These programs provide insight to keep you, your property, and your person safe and secure. Topics include, but are not limited to, fire safety, residence hall safety, vehicle safety, alcohol and drug awareness, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking prevention and awareness, personal safety, and foreign travel safety awareness.

LRU provides multiple educational and awareness programs on safety and security during new student and new employee orientation programs, which are discussed more fully below. Lenoir-Rhyne continues to offer a broad array of programming throughout the year on all types of safety and security-related issues from multiple perspectives. Programming is offered through many different areas on our campuses, including Counseling Services, Dean of Student Life, Public Safety, Residence Life, Faculty, Athletics, Title IX, Student Groups and Organizations, including fraternities and sororities. Public Safety often partners with the Hickory Police Department on crime prevention programs, both on-campus and off-campus, in the larger

Hickory community. Below is a summary of the Safety and Security programming conducted by LRU in 2025.

Crime Prevention and Awareness Programming 2025

Primary Prevention & Awareness Programs for Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, and Stalking

New Employee Orientation

All new employees on all three campuses are provided with information related to safety on campus. They also participate in an orientation program where they learn about specific Clery crimes including VAWA/Campus SaVE Act offenses (sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking), how to report Clery crimes, applicable state laws, applicable University policies and procedures in responding to Clery crimes, how to support students that report, recognizing unhealthy and abusive relationships, and resources available on- and off-campus.

New Student Orientation

New students participate in multiple programs to learn crime prevention and safety, both on- and off-campus. During new student orientation, new students have multiple opportunities to learn about safety and security on campus through speakers, information fairs, and other materials. All new undergraduate and graduate students will complete an online module from our partner Vector Solutions on sexual misconduct prevention. Campus Clarity is an interactive learning tool addressing the Clery crimes of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking, other issues related to sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, bystander intervention, risk reduction, and alcohol and drug use.

Vector Solutions

During the reporting year, the University utilized Vector Solutions as its primary training platform to provide Title IX education to both employees and students. All employees, including faculty, staff, and administrators, were offered to complete annual online training modules covering federal and state Title IX requirements, the University's Non-Discrimination and Harassment policies, reporting obligations for responsible employees, and procedures for responding to disclosures of sexual misconduct. Students were assigned age- and role-appropriate modules designed to promote awareness of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating and domestic violence, and stalking, as well as resources for prevention and reporting. The Vector Solutions platform allowed the University to track completion rates, issue reminders, and generate compliance reports to ensure accountability across all divisions. In addition to these modules, the University supplemented the online education with targeted in-person and virtual workshops for specific populations, such as student-athletes, residence life staff, and graduate assistants, further strengthening the University's prevention and response efforts under Title IX.

First-Year Experience (FYE) Classes

At the beginning of the 2025–2026 academic year, Lenoir-Rhyne University assigned Title IX and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) prevention and awareness education courses through

Vector Solutions to all new, returning, and transfer students. The training provided information regarding Title IX and the University's prohibition of sex discrimination and sex-based harassment; definitions and information concerning sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking; consent and the importance of respecting boundaries; healthy and respectful relationships; and strategies for recognizing and reducing the risk of prohibited conduct. The training also addressed safe and positive options for bystander intervention, reporting options and procedures, confidential and non-confidential resources, the role and contact information of the Title IX Coordinator, and the availability of supportive measures and other assistance. Through this programming, students received information designed to promote awareness and prevention of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, and other forms of sex-based misconduct and to ensure students understand their rights, available resources, and options for reporting and obtaining support.

Bystander Intervention and Risk Reduction

All incoming and returning students, new and retained employees, are provided with education and training on risk reduction and bystander intervention. Bystander Intervention means safe and positive options that may be carried out by an individual or individuals to prevent harm or to intervene when there is a risk of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or any other crime. Risk Reduction includes options to decrease perpetration and bystander inaction, and to increase empowerment for victims in order to promote safety and to help individuals and communities address conditions that facilitate violence. While victim-blaming is never appropriate, and LR fully recognizes that those who commit sex/gender discrimination and misconduct are responsible for their actions, LR provides the suggestions that follow to help individuals reduce their risk of being victimized and their risk of committing acts of sex/gender discrimination and misconduct.

Reducing the Risk of Victimization

- Make any limits/ boundaries you may have known as early as possible.
- Clearly and firmly articulate consent or lack of consent.
- Remove yourself, if possible, from an aggressor's physical presence.
- Reach out for help, either from someone who is physically nearby or by calling someone. People around you may be waiting for a signal that you need help.
- Take affirmative responsibility for your alcohol and/or drug consumption, which can increase vulnerability.
- Look out for your friends and ask them to look out for you. Respect them, and ask them to respect you, but be willing to challenge each other about high-risk choices.

Reducing the Risk of Being Accused of Sex/Gender Discrimination and Misconduct

- Show your potential partner respect if you are in a position of initiating sexual behavior.
- If a potential partner says "no", accept it and don't push. If you want a "yes", ask for it, and don't proceed without clear permission.
- Clearly communicate your intentions to your potential sexual partners and give them a chance to share their intentions and/or boundaries with you.
- Respect personal boundaries. If you are unsure what's okay in any interaction, ask.

- Avoid ambiguity. Don't make assumptions about consent. If you have questions or are unclear, you don't have consent.
- Don't take advantage of the fact that someone may be under the influence of drugs or alcohol, even if that person chose to become that way.
- Recognize when your potential partner is giving you mixed messages. This should be an indication to stop and communicate about what you both want to happen.
- Do not assume that someone's silence or passivity is an indication of consent. Pay attention to verbal and non-verbal signals to avoid misreading intentions.
- Understand that consent to one type of sexual behavior does not automatically grant consent to other types of sexual behaviors.
- Understand that exerting power and control over another through sex is unacceptable conduct.

Ongoing Prevention and Awareness Programs and Initiatives for Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Stalking, and Other Crime Prevention Programs

LRU also provides ongoing awareness and prevention campaigns throughout the school year to students, faculty, and staff about sexual misconduct, alcohol and drug use/abuse, and other crimes and crime prevention through multiple departments on all three campuses, as summarized below.

Programs Sponsored by Student Life

Programs

Date of Program	Name of Program	Location of Program	Short Description	Number of Attendance
7/1/25	BIPOC mental health awareness and resources	Fritz-Conrad	BIPOC MH and suicide/violence prevention resources	100
8/1/25	QPR Training	Rhyne	Suicide Prevention training/Violence	18
8/1/25	QPR Training	Rhyne	Suicide Prevention training/Violence	17
8/1/25	Casino Night	Cromer	Sub Use psychoed table	40
8/1/25	Athletics presentations	Moretz	Alcohol and sub use presentation - football	143
8/1/25	Athletics presentations	Moretz	Alcohol and sub use presentation	600
9/1/25	Suicide prevention	Library	table-suicide prevention/violence	20
10/1/25	Depression screening table	Cromer	Table-suicide prevention/violence	27
11/1/25	QPR Training	Rhyne	Suicide Prevention training/violence	10

12/1/25	Wellness Wednesday - Community Health student	Cromer	drug and alcohol prevention table	30
12/1/25	Wellness Wednesday - Community Health student	Cromer	drug and alcohol prevention table	25
1/1/25	Sub Use Table	Cromer	drug and alcohol prevention table	8
2/1/25	Sub Use Table	Cromer	drug and alcohol prevention table	25
2/1/25	Dating Viol/psychoed table	Cromer	tabling on IPV	30
3/1/25	Spring Resource fair	Cromer	suicide/drug and alc. psychoed resources and tables	125
4/1/25	Vaping/E-cigs - public health awareness	Rhyne	Sub use prevention presentation	20
8/27/25	Student Organization Risk Management Training	Belk Centrum	Hazing Prevention and Risk Management training for all student organization leaders.	60
9/23/25	Hazing Prevention Week: Lip Sync Open Mic	Joe's Coffee	Hazing Prevention Info during open mic night	50
9/24/25	Hazing Prevention Week: Chalk the Campus Red	Shaw Plaza	Hazing Prevention Info through Chalking	75
9/25/25	Hazing Prevention Week: Trivia	Cromer Center Lobby	Hazing Prevention Info through trivia	100
6/16/25	New Student Orientation: Bear Expectation	Grace Chapel	Alcohol and Drug Education for new students	125
6/26/25	New Student Orientation: Bear Expectation	Grace Chapel	Alcohol and Drug Education for new students	125
7/21/25	New Student Orientation: Bear Expectation	Grace Chapel	Alcohol and Drug Education for new students	125
8/20/25	New Student Orientation: Bear Expectation	Grace Chapel	Alcohol and Drug Education for new students	125

Programs sponsored by Public Safety Services

- 1/23/2025 Hazing Meeting/Presentation for Greek Week. Approximately 30 attendees.
- 3/3/2025 Hazing Teams meeting/presentation for Omega Psi Phi Risk Management Meeting
- 4/3/2025 Drinking and Driving Awareness for the Social Justice Collective
- New Student Orientation - Safety and Public Safety presentation to students and parents.
 - 6/16/2025 Approximately 200 attendees
 - 6/26/2025 Approximately 200 attendees
 - 7/21/2025 Approximately 200 attendees
 - 8/20/2025 Approximately 200 attendees
- 8/11/2025 Active Shooter Presentation for Aaron with Aramark with approximately 40 attendees
- 8/12/2025 PS Meeting after CPR training
- 8/14/2025 Clery and SafeZone presentation for Ras; approximately 20 attendees
- 8/26/2025 Library Meeting 6 attendees
 - 10-60 subjects what to do
 - Medical/AED/stop bleeding
 - Active Shooter
 - ♣ Run, Hide, Fight
 - SafeZone
- 10/9/2025 Student Government Approximately 20 attendees
 - Clery Act
 - Annual Security and Fire Safety Report
 - SafeZone
 - Conducted Safety Walk of campus
- 204 staff/faculty went through CSA (Campus Security Authority) training in year 2025.

