

# HOW TO SUPPORT A STUDENT WHO HAS EXPERIENCED SEXUAL ASSAULT OR SEXUAL HARASSMENT

## Guide for UWA staff and student leaders



**UWA**  
PERTH · AUSTRALIA

**ENSURE IMMEDIATE SAFETY**

### YOUR RESPONSE MATTERS

The safety and wellbeing of the UWA community is our top priority.

A range of wellbeing supports are available, including support for issues that occur off campus, in the past or do not involve another member of the UWA community.

See reverse for full service information.

Remember:

- Ask how the person would like to be helped and explain support options.
- Do not blame individual/s involved.
- The University supports the right of a person to decide on their next steps.
- Affected individuals are encouraged to report incidents that may constitute a criminal offence to Police in the first instance while seeking support from The University.
- Staff or Contractors are legally required to take action if a person poses an immediate risk to themselves or others. This may include de-identified reporting to an external agency.

**WELLBEING SUPPORT**

You receive a disclosure of sexual assault or sexual harassment from a student

Is anyone in immediate danger or requiring medical help?

**YES**

**EMERGENCY CONTACTS:**  
Emergency Services: 000  
UWA Security: 6488 2222 (on campus)  
SafeZone App

**NO**

Does the disclosure relate to sexual assault in the past 14 days?

**YES**

**Contact the Sexual Assault Resource Centre for immediate and confidential support:**

- Forensic and medical support
  - Counselling
  - Connect with Police (if desired)
- P | 6458 1828 / 1800 199 888

**NO**

- SARC also provide individual and group counselling support for past sexual assault or abuse
  - By appointment, on week days (wait periods may apply)
- P | 6458 1828

Would the person like wellbeing support or to discuss academic adjustments from The University or Guild?

### OPTIONS

#### Student Incident and Support

- Specialist support
- Academic adjustments
- Care coordination
- Explain reporting options

#### Health and Medical Services

#### Counselling

#### The Living Room

#### Guild Student Assist

- Independent from UWA
- Care coordination
- Support with financial and welfare issues
- Explain reporting options

**REPORTING OPTIONS**

Would the person like to report the incident?

**YES**

#### EXTERNAL OPTIONS

Report to WA Police

#### UWA OPTIONS

Integrity and Standards Unit

Report to the Equal Opportunity Commission

# REFERRAL OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS

## ENSURE IMMEDIATE SAFETY

### IF SOMEONE IS IN IMMEDIATE DANGER OR REQUIRES MEDICAL ATTENTION:

#### Emergency Services

24/7 emergency line **000**  
Police, Fire or Ambulance Services

#### UWA Security

24/7 Crawley campus emergencies **6488 2222**  
**SMS 0438 739 744**

ACTIVATE THE EMERGENCY ICON IN YOUR SAFEZONE APP FROM ANY CAMPUS

### FOR AN INCIDENT OF SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE PAST 14 DAYS:

#### Sexual Assault Resource Centre (SARC)

24/7 emergency line **T | 6458 1828** or **1800 199 888**

- Free and confidential service available to those over 13 years.
- Team of female doctors, and male and female counsellors.
- Staff are specially trained to respond to sexual trauma.
- Immediate, emergency assistance including medical, forensic and counselling support, up to 2 weeks after a sexual assault.
- Can support a person's decision to involve Police (optional).
- Free, specialist counselling also available related to historical sexual assault or abuse (wait periods may apply).

## WELLBEING SUPPORT

### UWA Student Incident and Support

**W | [uwa.edu.au/students/Support-Services](http://uwa.edu.au/students/Support-Services)**  
**T | 6488 2424** **E | [disclosure@uwa.edu.au](mailto:disclosure@uwa.edu.au)**

- Holistic support for a range of wellbeing issues such as assault, stalking or harassment.
- Information remains confidential, unless a situation poses an immediate safety risk.
- Fast-track referral to other services, such as counselling.
- Provide support with academic matters such as extensions, class changes, deferrals etc.
- Provide support with safety and practical matters such as financial assistance, emergency housing, changing residence, safety planning.
- Provide information about possible options for reporting or making an official complaint.
- Not involved in the reporting or investigation process.

