

MMU provides support services for all persons who have been victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. University staff will serve in any advocacy role and help refer individuals for medical, police, judicial and counseling assistance on or off campus. Upon request to the Vice President for Student Success, assistance will be provided in changing academic schedules, living, working, and transportation arrangements when reasonably available.

Whether or not a victim chooses to initiate criminal charges, she/he retains the right to file a complaint through the university's grievance process by contacting the Vice President for Student Success. Reported complaints of sexual assault will be investigated and information obtained in the process will be kept as confidential as possible. Should the alleged misconduct of a student be subject to review through formal hearing procedures, both the accused student and the victim will be afforded the opportunity to present relevant information, be accompanied by a support person of their choice from MMU, and be apprised of the results of the hearing. Upon request, the university will disclose the results of a disciplinary proceeding for a violent crime or non-forcible sex offense to the victim of such crime or offense or the next of kin, if the victim is deceased. In the event the accused student is found in violation, the entire range of sanctions outlined in the Student Handbook may be considered, including, but not limited to, probation, suspension or dismissal from Mount Marty University. Educational programs to promote prevention and awareness about sexual assault are offered through the New Student Orientation Program and other campus programs.

**Title IX Coordinator:**

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**[Mount Marty University Title IX Information](#)**

**Registered Sex Offenders**

All sex offenders are required to register in the state of South Dakota and to provide notice of each institution of higher education in South Dakota at which the person is employed, carries a vocation or is a student. A list of all registered sex offenders in South Dakota is available from the [State of South Dakota](#).

**MISSING PERSONS POLICY**

For purposes of this policy, a student will be considered missing if a roommate, classmate, faculty member, family member, or other campus personnel has not seen the person in a reasonable amount of time. A reasonable amount of time may vary with the time of day and information available regarding the missing person's daily schedule, habits, punctuality, and reliability. Individuals will also be considered missing immediately if their absence has occurred under circumstances that are suspicious or cause concerns for their safety. If the initial report that a person is missing is made to a department other than Campus Safety, the employee receiving the report will ensure that Campus Safety is contacted immediately.

### *Procedures for designation of emergency contact information*

Students age 18 and above or emancipated minors: Students will be given the opportunity during each semester registration process to designate a confidential contact person to be notified in the case that the student is determined to be missing, and that only authorized campus officials in the furtherance of a missing person investigation may have access to this information. If a student does not provide the confidential contact information, emergency contact designee will remain in effect until changed or revoked by the student.

Students under the age of 18: In the event a student who is not emancipated is determined to be missing pursuant to the procedures set forth below, the university is required to notify a custodial parent or guardian no more than 24 hours after the student is determined to be missing in accordance with the procedures set forth below.

### *Official notification procedures for missing persons*

- Any individual on campus who has information that a residential student may be missing must notify Student Affairs and Campus Safety as soon as possible.
- Student Affairs and Campus Safety will gather information about the residential student from the reporting person and from the student's acquaintances (description, clothes last worn, where the student might be, who they might be with, vehicle description, information about the physical and mental well-being of the student, an up-to-date photo, class schedule). Appropriate campus staff will be notified to aid in the search of the student.
- If the above actions are unsuccessful in locating the student within 4 hours of the report or it is apparent immediately that the student is a missing person (e.g. witnessed abduction), Student Affairs and Campus Safety will contact the Yankton Police Department to report the student as a missing person and the local law enforcement agency will take over the investigation.
- No later than 24 hours after determining that a residential student is missing, the Vice President of Student Success or their designee will notify the emergency contact (for students 18 and over) or the parent/guardian (for students under age 18) that the student is believed to be missing.

### *Campus communication about missing student*

In all cases, the law enforcement agency conducting the investigation will provide information to the media that is designed to obtain assistance in the search for any missing student. The MMU Director of Marketing and Communications shall be available to provide consultation on communication with the investigating law enforcement agency. Any media requests to the university will be directed to the Director of Marketing and Communications prior to providing a statement to the community with any information about a missing student. The Marketing and Communications Office shall consult with Student Affairs, Campus Safety and law enforcement authorities to ensure that communications do not hinder the investigation.