Programs Sponsored by International Education

On the following dates, we hosted **Health & Safety Orientations** for students going to study abroad. The orientation includes topics such as health insurance, staying safe while abroad, alcohol and drug use/abuse, as well as Title IX matters:

- 2/19/2025 - Fireside Room | 10 students
- 5/1/2025 - Minges 203 1:00pm | 23 students
- 5/1/2025 - Minges 203 3:00pm | 13 students
- 5/1/2025 - Zoom 5:00pm | 3 students
- 12/3/2025 - Zoom | 6 students

Additionally, on the following dates, we hosted **Immigration and Campus Orientations** for international students studying at LRU for a semester or year. The orientation includes topics such as health insurance, safety on campus, what to do in an emergency, Title IX matters, etc.

- 1/11/2025 – Minges 203 | 5 students attended
- 1/13/2025 - 1/20/2025 - International House | met with 3 students
- 8/24/2025 – Minges 203 | 11 students attended
- 8/21-9/5/2025 - International House & Athletics | met with 30 students

Programs Sponsored by Columbia Campus

- **January 13, 2025 – Back-to-School Student Safety & Welcome Program**
Location: LRU Columbia Campus
Attendance: Approximately **35 students**
Description: Welcome-back program providing students with information regarding campus safety and security, emergency procedures, reporting procedures, available resources, and expectations for maintaining a safe campus environment.
- **February 18, 2025 – Student Safety & Security Meeting**
Location: LRU Columbia Campus
Attendance: Approximately **22 students**
Description: Student safety meeting covering personal safety, situational awareness, campus security, emergency response procedures, reporting suspicious activity or incidents, and available campus resources.
- **April 10, 2025 – Campus Safety & Community Engagement Program**
Location: LRU Columbia Campus
Attendance: Approximately **18 participants**
Description: Community engagement discussion focused on strengthening relationships between students, university personnel, public safety, and the surrounding community. Topics included crime and violence prevention, community awareness, personal responsibility, and reporting safety concerns.
- **August 25, 2025 – Back-to-School Student Safety & Welcome Program**
Location: LRU Columbia Campus
Attendance: Approximately **32 students**
Description: Fall welcome-back program reviewing campus safety and security procedures, emergency preparedness, reporting procedures, student responsibilities, and available campus resources.
- **October 21, 2025 – Student Safety & Security Meeting**
Location: LRU Columbia Campus
Attendance: Approximately **24 students**
Description: Safety awareness meeting addressing personal safety, situational awareness, campus security, emergency procedures, prevention, and the importance of promptly reporting incidents or concerning behavior.
- **November 18, 2025 – Campus Safety & Community Engagement Program**
Location: LRU Columbia Campus
Attendance: Approximately **15 participants**
Description: Community engagement and safety program emphasizing communication, crime and violence prevention, community responsibility, and cooperation among students, university personnel, public safety, and the surrounding community.

Programs Sponsored by Asheville Campus

Asheville Counseling Program Orientation provides an overview of the counseling program to graduate students who are entering either the Master's Degree in Clinical Mental Health Program Orientation occurs every fall and spring semester at Asheville Center. It provides basic information about program requirements, expectations, resources, building information, and how to be successful in Graduate School.

- **Friday, January 10, 2025** from 1-5p.m. (was scheduled to be in person but wound up being on Zoom due to snow that day.) (approximately 20 students plus 4 faculty)
- **Friday, August 22, 2025** from 1-5pm (approximately 34 students plus 5 faculty)

CAMPUS FACILITIES

Access to Facilities

The University is an open campus, and all buildings except residence halls are accessible to anyone during normal hours of operation. The Public Safety Officer on duty locks exterior doors on campus buildings each evening. The officer also notes maintenance concerns regarding lighting, locks, and other security hardware and reports them as soon as possible. All students, faculty, and staff are expected to assist campus officials in maintaining University facilities and will be held accountable for any willful damage to university property. A faculty, staff, or student who willfully damages(s) any portion of the University's physical plant shall be held accountable for the repair/ replacement of the damage and shall be subject to appropriate sanctions. Where individual responsibility cannot be determined, the University will identify the smallest responsible group (hall, unit, organization, etc.) and demand accountability for damage cost/repairs. Responses to vandalism and/or damage may include fines, replacement costs, labor, administrative fees, judicial action, and/or criminal prosecution. Anyone tampering with or damaging a vending machine, washing machines, or other University-owned equipment may be charged \$300.00 plus repair/replacement costs, as well as judicial action by the University and/or criminal prosecution.

Residence Hall Access

Residence hall access is controlled by key, combination, and/or electronic card. Each residence hall room has a separate lock with keys issued only to the room's current resident(s). All residents must take an active role in the security of their residence hall and their individual rooms, suites, halls, etc. Residents must follow these guidelines regarding hall and room security:

- Do not lend keys and ID cards to anyone;
- Report lost keys and ID cards to the RA or AC;
- Always lock the room door;
- Make sure entrance doors to the Residence Hall lock as one enters and exits the building;
- Do not use emergency exits unless it is an emergency;
- Do not prop open entry or exit doors;
- Don't let strangers in the building or allow them to "tailgate" or follow you through into the building after you open the door;
- Report incidents of vandalism, damage, or theft to the RA, AC, or LRU Public Safety.

Tampering with Residence Hall locks (entrance and room doors) is prohibited. The definition of tampering includes, but is not limited to: penny locking, taping, gluing, intentionally damaging, and picking. Such actions are subject to judicial action. Residence Life staff will not allow anyone into a room other than the occupant(s) of that room.

Security and Maintenance of Campus Facilities

Proper exterior lighting is an important part of Lenoir-Rhyne University's commitment to campus security and safety. Parking lots, walkways, and building exteriors are well-lit and are checked regularly by the Public Safety. Shrubbery, trees, and other vegetation on campus are trimmed on a regular basis. Public Safety routinely checks the campus for security and safety concerns. Any problem found is reported to the proper department(s). If you become aware of one of these safety or security issues related to campus facilities – like a deficiency in lighting – please report your concern to the Public Safety office on the Hickory Campus during normal business hours from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at 828.328.7450. If you need to report an emergency related to a campus facility, please call the 24-hour on-duty Public Safety officer at 828.328.7146.

On the Columbia campus, you can report these concerns to the Public Safety Office during normal business hours at 828.303.6640. In cases of emergency (life or property threatening situation) occurring after 4:30 p.m. or on weekends, call the on-duty campus Public Safety officer at 828.303.6640 and/or contact the appropriate emergency responders (police, fire, or ambulance) or call 911.

For the Asheville campus, call 911 or 828.252.1110 to reach the Asheville Police Department, or contact campus administration at 828.407.4263.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND PREPAREDNESS

The Director of Public Safety is responsible for developing, maintaining, and implementing an Emergency Operations Plan for the Hickory, Columbia, and Asheville campuses. The Emergency Operations plan is based on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS). The Emergency Operation Plan is reviewed on an annual basis, or more frequently, as needed. Based on reviews, the EOP should be revised based on current information and “best practices.” LRU has extensive resources for all emergency procedures, and a copy of our Emergency Operations Plan can be found at [Emergency Operations Plan](#). A shorter document called “What to do if...” gives ways to resolve specific emergency situations, and is at [What to do if...](#) Or, a complete copy of Lenoir-Rhyne’s Emergency Operations Plan can be obtained by contacting Public Safety at the Public Safety House or by calling 828.328.7450.

