Blue Cliff College Annual Security Report

October 2024

**Blue Cliff College** 

# Introduction

Blue Cliff College's 2023-2024 Annual Security Report is published in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act), the Campus Security Enhancement Act and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). This Report includes statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on campus and on public property within, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from college property. The Report also includes institutional policies on campus security policies concerning alcohol and drug use, crime prevention, the reporting of crimes and other matters.

Federal Public Law 102-26 (Jeanne Clery Act) and its extension in Public Law 110-315 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 requires that colleges and schools disclose security policies and procedures and campus crime statistics to prospective and enrolled students. Therefore, each year, notification is sent to all prospective and enrolled students, faculty, and staff. This Report establishes policies and procedures for all campuses of Blue Cliff College and provides information related to individual Blue Cliff campuses. Additional information about the Jeanne Clery Act can be found at the U.S. Department of Education website: ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/campus.html

#### Annual Security Report

Blue Cliff College is committed to maintaining a safe and secure environment for students and staff. This Report is created each year by the Compliance Department after surveying each campus for reports of Clery-covered crimes, and making a good faith effort to obtain crime statistics from local law enforcement agencies at each campus. The Compliance Department is responsible for ensuring this Report is properly distributed to all current students and employees as well as all prospective students and prospective employees. This Report provides guidelines and advice that can contribute to this aim and encourage trust and effective communication in our educational community.

### Blue Cliff College Campuses:

- Alexandria, Louisiana
- Gulfport, Mississippi
- Lafayette, Louisiana
- Metairie, Louisiana
- ABC Training Location
- Acadiana Area Career College

# **Table of Contents**

Introduction	2
Campus Security Authorities and Procedures	5
• Timely Warning	7
• Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures	7-10
Campus Crime Reports	11
Crime Prevention and Security Awareness	17-19
Crime Prevention Resources	20
Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Policy	20
<ul> <li>Polices Related to Sexual Assault,</li> </ul>	
Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking	21-39
Sex Offender Registration	39
Appendices	
• Appendix A – Campus Crime Statistics	40
Alexandria, LA Crime Statistics	42
Gulfport, MS Crime Statistics	43
Lafayette, LA Crime Statistics	44
Metairie, LA Crime Statistics	45
<ul> <li>Appendix B – Drug and Alcohol</li> </ul>	
Prevention Programs	40
• Appendix C – Domestic Violence Resources	41

# Campus Security Authorities and Procedures

The Clery Act requires colleges to identify institutions campus security authority. In identifying Campus Security Authorities, it has been determine that all Blue Cliff College campuses fall into the following category: an official of an institution who has significant responsibility for student and campus activities, including, but not limited to, student housing, student discipline and campus judicial proceedings. An official is defined as any person who has the authority and the duty to take action or respond to particular issues on behalf of the institution. Therefore, the Campus Director as well as the Directors of Education and Director of Career and Student Services has been deemed Campus Security Authorities (CSA's) at each of the Blue Cliff College Campuses. The CSA's are required to report to the official or office designated by the institution to collect crime report information, such as the campus police or security department, those allegations of Clery Act Crimes that he or she receives. The designated CSA's has access to the crime log and the forms to document crimes. The CSA's are also aware that this job comes with a level of confidentiality.

The campus director or designee with security responsibilities are always available on campus or easily accessed through the main reception desk. The reception desk also maintains emergency contact numbers for police, fire and medical emergencies and some schools have interior cameras. Campuses in buildings and shopping malls also participate in security services provided by the landlord including lobby security, elevator closed circuit TV, security patrols and similar systems including adequate lighting in parking areas and walkways. Local police agencies typically maintain regular patrol routes near Blue Cliff campuses. Information about security services can be obtained through the campus director. Students are encouraged to learn more about these services particularly if attending class before or after normal business hours.

Please see page 6 for a listing of all pertinent staff to whom students and employees should report criminal offenses.

