

Converse University Sex & Gender Discrimination and Harassment Policy (Title IX)

Policy Owner Office of Diversity and Inclusion

Responsible Office(s) Office of Diversity and Inclusion

Policy Statement

Converse University (“Converse”), in compliance with and as required by Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 and its implementing regulations (“Title IX”) and other civil rights laws, as well as in furtherance of its own values as a higher education institution, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, pregnancy, disability, age, religion, veteran status, or any other characteristic or status protected by applicable local, state, or federal law in admission, treatment, or access to, or employment in, its programs and activities.

Purpose

Discrimination and harassment are antithetical to the values and standards of the Converse community; are incompatible with the safe, healthy environment that the Converse community expects and deserves; and will not be tolerated. Converse is committed to providing programs, activities, and an education and work environment free from discrimination and harassment and to fostering a community that provides prompt reporting and fair and timely resolution of those behaviors.

Inquiries concerning discrimination or harassment on the basis of sex or gender may be referred to Converse’s Title IX Coordinator. Please see the contact information above.

Inquiries concerning discrimination or harassment based on a protected characteristic or status other than sex or gender may be referred to the Director of Community & Inclusion (for students) or the Director of Human Resources (for employees).

Individuals also may make inquiries regarding discrimination or harassment to the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights by contacting the District of Columbia Office, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-1475; Phone 800-421-3481; email: OCR@ed.gov.

Scope

This policy applies to any allegation of sex or gender discrimination or harassment made by or against a student or an employee of Converse or a third party, regardless of sex, sexual orientation, sexual identity, gender expression, or gender identity.

The Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedures apply only to allegations of Sexual Harassment in Converse’s Education Program or Activity.

Converse will address allegations of other types of sex or gender discrimination or harassment (i.e., that do not meet the definition of Sexual Harassment) (1) using other student and employee conduct disciplinary procedures deemed appropriate by the Title IX Coordinator in consultation with other Converse administrators; and/or (2) with Supportive Measures.

When Converse has actual knowledge of sexual harassment (or allegations of) in its Education Program or Activity and against a person in the United States, Converse is obligated to respond and to follow Title IX’s specific requirements, which are addressed and incorporated in these Grievance Procedures.

Promptly upon receiving allegations of Sexual Harassment in Converse’s Education Program or Activity and against a person in the United States, the Title IX Coordinator will contact the Complainant to discuss the availability of Supportive Measures with or without the filing of a Formal Complaint and to explain to the Complainant the process for filing a Formal Complaint.

Policy

Note: The full policy can be found on My Converse at https://my.converse.edu/ICS/Offices/Human_Resources/Title_IX.jnz. This excerpt serves to provide basic information to students, faculty, and staff. The full policy should be referenced for further information.

Important information for individuals who may be victims of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking: If you or someone you know may have been a victim of sexual assault or any other type of sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to seek immediate assistance. Assistance can be obtained 24 hours a day, seven days a week from the Residence Director on call at 864.621.7114 or Campus Safety at 864.596.9026.

For additional information for students about seeking medical assistance and emotional support, as well as important resource information, contact a member of the Wellness Center staff at 864.596.9258 or wellnesscenter@converse.edu.

During business hours (8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday), you are also strongly encouraged to contact one of the following individuals:

Title IX Coordinator:	Danielle Stone, MUEd Chief Inclusion Excellence Officer/Title IX Coordinator 864.596.9616 Danielle.stone@converse.edu Location: Montgomery 202H
	Jodi Strehl, MSW Senior Associate Athletic Director/ Senior Woman Administrator 864.596.9671 jodi.strehl@converse.edu Location: Marsha H. Gibbs Field House, 216
Title IX Deputy Coordinators:	Tori McLean Good, EdD Director of Career Development and Employer Relations 864.596.9647 tori.good@converse.edu Location: Montgomery 206 B
	Keshia Jackson Gilliam, EdD Director of Human Resources 864.596.9029 KeshiaJackson.Gilliam@converse.edu Location: Carnegie 204

Duties and responsibilities of the Coordinators are to monitor and oversee implementation of Title IX compliance at the University, including coordination of training, education, communication, and administration of procedures for faculty, staff, students, and other members of the University community, such as contract employees, Board members, and auxiliary staff. Complaints regarding discrimination or harassment on the basis of sex or gender, against Converse students, employees, or third-party contractors should be directed to the Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Coordinators listed above.

Version History

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