Emergency Drills and Notifications

The Director of Public Safety is responsible for developing and implementing emergency drills or training exercises for the Hickory, Columbia, and Asheville campuses on an annual basis. The Director of Public Safety, along with staff from Student Life and Administration and Finance, develops emergency drills or training exercises that may include, but not be limited to, any one of the following emergencies: fire, inclement weather, active shooter, hazardous material incident, earthquakes, medical emergencies, evacuations for any emergency, etc. Planned drills or training exercises include local police, fire, and emergency medical service, or any other agencies dealing with emergencies, and provide for a coordinated response to the simulated emergency. Any drills or training exercises include best practices based on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS). The Director of Public Safety documents the planning, implementation, and evaluation of drills or training exercises, and the documentation is retained for a period of seven (7) years.

Lenoir-Rhyne University has developed, implemented, and maintains systems to deliver messages in a timely manner to all enrolled students, faculty, and staff when emergency

situations arise. Messages are concise and informative about the situation and delivered immediately, or as soon as possible, to all students, faculty, and staff. It is the responsibility of the Director of Public Safety to document and evaluate the messages that are sent out during an emergency. Lenoir-Rhyne University's Emergency Notification System was RAVE Alert the first half of 2025, and is now LR Alerts (SafeZone) app which is described in more detail below.

Emergency Notification System – LR Alerts (SafeZone)

Lenoir-Rhyne University maintains an emergency notification system, **LR Alerts (SafeZone)**, to provide students, faculty, and staff with timely information regarding emergencies, dangerous situations, and other incidents that may affect the University community.

During the first half of calendar year 2025, Lenoir-Rhyne University utilized the **RAVE Alert Emergency Notification System ("RAVE")** as its primary emergency notification system. In the summer of 2025, the University transitioned from RAVE to **LR Alerts (SafeZone)** as its emergency and mass communication platform.

LR Alerts (SafeZone) is used to provide emergency notifications and other important safety communications through **text messages, email, and push notifications**. The system is available at no cost to all Lenoir-Rhyne students, faculty, and staff. LR Alerts (SafeZone) also provides users with direct access to Lenoir-Rhyne Public Safety and other safety-related resources.

LR Alerts (SafeZone) provides several features designed to assist members of the University community during emergencies and other situations requiring assistance, including Emergency, First Aid, Help, Mass Notifications, Check-In, location sharing, mental health and wellbeing resources, and safety and security reporting.

The **Mass Notifications** feature allows the University to distribute emergency and other safety-related notifications through text message, push notification, and Lenoir-Rhyne email. The Emergency and First Aid features provide users with immediate access to Public Safety or medical/police assistance when appropriate (911). The Check-In feature allows users who are walking alone or otherwise concerned about their personal safety to share their location with Public Safety personnel.

LR Alerts (SafeZone) utilizes location information when a user activates applicable emergency or assistance features, allowing Public Safety personnel to provide an appropriate response based on the user's location. The application also provides two-way communication capabilities between users and responders when appropriate.

The university strongly encourages all students, faculty, and staff to download and activate the **LR Alerts (SafeZone)** application and maintain current contact information. The application is available through the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. Users log into LR Alerts (SafeZone) using their full Lenoir-Rhyne email address and University network password through Microsoft single sign-on.

LR Alerts (SafeZone) serves as the university's primary platform for emergency and mass notifications. However, Lenoir-Rhyne University may utilize additional communication methods when appropriate, depending upon the nature and circumstances of an incident. These

methods may include email, telephone, text messaging, website updates, social media, public address systems, digital signage, or other means of communication available to the University.

The university regularly reviews its emergency notification capabilities and procedures to ensure that emergency information can be communicated to the campus community as quickly and effectively as reasonably possible.

Timely Warnings (Danger to University Community)

Lenoir-Rhyne University recognizes that the campus community needs to be advised of certain Clery-reportable crimes that occur on or around campus and that may pose a serious or continuing threat to students and employees. These notifications are referred to as “**timely warnings.**”

When a timely warning is determined to be necessary, the campus community will be notified through **LR Alerts (SafeZone)**, which may include text message, push notification, and/or email. Other means of communication may also be utilized as appropriate, including telephone, website updates, social media, public address systems, digital signage, or fliers posted or distributed throughout campus.

Whether a timely warning is issued is determined on a case-by-case basis based on the facts and circumstances surrounding the reported crime. Factors considered include the nature of the crime, whether the crime represents a serious or continuing threat to the campus community, and whether issuing a warning may compromise law enforcement efforts or otherwise interfere with an ongoing investigation.

At Lenoir-Rhyne University, the **Director of Public Safety** will evaluate information reported to the University to determine whether the incident is a Clery-reportable crime that represents a serious or continuing threat to students or employees and whether a timely warning should be issued. If the Director of Public Safety determines that a timely warning is warranted, the Director will consult with the **Vice President for Business and Finance, the Assistant Provost and Dean of Student Life, and the Director of Compliance/Title IX Coordinator**, when appropriate, including when the incident involves sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, to confirm the determination and develop the content of the notification.

The timely warning will be issued as soon as reasonably practical after the university determines that a warning is necessary. The notification may be sent by the Director of Public Safety, the Assistant Provost and Dean of Student Life, the Vice President for Business and Finance, or another authorized university official through the **LR Alerts (SafeZone)** emergency notification system.

The purpose of a timely warning is to provide members of the university community with information about a potential threat and enable them to take appropriate steps to protect themselves. To the extent possible and appropriate, timely warnings will include information that may assist the community in protecting itself, such as the nature of the crime, the location of the crime, the date and time of the incident, information about the suspect when appropriate and available, and other relevant safety information. Information that could identify a victim or compromise an ongoing law enforcement investigation will not be included.

Lenoir-Rhyne University may use **LR Alerts (SafeZone)** for both emergency notifications and timely warnings, depending on the circumstances of the incident. An emergency notification is generally used when there is an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees, while a timely warning is used to notify the campus community about certain Clery-reportable crimes that may represent a serious or continuing threat.

FIRE SAFETY

Under Lenoir-Rhyne's Fire Alarms and Fire Equipment Policy, it is unlawful and a violation of University policy for any person or persons to tamper with any fire alarm or fire equipment.

Policy on Fire Alarms and Fire Equipment

According to North Carolina General Statute 14-286, it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to wantonly and willfully give or cause to be given, or to advise, counsel, or aid and abet anyone in giving, a false alarm of fire, or to break the glass key protector, or to pull the slide arm, or lever of any station or signal box of any fire alarm system except in the case of fire, or willfully misuse or damage a portable fire extinguisher or in any way willfully interfere with, damage, deface, molest or injure any part of portion of any fire-alarm, fire-detection, smoke-detection or fire-extinguishing system.

Any person violating any of these provisions of this section shall be found guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not exceeding \$500.00 and/or imprisonment for not more than 6 months. Students will also be subject to action by college officials.

Procedure: In Hickory, the Public Safety officer on duty may be contacted by dialing extension 7146 from any University telephone. Callers using phones other than college extension phones should dial 828-328-7146. Emergency situations may also be reported by dialing 911 or 828-328-5551 from any phone.

In Columbia, call Public Safety at 828.303.6640, or call Columbia Police Department at 911 or 803.545.3500.

In Asheville, please call Asheville Police Department at 911 or 828.252.1110.

Fire Drills and Evacuations

Hickory Campus

Planned fire drills are held yearly in cooperation with Public Safety, Student Life, and the local fire department. Fire Safety tests and drills are conducted in the Residence Halls. When the alarm sounds:

1. Close window, turn on room lights, open draperies or blinds;
2. Take a coat or blanket while exiting the room and wear shoes;
3. Close and lock the room door;
4. Walk quietly and quickly to the appropriate exit;
5. When exiting the building, proceed to the designated meeting point:
 - Isenhour & Morgan: Stadium parking lot
 - Price Village: Intramural field
 - Fritz-Conrad: Area between Rhyne and Minges

- LLC: Intramural field
 - 4th St Apartments: Isenhour parking area
 - Hickory House: Open lawn area on opposite side of fence
6. Remain with other members of the floor or unit until a signal is received to re-enter;
 7. Follow directions from the AC, GRA, RA, or other staff who are in charge.

If there is a fire in the Hall:

1. Pull the fire alarm;
2. Report the fire's location, what is burning, and the extent of the fire to the AC, GRA, or RA;
3. If an AC, GRA, or RA cannot be found, call the Fire Department by dialing either 911 from any campus phone. Give the 911 dispatcher specific instructions on where the fire is located.
4. When the fire alarm is pulled, it does not automatically notify the Fire Department. This is why it is critical that someone call the fire department immediately.