### Campus Personnel\*

Alexandria A Branch of Metairie 1505 Metro Drive, Suite 1 Alexandria, LA 71301 1 (318) 445-2778 Campus Director - Stacey Bowie Director of Education - Tess Myers Director of Career and Student Services - Megan Bernard



Gulfport A Branch of Metairie 12251 Bernard Parkway | Gulfport, MS 39503 1 (228) 896-9727 Campus Director - Michelle Hammothe Director of Education – Ashley Gramma Director of Career and Student Services - Ahn Tate

Lafayette A Branch of Metairie 120 James Comeaux Road Lafayette, LA 70508 1 (337) 269-0620 Campus Director - TBD Director of Education - Tanya Levier Director of Career and Student Services – Jessica Steward

Metairie Main & Statellite Campus 3200 Cleary Avenue Metairie, LA 70002 1 (504) 456-3141 Campus Director - Angela Wilson Director of Education - Donna Richardson Director of Career and Student Services – Shawn Pierre



ABC Training Center 1 East Fordham Road, Suite 5 Bronx, New York 10468 1 (718) 364-6700 Campus Director - Whitney Brodsky

Acadiana Area Career College 505 Loire Avenue Suite E | Lafayette, LA 70507 1 (337) 896-9776 Campus Director - John Williams

' Staffing is subject to change. Please contact the campus for personnel updates.

# **Timely Warning**

It is the policy of all Blue Cliff College campuses to provide all constituents, including the public, with timely and accurate information regarding any emergency situation that occurs on or around the campus. Rapid and timely communication of information to the college public during emergency situations is critical. In addition, accurate and timely communication from both staff and students is required for adequate response to emergency incidents.

Timely warnings will be issued in response to Clery Act crimes reported to campus security authorities that occurred on Blue Cliff's campus or covered public property, and, in the judgment of the Campus Director, constitute an ongoing or continuing threat to students and employees. It is the responsibility of the Campus Director (listed by campus on page 6) to issue timely warnings. Timely warnings will be distributed to the entire campus via mass email or VIAS - Campus Management System. The timely warning will withhold the names of the victims as confidential.

# **Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures**

The Campus Director (listed by campus on page 6) will immediately notify the campus community upon the confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees occurring on the campus. The Campus Director will work with school and local law enforcement officials to confirm an emergency or dangerous situation. Once the significant emergency or dangerous situation has been confirmed, the Campus Director will determine the best method of the emergency dissemination and who of the campus community to receive the notification. The Campus Director must also keep in mind the safety of the students and employees, therefore make sure that only pertinent information be included in the alert.

When a crisis situation is declared, campus access will be limited to faculty and staff, registered students, pre-authorized contract services, and emergency personnel, including law enforcement and fire department officials. In addition, the Campus Director may, at his discretion, disseminate emergency information to the larger community by contacting local law enforcement or fire safety officials. Each campus has in place an emergency notification and rapid alert system using the VIAS - Campus Management System. With this program, the institution has the ability, either from an individual campus or from the Corporate Offices, to send broadcast alerts to all members of the campus community or to any subgroup within the campus. The institution will use the alert system to notify members of the campus community of important announcements, such as last-minute school closings caused by weather events or power outages, and of emergency situations, such as bomb threats or security breaches. To ensure that telephone numbers are updated regularly, the campuses have made an ongoing effort to collect telephone numbers from students quarterly.

Special security bulletins will also be distributed if a need arises to advise students, faculty, and staff of community crime patterns and suspect information. Notifications may also come from various sources external to the campus such as campus personnel, commercial radio or television, NOAA/ National Weather Service radio, building smoke detection or sprinkler system, emergency siren, web/internet, private citizens, or the local police or fire department.

Annual testing of emergency and evacuation procedures will be conducted to ensure that all necessary parties are notified as intended. Annual testing of the emergency response system will be coordinated across all campuses by the Compliance Department and will be fully documented. The effectiveness of this alert system depends to a large extent on the validity and accuracy of the emergency contact information on file. The institution encourages students, faculty, and staff to ensure that their contact information is continuously up to date. Emergency and evacuation procedures will be conducted on campus. The drill will be documented fully the exercise, time, date, and whether the test was announced or unannounced.

