

# UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

## **2026 University of California Statement to the Assembly Budget Subcommittee 3 on Education Finance Regarding Systemwide Title IX Activities**

The University of California (UC) does not tolerate discrimination or harassment in any form, including based on sex. Our goal is not merely to comply with state and federal law, but to go beyond those minimum requirements to prioritize the well-being of our community members. Fairness, safety, respect, and accountability are cornerstones of University's culture.

The University of California Office of the President has a dedicated Systemwide Office of Civil Rights (SOCR), which includes a Systemwide Title IX Office (STIXO). STIXO provides education, guidance, and investigative support to campus and location Title IX offices to ensure consistent implementation of UC's systemwide Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment (SVSH) Policy and related investigation and adjudication frameworks. SOCR, inclusive of STIXO, also administers the systemwide case management database system used by campuses and locations to track SVSH reports locally and by STIXO to track such reports systemwide.

The STIXO develops the systemwide SVSH Policy. The SVSH Policy prohibits all forms of harassment based on sex and applies to all faculty, staff, students, and third parties (such as patients and visitors). Additionally, the accompanying investigation and adjudication frameworks set forth steps to ensure fair, timely resolution processes under the SVSH Policy.

In 2025, STIXO issued an updated SVSH Policy and investigation and adjudication frameworks to incorporate technical changes required by state law. Specifically, the SVSH Policy was updated to comply with SB 1491 (Eggman, 2024). Language was also added to both the SVSH Policy and the investigation and adjudication frameworks, where applicable, to comply with AB 1905 (Addis, 2024), AB 1575 (Irwin, 2024), and AB 2987 (Ortega, 2024).

Each UC campus or location has a dedicated Title IX Officer. The local Title IX Officers are responsible for coordinating responses to reports of sex-based discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence, that arise in the work, education, or patient care environment at their campus or location. In addition to investigatory services, campus and location Title IX offices are responsible for equitably facilitating appropriate support services, as needed, for individuals involved in SVSH matters, either as complainants or

respondents. In addition to their responsive work, Title IX offices also proactively conduct or partner with other UC personnel to provide preventive SVSH and Title IX education and training.

Adequate support resources are key to creating a climate where individuals feel safe and supported. In addition to a Title IX office, each UC campus has a Center for Advocacy, Resources, and Education (CARE) office to provide survivor support services, including advocacy and healing services. Campuses also have Respondent Support Services Coordinators to assist individuals responding to Title IX allegations by providing information by helping to navigate resolution process and offer referral to campus and community resources for emotional or mental health support.

SOCR leadership regularly attend meetings with the campus CARE Directors and Respondent Support Services Coordinators hosted by the Student Policies and Governance office in Graduate, Undergraduate and Equity Affairs (GUEA), to obtain important student feedback, which information is used to inform UC best practices, education, and policy updates, as appropriate.

In June 2025, SOCR launched the Sexual Violence and Harassment, Anti-Discrimination, Prevention and Education (SHAPE) student training. SHAPE was developed by UCOP in consultation with campus and location representatives. All UC students are required to take the SHAPE training annually to ensure they understand how and where to go to report or seek help regarding sexual harassment, assault, or violence and that they fully understand their rights and responsibilities under the SVSH Policy. STIXO launched a similar internally-developed training first for employees and supervisors in fall 2023.