Failure to exit the Residence Hall during an alarm is a disciplinary violation. Creating a false fire alarm or tampering with fire safety equipment is a serious offense and may result in suspension from the University.

Fire is not permitted inside any residence hall on the Hickory campus, including but not limited to open burners or flames. Charcoal grills, gas grills, deep fryers, incense, and or any flammable substances are not allowed on campus. Residents are not allowed to store or use highly flammable liquids (gasoline, propane, turpentine, kerosene, etc.) in their rooms or anywhere in the residence halls.

Columbia Campus

Planned fire drills are held in cooperation with Public Safety, Student Life, and the local fire department. Fire Safety tests and drills are conducted in the Residence Halls. When a fire alarm sounds, or there is a fire, please do the following:

RESPOND & REPORT

1. Pull the nearest fire alarm, if available.
2. Use a fire extinguisher to contain fire, if this can be done safely.
3. EVACUATE (see below).
4. Call 9-1-1.
5. Notify Business Office and/or Budd Group.

EVACUATE

1. Locate the nearest exit that can be used safely (follow illuminated exit signs).
2. Immediately assist individuals with disabilities or otherwise in need of assistance.
3. DO NOT USE ELEVATORS.
4. Notify other rooms (classrooms, offices, bathrooms, etc.) of the evacuation.
5. Assemble in the faculty/visitor parking lot.
6. If you are in a class, please stay with your class so that all the people can be counted.

All student housing in Columbia is designated non-smoking. Charcoal and gas grills are prohibited both inside university housing units and on wooden decks and on porches attached to housing units. Picnic areas have been established adjacent to both housing villages for the use of grills. Fire pits, chimneys, and similar vessels containing open flames that are not primarily designed for cooking are not authorized for use on university property due to fire safety concerns. An outdoor gas grill containing propane tank(s) must be stored at least 10 feet away from any housing unit. Fire evacuation routes are posted on each building. Periodic fire drills will occur, and participation is mandatory.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Sex/Gender Non-Discrimination and Anti-Retaliation Policy (Title IX) Verbiage, Purpose, and Rationale for Policy

Non-Discrimination, Harassment, and Anti-Retaliation Policy

Lenoir-Rhyne University (“LR”) is committed to providing a workplace and educational environment, as well as other benefits, programs, and activities that are free from discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.

LR is committed to creating a safe campus environment for all members of the LR community, including, but not limited to, those who identify as transgender and gender non-conforming. To that end, LR does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, sex (including sex stereotypes and sex characteristics), ethnicity, national origin, physical or mental disability, age, marital status, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran or military status, or any other characteristic or status protected by applicable law.

What To Do If You or Someone you know is the Victim of Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, and Stalking

Lenoir-Rhyne prohibits all forms of sex-based discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking. LR has a comprehensive policy and procedures that align with the Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 2024 Title IX Regulations, which can be found in the [Non-Discrimination, Harassment, and Anti-Retaliation Policy](#).

If you or someone you know is a victim/survivor of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, or any other form of sexual misconduct, the safety of the victim is the top priority. We encourage reporting of the incident so the victim will be informed about their options and connected with resources available at Lenoir-Rhyne and in the larger surrounding community. If you are sexually assaulted, you should do the following:

- Go to a safe place;
- Do not shower, bathe, or urinate if possible and seek a rape kit within 72 hours;
- Do not eat, drink, smoke, or brush your teeth if oral contact took place;
- Do not destroy or wash the clothes you were wearing. If you change, place your clothes in a paper or plastic bag;

- Seek medical treatment;

As a victim/survivor, Lenoir-Rhyne University doesn't want you to suffer in silence. Even where a report is made to the Title IX Coordinator, a victim/survivor retains the right to determine how their information will be handled, and information will remain confidential under most circumstances per the request of the victim/survivor. The University recognizes the importance of assisting students who are victims/survivors of sexual assault and helping them to regain a sense of personal control over their lives and the decisions they make. Also, reporting the information may help to prevent another crime or incident from happening. Regardless of whether you report, we encourage a victim/survivor to write down everything they can remember about the incident, and to preserve all potential evidence for use later should that be necessary.

Lenoir-Rhyne University provides written notification to students and employees who report being a victim of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking about existing health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, and other services available for victims, both within the institution and in the community.

Supportive Measures

Lenoir-Rhyne will offer and implement appropriate and reasonable supportive measures to the parties upon notice of alleged sex discrimination, harassment, misconduct, and/or retaliation. Supportive measures are non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the parties to restore or preserve access to Lenoir-Rhyne's education program or activity, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or Lenoir-Rhyne's educational environment, and/or deter sex discrimination, harassment, misconduct, and/or retaliation. All employees of Lenoir-Rhyne are expected to work with the Title IX Office in implementing supportive measures for the parties.

The Title IX Coordinator promptly makes supportive measures available to the parties upon receiving notice or a complaint. At the time that supportive measures are offered, Lenoir-Rhyne will inform the Complainant, in writing, that they may file a formal complaint with Lenoir-Rhyne either at that time or in the future, if they have not done so already.

The Title IX Coordinator works with the Complainant to ensure that their wishes are considered with respect to the supportive measures that are planned and implemented. The Title IX Coordinator will coordinate with other University officials to provide supportive measures including, but not limited to, Deputy Title IX Coordinators, the Provost, Assistant Provost and Dean of Student Life, Assistant Provost and Dean of Graduate and Adult Education, the Assistant Dean of Students for Campus and Residential Life, the Director of Public Safety, and the Director of Human Resources.

Lenoir-Rhyne will maintain the privacy of the supportive measures, provided that privacy does not impair Lenoir-Rhyne's ability to provide the supportive measures. Lenoir-Rhyne will act to ensure as minimal an academic and/or occupational impact on the parties as possible. Lenoir-Rhyne will implement supportive measures in a way that does not unreasonably burden the other party.

Supportive Measures may include, but are not limited to:

- Referral to counseling, medical, and/or other healthcare services
- Referral to community-based service providers
- Visa and immigration assistance
- Student financial aid counseling
- Education to the institutional community or community subgroup(s)
- Altering campus housing assignment(s)
- Altering work arrangements for employees or student-employees
- Safety planning
- Providing campus safety escorts
- Providing transportation accommodations
- Implementing mutual contact limitations (no contact orders) between the parties
- Academic support, extensions of deadlines, or other course/program-related adjustments
- Class schedule modifications, withdrawals, or leaves of absence
- Trespass and Be-On-the-Lookout (BOLO) orders
- Timely Warnings
- Increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus
- Referral to the Employee Assistance Program
- Any other actions deemed appropriate by the Title IX Coordinator

Violations of mutual contact limitations (no contact orders) or trespass orders will be referred to appropriate student or employee conduct processes and the Director of Public Safety for enforcement.

Reporting Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Stalking, Sexual Harassment, and Sexual Exploitation to the University

Complaints or notice of alleged policy violations, or inquiries about or concerns regarding this policy and procedures, may be made internally to:

Dr. Leah Reynolds
Director of Compliance/Title IX Coordinator
Lineberger Room 104
625 7th Ave NE, Hickory, NC 28601
828.328.7040
Leah.reynolds@lr.edu
www.lr.edu/titleix

Deputy Title IX Coordinators

Revonda Reed; AVP and Director of Human Resources; revonda.reed@lr.edu; 828.328.7387
Erica Freeman (replaced Revonda Reed mid-year; Interim Director of Human Resources; erica.freeman@lr.edu; 828.328.7185
Dr. Harry Titus; AVP and Dean of Students; Harry.titus@lr.edu; 828.328.7246

Mandated Reporters and Confidential Resources

All employees of Lenoir-Rhyne, except for those who are designated as Confidential Resources, are Mandated Reporters and must promptly share with the Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator all known details of a report made to them in the course of their employment of behaviors under this policy that they observe or have knowledge of, even if not reported to them by a Complainant. Complainants may want to carefully consider whether they share personally identifiable details with non-Confidential resources.

All Lenoir-Rhyne employees and agents are expected to report actual or suspected sex/gender discrimination and/or retaliation to the Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator immediately, unless they are a Confidential Resource. Failure of a Mandated Reporter, as described above in this section, to report an incident of sex/gender discrimination and/or retaliation of which they become aware to the Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator is a violation of Lenoir-Rhyne policy and can be subject to disciplinary action. In order to make informed choices, it is important to be aware of confidentiality and mandatory reporting requirements when consulting campus resources. On campus, those designated as Confidential Resources may maintain confidentiality and are not required to report actual or suspected sex/gender discrimination and/or retaliation to the Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator. They may offer options and resources without any obligation to inform an outside agency or campus official unless a Complainant has requested the information be shared.