#### Annual Security Report

# Prompt Reporting of an Emergency or Crime Is Encouraged

Community members, students, faculty, staff, and visitors are encouraged to promptly and accurately report all crimes and public safety-related incidents or concerns to the Campus Director or his/her designee and the appropriate local police agency, even if the victim of such crime elects not to or is unable to make such a report. We encourage anyone who witnessed or has been a victim of a crime to immediately report the incident by reporting the crime to one of the designated campus security authorities (refer back to page 7), dialing 911, and/or dialing one of the non-emergency numbers listed below:

#### Call 911 for all Emergencies

#### For Non-Emergencies Call:

Alexandria1	(318)	449-5099
Gulfport1	(228)	868-5959
Lafayette1	(337)	291-8600
Metairie1	(504)	835-3116
ABC Training Center		311
Acadiana Area Career College1	(337)	291-8600

Full details will be recorded and maintained in the campus security file and action will be taken including notification of police authorities. Students or staff members providing the report will be expected to cooperate with any further investigation, arrest or disciplinary action and will encourage victims to notify police authorities. The police are trained to receive document and investigate all crimes reported. An officer will work with individuals reporting a crime to obtain information and evidence, identify potential witnesses, and conduct a thorough investigation in an effort to identify the responsible party. When appropriate, crime suspects may be adjudicated through the student conduct system.

#### Confidential Reporting:

We encourage anyone who witnessed or has been a victim of a crime to immediately report the incident by dialing 911.

Crime can be reported on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in the Annual Security Report, confidentially reported information goes to the Title IX Coordinator and will not be shared without your express **written** consent, except in aggregate, non-identifiable form. If you would like to be contacted by the Title IX Coordinator, there is an option to let us know how to reach you. You can receive information, support and resources if you do not want or have not yet decided to report officially. The purpose of a confidential report is to maintain anonymity, yet it allows the police to take steps to ensure your future safety and that of others.

Blue Cliff College does not have pastoral counselors but in the event that counseling services are needed or requested, the student is directed to Wellconnect. Wellconnect gives students access to support services provided by one of their expert, licensed counselors. These services are free and confidential for students enrolled at Blue Cliff College.

With such information, the college can keep an accurate record of the number of incidents involving students, employees and visitors, and alert the campus community to potential danger if necessary.

### Law Enforcement Authority and Jurisdiction of Campus Security Personnel

Security guards are on duty during the hours designated to meet the needs of each campus. The security guards and any institution officials do not have the authority to make arrests. State and local police personnel can provide security for the campus and they do have the authority to make arrests. Institution officials and security guards work closely with the federal, state, and local police agencies to ensure a safe environment for each student and employee. However, none of the Blue Cliff College campuses have a memorandum of understanding in place with any local law enforcement division.

### Security of and Access to Campus Facilities

The Campus and facilities of the college are restricted to students, faculty, staff, guests, and invitees of the college, except when part or all of the campus, buildings, or facilities, are open to the general public for an approved and designated time and purpose.

Academic buildings are open during the day and evening hours to allow students and faculty access. The facilities are unlocked by 8:00 a.m. each morning and are locked by 10 p.m. each evening. On weekends, access is limited to authorized individuals, i.e., students, faculty members, college staff, maintenance workers, etc. Some Blue Cliff College campuses are patrolled by Campus Safety officers during the evening hours.

#### Annual Security Report

Security considerations used in the maintenance of campus facilities:

Proper lighting and building security are major factors in reducing crime on campus. Safety and security issues are considered and implemented in the design and placement of all campus lighting, shrubbery, trees and the like. Safety and security issues are considered when planning and designing major renovations to campus facilities or construction of new facilities on campus. Blue Cliff College does not monitor and record, through local police agencies, of criminal activity because Blue Cliff College does not have off – campus locations of student organizations recognized by the institution.

# **Campus Crime Reports**

The Clery Act requires that schools and colleges maintain records of crimes reported to campus officials and/or local police authorities. This includes on-campus reports as well as reports of crimes in non-campus buildings or property on public property adjacent to the campus, if available through local authorities. Blue Cliff College has done its due diligence by complying with the Clery Act policy that requires schools and colleges to maintain records of crimes reported to campus officials and/or local police authorities.