### UWA Health and Medical Services

**W | [uwa.edu.au/medical-centre](http://uwa.edu.au/medical-centre)** **T | 6488 2118**

- Provide confidential, accredited medical care, urgent mental health care and psychological therapies.
- 10 bulk-billed psychological appointments on a GP Mental Health Care Plan by referral.
- Bulk-billed for domestic students, direct-billed to OSHC insurer for international students (Medibank or Allianz).
- Provide testing for pregnancy and STIs.
- Male or female doctors available on request.
- Can assist with special considerations and referral.

### UWA Counselling

**W | [uwa.edu.au/students/Support-services](http://uwa.edu.au/students/Support-services)**

- Brief, short-term intervention sessions to assist with concerns, issues or everyday events
- Free and confidential support
- Three sessions per calendar year, book online

### UWA Guild Student Assist Department

**W | [uwastudentguild.com/get-support](http://uwastudentguild.com/get-support)** **T | 6488 2292**  
**E | [assist@guild.uwa.edu.au](mailto:assist@guild.uwa.edu.au)**

- Team of qualified Social Workers and Counsellors within the Student Guild.
- Provide free, independent and professional support and advocacy to any enrolled UWA student.
- Information remains confidential, unless a situation poses an immediate safety risk.
- Provide information and referral to a range of services.
- Counselling appointments available.
- Support with academic and welfare issues Eg. special consideration, deferred exams, academic misconduct.
- Provide emergency financial assistance, interest-free loans and food pantry.
- Support through the report/complaint process.

### UWA The Living Room

**DROP-IN HOURS | Monday-Friday, 11:00am-4:00pm**

- A welcoming, drop-in student wellbeing space.
- Peer Support staff are available to provide help to students who are feeling stressed, upset, or need a chat.
- Fast-track referrals can be made to other services.
- No appointment required. Short-term support only.

### 1800RESPECT

**W | [1800respect.org.au](http://1800respect.org.au)** **T | 1800 737 732**

- National sexual assault, domestic family violence counselling service.
- Language interpreter options available.
- Provide 24/7 support via telephone, online chat, or directory of registered face-to-face services.
- Support for affected individuals, perpetrators or carers.

## REPORTING OPTIONS

UWA encourages individuals to report incidents that may constitute a criminal offence to Police in the first instance.

### UWA Integrity and Standards Unit

**W | [web.uwa.edu.au/university/complaints](http://web.uwa.edu.au/university/complaints)**  
**T | 6488 8547/7986/1976** or **0400 890 879**  
**E | [integrityandstandards@uwa.edu.au](mailto:integrityandstandards@uwa.edu.au)**

- Receive and assist resolution of complaints related to the UWA community and the student experience.
- People can choose to report anonymously, or remain anonymous through the report/complaint process.
- Options available, including but not limited to:

#### 1. Make a report (giving contact details)

Anyone directly subjected to sexual misconduct can make a Report against a member of the UWA Community. Can be submitted via email, phone or in person by appointment. Individuals can remain anonymous to others through this process.

#### 2. Make an anonymous or third-party report

Submitted via phone, email or in person. University actions may be limited if limited details are provided.

### WA Police Sex Assault Squad

**W | [police.wa.gov.au/your-safety/sexual-assault](http://police.wa.gov.au/your-safety/sexual-assault)**  
**T | 9428 1600** **E | [sexassaultsquads@mail@police.wa.gov.au](mailto:sexassaultsquads@mail@police.wa.gov.au)**

- Specialist Policing team trained to assist after sexual assault.
- When a person reports a sexual assault they will be offered free and confidential counselling services.
- If the person chooses not to take action, reporting the assault still helps Police to record the crime which may assist with future investigations. No action will be taken to investigate the assault without the affected person's permission.

### Equal Opportunity Commission

**W | [eoc.wa.gov.au](http://eoc.wa.gov.au)** **T | 9216 3927** **E | [eoc@eoc.wa.gov.au](mailto:eoc@eoc.wa.gov.au)**

- Investigate and endeavour to conciliate allegations of discrimination based on the Equal Opportunity Act.