A complete guide to Being a Mandated Report can be found at [Being a Mandated Reporter](#).

Confidential Resources

If a Complainant would like the details of an incident to be kept confidential, the Complainant may speak with:

- On-campus licensed professional counselors and staff
- Off-campus University-contracted professional counselors
- On-campus health service providers and staff
- On-campus members of the clergy/chaplains working within the scope of their licensure or occupation
- Off-campus (non-employees):
 - Licensed professional counselors and other medical providers
 - Local rape crisis counselors
 - Domestic violence resources
 - Local or state assistance agencies
 - Clergy/Chaplains
 - Attorneys

All of the above-listed individuals will maintain confidentiality when acting under the scope of their licensure, professional ethics, and/or professional credentials, except in extreme cases of immediacy of threat or danger or abuse of a minor/elder/individual with a disability, or when required to disclose by law or court order.

Notice/Complaints of Sex Discrimination, Harassment, Misconduct and/or Retaliation

Notice or complaints of sex/gender discrimination and/or retaliation may be made using any of the following options:

- 1) File a report or formal complaint with, or give verbal notice to, the Title IX Coordinator, a Deputy Title IX Coordinator, or an Official with Authority (See Policy Section 6. for list of Officials and contact information). Such a report may be made at any time (including during non-business hours) by using the telephone number or email address, in-person, or by mail to the office address, listed for the Title IX Coordinator or any other official listed.
- 2) File a report or complaint online, using the reporting form posted at [LRU Title IX](#). Anonymous reports are accepted but can give rise to a need to investigate. Lenoir-Rhyne tries to provide supportive measures to all Complainants, which is impossible with an anonymous report. Because reporting online carries no obligation to make a formal complaint, and because Lenoir-Rhyne respects Complainant's wishes regarding their report absent a compelling threat to health and/or safety, the Complainant is largely in control and should not fear a loss of privacy by making a report.
- 3) Report to a Mandated Reporter (See Policy Sections 6. and 19.);
- 4) Report to a Confidential Resource (Counselors, Health Care Providers, and University Pastors) (See Policy Sections 6. and 19.).

A Formal Complaint is defined as a document submitted and/or signed by the Complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging a policy violation by a Respondent and requesting that Lenoir-Rhyne investigate the allegation(s).

A report or complaint may be filed with the Title IX Coordinator in person, by mail, electronic mail, or by telephone, using the contact information in the section immediately above. A report or complaint may be filed online at [LRU Title IX](#). Reports made electronically through this Title IX webpage are not considered formal complaints until the Title IX Coordinator has confirmed the identity of the Complainant and the Complainant has indicated through a physical or digital signature that they wish to file a formal complaint and wish to have Lenoir-Rhyne investigate the allegations.

Reporting to a Public Safety Officer or Local Law Enforcement

Victims of sexual misconduct are encouraged to file a report with LRU's Public Safety and/or the Hickory Police Department. The filing of a report does not obligate the victim/survivor to pursue charges if they do not want to pursue them, but does make filing charges easier if the victim changes his/her mind at a later date. The Public Safety Officer's top priority will be the safety of the victim. The Public Safety Officer and/or the Director of Compliance/Title IX Coordinator will inform the victim/survivor about the victim/survivor's different options and resources, including their options for notifying local law enforcement, including the following:

1. Notify law enforcement authorities, including:
Hickory Police Department: Emergency 911 or 828.328.5551. Non-Emergency 828.324.2060
- Asheville Police Department: 911; Non-Emergency 828.252.1110
- Columbia Police Department: 911; Non-Emergency 803.545.3500
2. Ask the Public Safety Officer or another University official to help you notify appropriate law enforcement; or
3. Choose not to report the incident to local law enforcement.

Please note that if your incident, or any other incident, poses an ongoing threat to the health and safety of the LRU community, the University can notify law enforcement despite a victim/survivor's wishes to the contrary. However, LRU will attempt to notify the victim first – before we inform law enforcement – so that the victim knows this is happening and can take necessary precautions. If you report an incident of sexual misconduct to a Lenoir-Rhyne Public Safety Officer, that Officer will report the information to the University's Title IX Coordinator, and the Title IX Coordinator will coordinate the University's response to the report.

When a Complainant Does Not Wish to Proceed

If a Complainant does not wish for their name to be shared, does not wish for an investigation to take place, or does not want a formal complaint to be pursued, they may make such a request to the Title IX Coordinator, who will evaluate that request in light of the duty to ensure the safety of the campus and to comply with state or federal law. The Title IX Coordinator has ultimate discretion over whether the University proceeds when the Complainant does not wish to do so, and the Title IX Coordinator may sign a formal complaint to initiate a grievance process.

The Title IX Coordinator's decision should be based on information that shows a compelling risk to health and/or safety that requires Lenoir-Rhyne to pursue formal action to protect the community. A compelling risk to health and/or safety may result from:

- evidence of patterns of misconduct;
- predatory conduct;
- threats;
- abuse of minors;
- use of weapons; and/or
- use of violence.

Recipients may be compelled to act on alleged employee misconduct irrespective of a Complainant's wishes. The Title IX Coordinator may request an opinion from the Behavioral Intervention Team regarding whether to proceed when the Complainant does not wish to do so.

The Title IX Coordinator must also consider the effect that non-participation by the Complainant may have on the availability of evidence and the University's ability to pursue a Formal Grievance Process fairly and effectively. When the Title IX Coordinator executes the written complaint, they do not become the Complainant. The Complainant is the individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute a violation of this policy.

When Lenoir-Rhyne proceeds, the Complainant (or their Advisor) may have as much or as little involvement in the process as they wish. The Complainant retains all rights of a Complainant under this Policy irrespective of their level of participation. Typically, when the Complainant chooses not to participate, the Advisor may be appointed as proxy for the Complainant throughout the process, acting to ensure and protect the rights of the Complainant, though this does not extend to the provision of evidence or testimony.

Note that the University's ability to remedy and respond to notice may be limited if the Complainant does not want Lenoir-Rhyne to proceed with an investigation and/or grievance process. The goal is to provide the Complainant with as much control over the process as possible, while balancing the University's obligation to protect its community.

In cases in which the Complainant requests confidentiality/no formal action and the circumstances allow Lenoir-Rhyne to honor that request, the University will offer supportive measures to the Complainant. If the Complainant elects to take no action, they can change that decision if they decide to pursue a formal complaint later. Upon making a formal complaint, a Complainant has the right, and can expect, to have allegations taken seriously by Lenoir-Rhyne, and to have the incidents investigated and properly resolved through these procedures. Please consider that delays may cause limitations on access to evidence or present issues with respect to the status of the parties.

Grievance Procedures

As a result of the new Title IX Regulations issued in April 2024, LRU's Title IX procedures are extensive. You are encouraged to review the full Policy and Procedures at [Non-Discrimination, Harassment and Anti-Retaliation Policy \(lr.edu\)](#). A summary of the types of Sex-based Discrimination, the procedures, and risk reduction information is available below.

Types of Sex/Gender-Based Misconduct

The following are the definitions of conduct prohibited by the Non-Discrimination, Harassment, and Anti-Retaliation Policy. The list below is not intended to be exhaustive. For the full list of prohibited conduct, please see the Policy.

Sex-based Harassment is a form of sex discrimination and means sexual harassment and other harassment on the basis of sex, including:

1. Quid Pro Quo Harassment: defined as an employee, agent, or other person authorized by LR to provide an aid, benefit, or service under LR's education program or activity explicitly or impliedly conditioning the provision of such an aid, benefit, or service on a person's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.
2. Hostile Environment Harassment: defined as unwelcome sex-based conduct that, based on the totality of the circumstances, is subjectively and objectively offensive and is so severe or pervasive that it limits or denies a person's ability to participate in or benefit from LR's program or activity (i.e., creates a hostile environment). Whether a hostile environment has been created is a fact-specific inquiry that includes consideration of the following:
 - a. The degree to which the conduct affected the complainant's ability to access LR's education program or activity;

- b. The type, frequency, and duration of the conduct;
 - c. The parties' ages, roles within LR's education program or activity, previous interactions, and other factors about each party that may be relevant to evaluating the effects of the conduct;
 - d. The location of the conduct and the context in which the conduct occurred; and
 - e. Other sex-based harassment in LR's education program or activity
- 3. Sexual Assault, which is defined as an offense classified as forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and includes:
 - a. Sex Offenses, defined to include any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the complainant, including instances in which the complainant is incapable of giving consent.
 - b. Rape, defined as (i) penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object or (ii) oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the complainant.
 - c. Sodomy, defined as oral or anal penetration of the Complainant by the Respondent, without the consent of the Complainant, including instances where the Complainant is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
 - d. Sexual Assault with an Object, defined as Respondent's use of an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of the Complainant, without the consent of the Complainant, including instances where the Complainant is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of their temporary or permanent mental or physical capacity.
 - e. Fondling, defined as the touching of the private body parts of another person (buttocks, groin, breasts) for the purpose of sexual gratification, forcibly and/or against that person's will (non-consensually), or not forcibly or against the person's will in instances in which the complainant is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
 - f. Incest, defined as non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by North Carolina law.
 - g. Statutory Rape, defined as non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent of 16.
- 4. Dating Violence, which is defined as
 - a. Violence committed by a person;
 - b. Who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic nature or intimate nature with the victim; and
 - c. Where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors: i. The length of the relationship; ii. iii. The

type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

5. Domestic Violence, which is defined as
 - a. Felony or misdemeanor crimes committed by a person who: i. Is a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim under the family or domestic violence laws of North Carolina, or a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim; ii. Is cohabitating, or has cohabitated, with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner; iii. Shares a child in common with the victim; or iv. Commits acts against a youth or adult victim who is protected from those acts under the family or domestic violence laws of North Carolina.
6. Stalking, which is defined as
 - a. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:
 - b. Fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or suffer substantial emotional distress.