This reporting includes on – campus crimes as well as reports of crimes in non-campus buildings or property on public property adjacent to the campus, if available through local authorities. The campuses are then required to submit crime statistics to compliance for review. After review, the campuses are given the approval to submit their survey and then new charts are made available for distribution to staff and students.

Please see in **Appendix A** statistics covering the last three calendar years made readily available to employees, current, and prospective students.

In addition to compiling data on reports of crimes, Blue Cliff College separately report arrests or persons referred for campus disciplinary action with regard to:

- 1.) Liquor law or federal campus alcohol policy violations;
- 2.) drug law or federal campus drug policy violations; weapons possession law or campus weapons policy violations.
- 3.) and weapons possession law or campus weapons policy violations.

Further information about campus crime reports is available through the campus director. Crime definitions and campus crime reporting methodology are available through the U.S. Department of Education website:

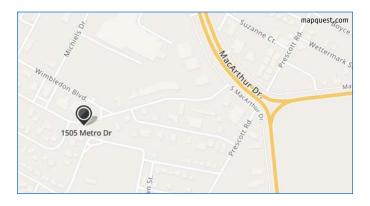
ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/campus.html - data.

# Clery Act Geography

The Clery Act defines the geographic area for which the college must report crimes specified in the Act, and requires the institution to include a description of this geographic area in its annual security report. Blue Cliff College has controlled campuses which means the institution (or an institution– associated entity as described below) directly or indirectly rents, leases or has some other type of written agreement (including an informal one, such as a letter or an e-mail) for use of a building or property, or a portion of a building or property. Please see below for the following descriptions and geographic locations on each of our seven campuses:

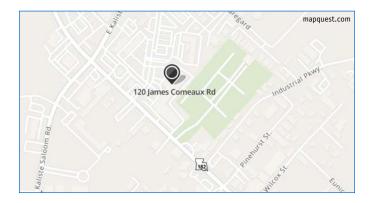
**Blue Cliff College** — Alexandria, and Lafayette are all located in leased space in strip malls. Per the Clery act, the following campuses are required to disclose statistics that are covered by the written agreement. If the lease includes use of the parking lot or selected spaces in the lot, include the lot (or selected spaces) as part of the campus. If the students need to use stairwells or elevators or hallways to access the space the institution controls, included them a part of your campus as well.

**Blue Cliff College in Alexandria, LA** is located at 1505 Metro Drive, Suite I. Our campus is housed in a 23,225 square foot facility in the complex that is situated right next door to the CLECO. This campus is a branch of Blue Cliff College's main campus in Metairie, LA. This is a one-story facility without a stairwell or elevator. The parking lot is covered by the written agreement for use by students and staff.



#### Annual Security Report

**Blue Cliff College in Lafayette, LA** is located at 120 James Comeaux Road in the Marketplace at Pinhook Center. This campus is a branch of the Metairie, LA campus and is housed in a 19,600 square-foot office building. This is a one-story facility without a stairwell or elevator. The parking lot is covered by the written agreement for use by students and staff.



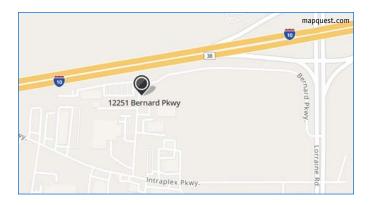
#### Blue Cliff College's Satellite Campus in Metairie, LA

is located at 3908 Veterans Memorial Boulevard, Suite A. This facility is a satellite campus to the Metairie Main campus and is housed in an 18,000 square-foot office building. Although this is a multi-level structure, the college leases space on the second floor only.



Blue Cliff College — Gulfport and Metairie (Main) are all located in stand-alone buildings. Per the Clery Act, the following campuses are required to disclose statistics that are on campus and on public property within or immediately adjacent to the campus. The public property consists of property within the campus. The campuses must report statistics for crimes that occur on the section of the road or bike path that touches the campus. The second area of public property that has to be disclosed is public property that immediately borders and is accessible from the campus. This property consists of a public sidewalk that borders the campus, the public street along the sidewalk, and the public sidewalk. The public property also consists of the parking lot and public transit stop. If there is a public or municipal parking facility or lot bordering the campus, it is part of the public property. A public transit stop located on the campus or immediately adjacent to the campus is included in the public property category.

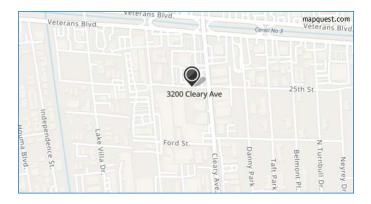
**Blue Cliff College in Gulfport, MS** is located at 12251 Bernard Parkway in an 22,670 square foot building next to the Budweiser® distribution facility. The Blue Cliff College- Gulfport campus is conveniently located on two floors of a stand-alone building located in the Bernard Parkway business park. This facility does not have a bike path that touches the sidewalk. The facility has side/front parking lot.



#### Annual Security Report

**Blue Cliff College — Metairie (Main) campus** is located at 3200 Cleary Avenue. This main campus on Cleary Avenue is located right off of Interstate 10 (next door to the French Riviera Fitness Center). The campus is set in a, 22,000 squarefoot, two-story, stand-alone facility in the Greater New Orleans area.

The facility does include sidewalks and a front, side, and back parking lot.



### Crime Prevention and Security Awareness

It is the philosophy of Blue Cliff College to prevent crimes from occurring than react to them after the fact. A primary vehicle for accomplishing this goal is the campus comprehensive crime prevention program. The campus crime prevention program is based on the dual concepts of eliminating or minimizing criminal opportunities whenever possible and encouraging students and employees to be responsible for their own security and the security of others. Everyone can play a part by using common sense precautions, maintaining vigilance, and cooperating with others.

Blue Cliff College Director of Career and Student Services are dedicated to community relations and crime prevention that coordinates numerous security awareness programs for the campus community, specifically to encourage students and employees to be responsible for their own security and the security of others. Printed and electronic materials are distributed regularly from through campus mail or email, and at fairs to provide crime prevention tips and information.

# Safe and Positive Options for Bystander Intervention

Bystanders are people who witness sexual violence, abuse, or stalking, or have reason to believe that such a crime has taken or will take place. Bystanders are, in fact, the largest group of people involved in these crimes, greatly outnumbering both perpetrators and victims. They often have the power to stop assaults from occurring and to get help for people who have been victimized.

At Blue Cliff College, we take reports of abuse and sexual crimes very seriously. We work hard to protect the confidentiality of those involved, and we thoroughly investigate claims before rendering judgment. There are also multiple ways to leave anonymous tips. When in doubt, speak up.

Options for Bystander Intervention:

- Bystanders can engage in safe and positive actions to prevent harm or intervene when there is a risk of dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
- Possible actions include recognizing situations of potential harm, raising awareness for conditions that lead to violence and abuse, overcoming barriers for victims and bystanders and identifying safe and effective intervention options.
- If someone discloses a sexual assault, abusive relationship, or experience with stalking to, you can start by believing them.
- If you see someone on or off campus who looks like they are in trouble, ask if they are okay. If you are afraid to interfere with the situation, call that person over for something very general ("Can I speak to you about the homework from the other day?").
- If you see a colleague, student, or friend doing something harmful, speak up. If someone says something offensive, derogatory, or abusive, let them know that the behavior is wrong and you don't want to be around it. Don't laugh at sexist, racist, or homophobic jokes.
- Be respectful of yourself and others. Before initiating any sexual act with your partner, make sure it's OK.
- Before intervening, always make sure you can do so safely. At Blue Cliff College we take every precaution to ensure the safety of our students and employees. This includes providing all members of the Blue Cliff College community with the knowledge, tools and support they need to protect themselves and others.
- Below are some additional tips and resources for students, employees and community members visiting a Blue Cliff College campus.

# Minimizing the Risk

While you can never completely protect yourself from sexual assault, there are some things you can do to help reduce your risk of being assaulted:

- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Try to avoid isolated areas.
- Walk with purpose. Even if you don't know where you are going, act like you do.
- Trust your instincts. If a situation or location feels unsafe or uncomfortable, it probably isn't the best place to be.
- Try not to load yourself down with packages or bags as this can make you appear more vulnerable.
- Don't allow yourself to be isolated with someone you do not trust or someone you don't know.
- Avoid putting music headphones in both ears so that you can be more aware of your surroundings.
- If someone is pressuring you and you need to get out of an uncomfortable situation:
- Remember that being in this situation is not your fault.
- Don't feel obligated to do anything you do not want to do.
- Have a code word with your friends or family so that you can call them and communicate your discomfort without the person you are with knowing.
- Try to think of an escape route. How would you get out of the room? Where are the doors and windows?