Acts of sex-based harassment and sexual harassment may be committed by any person upon any other person, regardless of the sex, sexual orientation, and/or gender identity of those involved.

Procedures

Intake

The complainant may report to any University-mandated reporter, who will then report to the Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator. A Title IX Coordinator will then meet with and assist the Complainant with making choices and assessing supportive measures. The formal grievance process is confidential. The University will protect the privacy of parties consistent with federal law. Any release of information about resolution will be accomplished with the inclusion of identifying information about the parties, to the extent permissible by law.

Investigations

A trained investigator will provide an investigation that is prompt, thorough, reliable, equitable, fair, and impartial. The investigator will interview the parties and witnesses and prepare investigation reports.

Review Meeting

A single Decision-maker will have the opportunity to question the investigator and parties during a Review Meeting. The parties will be allowed to provide a statement of no longer than 15 minutes that addresses the issues raised in the Investigator's report.

Standards of Evidence

LR uses the preponderance of the evidence standard. Decision-makers consider whether, given the available credible evidence, it is more likely than not that a violation occurred.

Past History

The past sexual history of an individual is not considered unless it is determined to be highly

relevant by the Grievance Hearing Panel. The existence of pattern behavior by a responding party may be relevant to the finding and sanction imposed. Both parties will be notified in advance if such information has been deemed relevant and will be considered during the process.

Final Determination

The parties will be informed in writing of the outcome of the resolution, without significant delay between the notifications to each party. This notice will include the procedures for appealing the decision, any change to the results that occurs prior to the time that such results become final, and when results are considered to be final.

Appeals

All parties involved in sex/gender discrimination and misconduct proceedings may appeal the decision within the required time on one or more of the grounds set forth in LR's policy.

Your Rights

Lenoir-Rhyne University strives to provide members of the campus community with fair and equitable resolution processes that include both formal and informal options.

Reporting

- Complainants have the right to notify law enforcement of incidents and to receive assistance from campus personnel in doing so.
- Complainants may decline to report to law enforcement if they wish.
- Complainants have the right to have their allegations investigated and resolved internally by the University.

Fairness

- All members of the campus community have the right to have reported incidents addressed according to the University procedures.
- All parties have equal opportunities to have a support person of their choosing or offered by the institution present throughout all resolution proceedings.
- All parties have the right to written notice of the outcome of sex/gender-based misconduct resolution proceedings.
- Complainants and witnesses will receive amnesty for minor infractions (e.g. alcohol and drug violations).
- Complainants, their supporters, and witnesses have a right to be free from retaliation.

Support

- Students have the right to be notified of their ability to access campus counseling and health services.
- Students and employees have a right to be notified of on- and off-campus supportive resources.
- All parties involved in sex/gender-based misconduct allegations will receive the information and assistance needed to effectively participate in all proceedings.
- Complainants have the right to seek mutual no-contact orders, or similar lawful orders issued by criminal or civil courts, and may seek the help of the Title IX Coordinator or Public Safety in requesting and/or enforcing.

Potential Remedies Following Adjudication of Report

*Potential Sanctions for **Students** Found in Violation of Sex/Gender Discrimination and Misconduct Policy:*

- Verbal or written warning
- “No contact” order
- Restitution for loss, damages, or costs
- Service projects and/or opportunities for education with the University setting or the local community
- Disciplinary probation
- Disciplinary probation with the suspension of privileges
- Eviction from the residence area
- Exclusion from some or all areas of campus or University facilities
- Disciplinary suspension
- Disciplinary expulsion

*Potential Sanctions for **Faculty and Staff** Found in Violation of Sex/Gender Discrimination and Misconduct Policy:*

- Verbal or written warning
- Performance/behavior improvement plan
- “No contact” order
- Required counseling
- Required training
- Demotion
- Suspension with or without pay
- Termination (staff/non-tenured faculty)
- Recommendations of revocation of tenure
- Recommendation of termination

Crimes of Violence

Upon written request, Lenoir-Rhyne University will disclose to an alleged victim of a crime of violence or a sexual assault the final report on the results of any disciplinary proceeding conducted by Lenoir-Rhyne against a student who is the alleged perpetrator of such crime or offense. If the alleged victim is deceased as a result of such crime or offense, the next of kin of such victim shall be treated as the alleged victim for the purposes of this paragraph.

Sex Crimes Prevention Act

The Sex Crimes Prevention Act requires institutions to issue a statement to the campus community about where information concerning registered sex offenders may be obtained.

- In North Carolina, this information and additional information such as signing up for alerts can be found at <http://sexoffender.ncsbi.gov/disclaimer.aspx>.
- In South Carolina, this information and additional information such as signing up for alerts can be found at <http://scor.sled.sc.gov/ConditionsOfUse.Aspix>.

Missing Persons Policy

LRU's Missing Persons Policy was developed to promote the safety and welfare of members of the University community. This policy specifically applies to those who live in university housing and/or university-controlled houses that have been missing for 24 hours without another known reason. A student will be considered missing if this absence has occurred under suspicious circumstances or there is cause for concern for their safety. The policy states that if any member of the University community has reason to believe that a student may be missing, they should immediately notify the Public Safety at 828.328.7146, the Director of Residence Life at 828.328.7249, or the Assistant Provost and Dean of Student Life at 828.328.7246.

At the beginning of each academic year, students are given the opportunity to designate an individual(s) to be contacted in case of emergency. These designations are confidential and only accessible to authorized campus officials, and may not be disclosed, except to law enforcement personnel in furtherance of a missing persons matter. An emergency contact designee will remain in effect until changed or revoked by the student. If the student is under the age of 18, a custodial parent or guardian, or confidential contact can be used.

The official procedure is that the Office of Public Safety should be notified as soon as possible, regardless of who is previously notified. The Office of Public Safety will then contact the Office of Student Life during office hours or the Director of Residence Life after hours. These offices will then work to gather information on the missing person, and appropriate campus staff will be notified to aid this search. If these actions are unsuccessful within 24 hours, the Hickory Police Department will be notified, and it will become a police investigation. No later than 24 hours after the determination of the student missing, the emergency contact will be notified. University Public Safety is required to investigate and write a written report on all missing persons cases. The full Missing Persons Policy can be found [LRU Missing Persons Policy](#).

Drug and Alcohol Policies

As an institution of higher education, LRU requires all students to comply with federal, state, and local laws related to the use of alcoholic beverages, narcotics, and other drugs. LRU further requires all students to comply with NCAA guidelines concerning the use of drugs, including the NCAA prohibition on the use of anabolic steroids and stimulants by student athletes. Lenoir-Rhyne University's Counselling Office offers support programs in regard to alcohol or substance abuse problems.

Policy Statement: The University prohibits the unlawful possession of alcohol and illicit drugs by students, either on university property or at any university-sponsored activity. This prohibition extends to activities sponsored by groups or organizations related to the University. It extends to off-campus professional activities, including professional conferences, where attendance by students is sponsored, wholly or in part, by the University or by organizations related thereto. Furthermore, the university reserves the right to discipline members of the University community who, in other situations, whether on campus or off, are found to be in violation of federal, state, and local laws related to the use of controlled substances.

Alcohol and Controlled Substances Committee: The following Lenoir-Rhyne officials will be responsible for issuing sanctions related to the consumption, distribution, and possession of alcohol and controlled substances: Dean of Student Life, Director of Counselling, Director of

Residence Life, Faculty Athletics Representative, and Director of Public Safety. These individuals are referred to as the sanctioning committee.

Alcohol

The university expects members of the University community to abide by state laws governing the use of alcohol; and, therefore, it prohibits the use of alcohol by persons who are younger than 21 either on-campus or at campus-related activities. Even if over the age of 21, alcohol should not be publicly displayed on campus. Further, all halls with first-year students are designated as alcohol free residence areas. In regard to events involving alcohol, there are a variety of additional policies that must be followed, and these guidelines can be found in the full policy, along with all other applicable alcohol policies.

In the case of an alleged policy violation, the sanctioning committee will determine the level of the violation, and these sanctions may be increased for exceptional violations. There are three levels of sanctioning, with ranging degrees of consequences, the full list of sanctions can be found in the full policy. There are also sanctions associated with the illegal distribution of alcohol, which worsen after each offense, and can result in the suspension or expulsion of the student. There are sanctions for students involved in anti-social behavior while intoxicated. These cover the abuse of persons, in which the student should expect expulsion and referral to law enforcement. The abuse of property, public drunkenness, or driving under the influence are also covered under the policy, and sanctions can be found within the full policy (see below).

Controlled Substances

Lenoir-Rhyne University maintains a strict policy regarding the illegal possession, consumption, and/or distribution of all illicit drugs and controlled substances (including prescription medications without valid prescription) that are classified as Schedule I, II, III, IV, or V.

Controlled Substances Use Policies: The illegal possession or consumption of controlled substances by LRU students is always prohibited.

The illegal possession or consumption of controlled substances by LRU students is prohibited in LRU Residence Halls and Houses, and at any LRU or LRU related events. Any student participating in the use and/or distribution of illicit drugs and controlled substances will be subject to sanctions, including, but not limited to, fines, scholarship reduction, probation, suspension, and expulsion. Academic and Athletic Departments may also have stricter policies. For further information on the sanctions, refer to LRU's full Drug and Alcohol Policy, which can be found in the [Cub Student Handbook](#).

CLERY CRIMES

Criminal Offenses

Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter: The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. NOTE: Suicides, fetal deaths, traffic fatalities, accidental deaths, assaults with intent to murder, attempts to murder, and justifiable homicide are excluded.

Negligent Manslaughter: The killing of another person through gross negligence.

Sexual Assault: Any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

- a) **Rape:** The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim. This offense includes either gender of victim or offender.
- b) **Fondling:** The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.
- c) **Incest:** Sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- d) **Statutory Rape:** Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

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

Aggravated Assault: An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

Burglary: The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft. For reporting purposes, this definition includes: unlawful entry with intent to commit a larceny or a felony, breaking and entering with intent to commit a larceny, housebreaking, safecracking, and all attempts at these offenses.

Motor Vehicle Theft: The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

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

Hate Crimes

Hate Crimes includes all the crimes above that manifests evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator's bias against the victim, including the categories of bias listed below, plus the crimes listed below:

Larceny-Theft: The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another, and all attempts at larceny/theft.

Simple Assault: An unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration, or loss of consciousness.

Intimidation: To unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct, but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack.

Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property: To willfully or maliciously destroy, damage, deface, or otherwise injure real or personal property without the consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it.

Categories of Bias

Race: A preformed negative attitude toward a group of persons who possess common physical characteristics, genetically transmitted by descent and heredity, which distinguish them as a distinct division of humankind.

Religion: A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons who share the same religious beliefs regarding the origin and purpose of the universe and the existence or nonexistence of a supreme being.

Gender: A preformed negative opinion or attitude towards a person or group of persons based on their actual or perceived gender.

Gender Identity: A preformed negative opinion or attitude towards a person or group of persons based on their actual or perceived gender identity.

Sexual Orientation: A preformed negative opinion or attitude towards a group of persons based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation.

Ethnicity: A preformed negative opinion or attitude towards a group of people whose members identify with each other, through a common heritage, often consisting of a common language, common culture, and/or ideology that stresses common ancestry.

National Origin: A preformed negative opinion or attitude towards a group of people based on their actual or perceived country of birth.

Disability: A preformed negative opinion or attitude towards a group of persons based on their physical or mental impairments, whether such disability is temporary or permanent, congenital or acquired by heredity, accident, injury, advanced age, or illness.

Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, and Stalking

Dating Violence: Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim:

- 1) The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the reporting party's statement and with consideration of the length of the relationship, the

- 2) type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.
- 3) For the purpose of this definition, dating violence includes but is not limited to sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse, and does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

Domestic Violence: A felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed

- 1) By a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim;
- 2) By a person with whom the victim shares a child in common;
- 3) By a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;
- 4) By a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred; or
- 5) By any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred.

Stalking: Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:

- 1) Fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or
- 2) Suffer substantial emotional distress.
- 3) For the purpose of this definition, course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method device, or means follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about, a person, or interferes with a person's property. Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily;
- 4) Require medical or other professional treatment or counseling. Reasonable person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim.

Liquor Law, Drug Abuse, and Weapons Violations

Liquor Law Violations: The violation of state or local laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, or use of alcoholic beverages, not including driving under the influence and drunkenness, and all attempts at these offenses.

Drug Abuse Violations: The violation of laws prohibiting the production, distribution, and/or use of certain controlled substances and the equipment or devices utilized in their preparation and/or use. The unlawful cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, use, possession, transportation, or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance. Arrests for violations of state and local laws, specifically those relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing, and making of narcotic drugs.

Weapon Law Violations: The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, concealment, or use of firearms, cutting instruments, explosives, incendiary devices, or other deadly weapons.

Hazing

Stop Campus Hazing Act

The Stop Campus Hazing Act (SCHA), enacted on December 23, 2024, amended the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act to establish additional federal requirements concerning hazing at institutions of higher education. Among other requirements, institutions must disclose hazing incidents in their Annual Security Reports and provide information concerning hazing policies, reporting procedures, investigation procedures, applicable state laws, and hazing prevention and awareness programs.

Lenoir-Rhyne University is committed to maintaining a safe, supportive, and healthy living and learning environment. The university expressly prohibits hazing in any form, whether occurring on or off campus and whether the conduct is intentional or unintentional. Hazing is prohibited regardless of whether the individual subjected to the conduct consented to or participated in the activity.

Lenoir-Rhyne University Anti-Hazing Policy

Under Lenoir-Rhyne University's Anti-Hazing Policy, hazing is any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a person, individually or in concert with others, against another person or persons regardless of their willingness to participate that:

1. Is committed in the course of an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in a student organization; and
2. Causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in the institution of higher education or the organization, of physical or psychological injury.

Conduct that may constitute hazing includes, but is not limited to:

- Whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing a harmful substance on another person's body, or similar conduct;
- Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, extreme calisthenics, or similar activities;
- Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to consume food, liquid, alcohol, drugs, or other substances;
- Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to perform sexual acts;
- Activities that place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through threatening words or conduct;

- Activities involving a criminal violation of local, state, Tribal, or federal law;
- Requiring another person to perform a duty or task involving a criminal violation of local, state, Tribal, or federal law;
- Posting harmful or demeaning content online; and
- "Line-ups," including activities in which individuals are forced to answer questions or endure personal indignity.

For purposes of the university's policy, an organization includes a formal or informal group consisting of two or more students enrolled at the university, including clubs, societies, associations, varsity or junior varsity athletic teams, club sports teams, fraternities, sororities, bands, student government organizations, and other similar groups, whether or not the organization is established or recognized by the university. Full policy is available at www.lr.edu/anti-hazing-policy-reporting.

Reporting Hazing

Lenoir-Rhyne University encourages students, employees, and other members of the University community to report suspected or actual hazing as soon as possible. Reports may be made even when the reporting individual is uncertain whether the conduct meets the University's definition of hazing.

Reports may be submitted through the University's Confidential Hazing Report Form. Individuals may provide their identity or submit a report anonymously. When contact information is provided, the University may use that information to obtain additional information necessary to investigate the report.

If a hazing incident is occurring or an individual is in immediate danger, call **911** or contact Lenoir-Rhyne University Public Safety at **828-328-7146**.

Additional reporting contacts include:

- **Office of Public Safety:** 828-328-7146
- **Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs & Dean of Students:** 828-328-7246
- **Vice President for Athletics:** 828-328-7128
- **Director of Student Involvement and Leadership:** 828-328-7016

The hazing report form can be found at www.lr.edu/confidential-hazing-report-form.

Investigation and Disciplinary Process

Reports of suspected hazing are received and reviewed by the Office of the Dean of Students. The Dean of Students or designee will initiate an investigation involving relevant parties and information.

The investigation and adjudication process will be conducted in accordance with the university's student conduct procedures and applicable University policies. When appropriate, the university may coordinate with or refer matters to law enforcement authorities.

When an investigation involving a student organization is completed and the organization is found responsible for a hazing violation, the organization will be notified of the outcome and applicable sanctions in accordance with university procedures.

Organizations found responsible for hazing may be subject to sanctions under university policies and procedures, including loss or suspension of university recognition.

Organizations found responsible may appeal a decision or sanction in accordance with the University's established student conduct appeal procedures.

Retaliation Prohibited

Lenoir-Rhyne University prohibits retaliation against individuals who report hazing in good faith, participate in a hazing investigation, or otherwise participate in a university process relating to a hazing allegation.

Hazing Prevention and Awareness

Lenoir-Rhyne University is committed to primary prevention and awareness strategies designed to prevent hazing before it occurs.

The university's prevention and awareness efforts include education and training addressing the University's hazing policy, the definition and consequences of hazing, reporting procedures, intervention strategies, and applicable legal requirements.

University organizations, coaches, and advisors participate in hazing education and prevention opportunities. Organizations are expected to provide periodic hazing prevention and intervention education to their members.

The university also communicates information concerning its hazing policy, reporting procedures, and prevention strategies to students, faculty, and staff.

Prevention efforts include strategies intended to:

- Increase awareness of hazing and its potential physical and psychological consequences;
- Encourage reporting and appropriate intervention;
- Develop bystander intervention skills;
- Promote ethical leadership;
- Reduce activities that create a risk of hazing; and
- Promote group cohesion, belonging, and organizational traditions without hazing.

North Carolina Hazing Law

Hazing is also prohibited under North Carolina law.

North Carolina General Statute § 14-35 makes it unlawful for a student attending a university, college, or school in North Carolina to engage in hazing or to aid or abet another student in hazing. A violation is a **Class A1 misdemeanor**.

The statute also prohibits school personnel, including teachers, school administrators, student teachers, school safety officers, and coaches, from engaging in hazing or aiding or abetting another person in hazing. A violation by school personnel is a **Class I felony**.

North Carolina law defines hazing as subjecting a student to physical or serious psychological injury as part of an initiation or as a prerequisite to membership in an organized school group, including a society, athletic team, fraternity or sorority, or other similar group. These provisions were revised by **Harrison's Law, Session Law 2025-73**, effective December 1, 2025.

University disciplinary action may apply to conduct that violates Lenoir-Rhyne University's Anti-Hazing Policy even when the conduct does not result in criminal charges or prosecution.

- N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-35 – www.lr.edu/gs_14-35.pdf
- Harrison's Law – Session Law 2025-73 – www.lr.edu/sl2025-73

Hazing Crime Statistics

Lenoir-Rhyne University reports hazing incidents in its Annual Security Report in accordance with the Clery Act and the Stop Campus Hazing Act.

The statistics below represent incidents reported to a Campus Security Authority or local law enforcement agency that occurred within the University's Clery geography and met the federal definition of hazing. Federal law requires institutions to report hazing statistics for the three most recent calendar years.

Calendar Year	Hazing Incidents
2023	0
2024	0
2025	1

Campus Hazing Transparency Report

The Campus Hazing Transparency Report is a separate disclosure from the hazing crime statistics reported in this Annual Security Report.

Lenoir-Rhyne University maintains a Campus Hazing Transparency Report summarizing findings concerning established or recognized student organizations found responsible for violations of university standards relating to hazing.

The report includes information required by the Stop Campus Hazing Act, including the name of the student organization, a general description of the hazing violation, sanctions imposed, and the date of the incident. The report is updated at least twice annually when applicable.

The hazing report form can be found at www.lr.edu/confidential-hazing-report-form.

Cooperation With Law Enforcement

Lenoir-Rhyne University cooperates with appropriate law enforcement authorities regarding hazing incidents that may violate federal, state, or local law. Conduct may be addressed through university disciplinary procedures, criminal proceedings, or both, as applicable.

A university investigation or disciplinary process is independent of a criminal investigation or prosecution, and the University may take action under University policies regardless of whether criminal charges are filed or pursued.

Full hazing policy and reporting form is available at www.lr.edu/anti-hazing-policy-reporting.

CLERY CRIME AND FIRE STATISTICS

The Department of Public Safety collects and compiles crime statistics and fire statistics in compliance with the Disclosure of Campus Public Safety Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act. A copy of the Handbook for Campus Safety and Security Reporting addresses the guidelines and may be obtained at the US Department of Education's website.

Lenoir-Rhyne's annual crime and fire statistics for 2025, separated by campus, are as follows:

Hickory Campus

Criminal Offenses Reporting Table

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
MURDER/NON-NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
MANSLAUGHTER BY NEGLIGENCE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
RAPE	2023	1	1	0	0	1

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
FONDLING	2023	1	1	0	0	1
	2024	1	1	0	0	1
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
INCEST	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
STATUTORY RAPE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
ROBBERY	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
BURGLARY	2023	5	5	0	0	5
	2024	2	2	0	0	2
	2025	1	1	0	0	1
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	2	1	0	0	3
	2025	1	0	0	0	1
ARSON	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
HATE CRIMES	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0

VAWA Offense Reporting Table

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	2	2	0	0	2
DATING VIOLENCE	2023	1	0	0	0	1
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
STALKING	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	2	1	0	0	2
	2025	0	0	0	0	0

Arrest and Disciplinary Referrals Reporting Table

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
ARRESTS: WEAPONS: CARRYING, POSSESSING, ETC.	2023	1	1	0	0	1
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS: WEAPONS: CARRYING, POSSESSING, ETC.	2023	3	3	0	0	3
	2024	1	0	0	0	1
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
ARRESTS: DRUG ABUSE VIOLATIONS	2023	2	0	0	0	2
	2024	1	0	0	0	1
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS: DRUG ABUSE VIOLATIONS	2023	5	3	0	0	5
	2024	4	0	0	0	4
	2025	11	11	0	0	11
ARRESTS: LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	2023	0	0	0	0	0

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS: LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	2023	12	12	0	0	12
	2024	14	14	1	0	15
	2025	34	34	0	0	34

Fire Statistics Table

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
UNINTENTIONAL FIRE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	1	1	0	0	1
	2025	1	1	0	0	1
INTENTIONAL FIRE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
UNDETERMINED FIRE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0

Unfounded Reports Table

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
UNFOUNDED REPORTS	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	1	0	0	0	1
	2025	0	0	0	0	0

Asheville Campus

Criminal Offenses Reporting Table

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
MURDER/NON-NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
MANSLAUGHTER BY NEGLIGENCE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
RAPE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
FONDLING	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
INCEST	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
STATUTORY RAPE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
ROBBERY	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
BURGLARY	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
	2025	4	0	0	0	4
ARSON	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
HATE CRIMES	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0

VAWA Offense Reporting Table

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
DATING VIOLENCE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
STALKING	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0

Arrest and Disciplinary Referrals Reporting Table

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
ARRESTS: WEAPONS: CARRYING, POSSESSING, ETC.	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS: WEAPONS: CARRYING, POSSESSING, ETC.	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
ARRESTS: DRUG ABUSE VIOLATIONS	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	1	1
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS: DRUG ABUSE VIOLATIONS	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
ARRESTS: LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	1	1
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS: LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0

Fire Statistics Table

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
UNINTENTIONAL FIRE	2023	0	0	0	0	0

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
INTENTIONAL FIRE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
UNDETERMINED FIRE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0

Unfounded Reports Table

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
UNFOUNDED REPORTS	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0

Columbia Campus

Criminal Offenses Reporting Table

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
MURDER/NON-NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
MANSLAUGHTER BY NEGLIGENCE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
RAPE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
FONDLING	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
INCEST	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
STATUTORY RAPE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
ROBBERY	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
BURGLARY	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	1	2	0	0	3
	2025	3	3	0	0	6
ARSON	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
HATE CRIMES	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0

VAWA Offense Reporting Table

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
DATING VIOLENCE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
STALKING	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0

Arrest and Disciplinary Referrals Reporting Table

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
ARRESTS: WEAPONS: CARRYING, POSSESSING, ETC.	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS: WEAPONS: CARRYING, POSSESSING, ETC.	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
ARRESTS: DRUG ABUSE VIOLATIONS	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS: DRUG ABUSE VIOLATIONS	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
ARRESTS: LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	1	0	0	0	1
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS: LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0

Fire Statistics Table

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
UNINTENTIONAL FIRE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
INTENTIONAL FIRE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0
UNDETERMINED FIRE	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0

Unfounded Reports Table

Offense	Year	On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-campus Property	Public Property	Total Offense
UNFOUNDED REPORTS	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2025	0	0	0	0	0