### Primary Prevention and Awareness Programs

Primary prevention programming is about changing behavior to prevent an undesirable social consequence and having programs/activities in place directed at improving the general well-being. All Blue Cliff College campuses are taking the necessary steps to ensure that the campuses are safe. The Campus Directors, Directors of Education, and Directors of Career and Student Services are kept abreast of all Clery requirements by the Compliance department. Therefore, if there is any additional guidance needed for prevention programming the compliance department will provide suggested activities such as campaigns, fact sheets, brochures, and any other resources that maybe helpful. All three entities will be trained in how to extend resources to victims, how to report crimes, and how to keep crime prevention awareness ongoing on the campuses. Primary prevention programming will be offered to all new students and employees at each campus. The programs are open to current students and employees as well.

The Director Career and Student Services at each Blue Cliff College campus holds the primary responsibility of assisting, encouraging, and advising current students to ensure students reach their goal of successfully completing their program of study by providing community resource information to students who are dealing with "life's issues". Therefore, during orientation the Director of Career and Student Services will ensure the that all incoming receive the following students with the following:

- Copy of Annual Security Report (Bystander Intervention and Risk Reduction)
- Brochures on Crime Prevention
- Title IX Policy
- Brochures on Sexual Assault Prevention
- Information on how to report a crime
- Brochures on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention

New employees of Blue Cliff College receive the Employee Handbook that outlines information on the following:

- Campus Security and Crime Information
- Code of Conduct
- Reporting Procedures
- Harassment and Discrimination
- Alcohol and Drug Abuse

### Ongoing Prevention Awareness Campaigns

Blue Cliff College's mission is to continuously educate, prevent, and intervene in instances of sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. Blue Cliff College understands that sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking are serious problems among college students, and is taking a proactive stance in preventing these problems.

Program implementation occurs throughout the academic year in a variety of forms for all members of the community, which includes students, staff, and faculty. Campus members will have multiple opportunities to participate in prevention and awareness activities through social events, online trainings, small-group discussions, and annual awareness events.

Community experts and local police agencies may give presentations and provide resources on occasion to promote the awareness of the offenses. The links below can provide additional information on awareness, education, and prevention.

Community crime prevention resources for specific campuses are listed on page 19.

#### Annual Security Report

### Local Crime Prevention Programs

#### Alexandria

Crime Stoppers 700 Murray St. | Alexandria, LA 71301-8023 1 (318) 443-7867

#### Gulfport

Crime Stoppers 2309 15th St. | Gulfport, MS 39501 1 (877) 787-5898

#### Lafayette

Lafayette Advisory Commission on Crime Prevention 705 West University Ave. | Lafayette, LA 70506 1 (337) 291-8200

#### **Crime Stoppers**

900 E. University Ave. | Lafayette, LA 70503 1 (337) 232-8477

#### Metairie

Louisiana Crime Prevention 4440 Trenton St. | Metairie, LA 70006 1 (504) 457-0111

#### Victims and Citizens against Crime

 3814 Veterans Memorial Blvd.
 Metairie, LA 70002

 1 (504) 454-8013
 454-8013

#### City of New Orleans Police Department Crime Prevention Unit

801 Rosedale Dr. New Orleans, LA 70124 504) 668-5590

#### Crime Stoppers

3300 Metairie Rd. | Metairie, LA 70001 1 (504) 837-8477

Acadiana Area Career College Refer to Lafayette Resources

#### ABC Training Center

New York State Crime Stoppers 2649 Strang Blvd., Suite 303 | Yorktown Heights, NY 10598 24/7 Hotline 1 (866) 313-TIPS (8477)

National Crime Prevention Council 1201 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 200 | Washington, DC 20036 1 (202) 466-6272

# **Crime Prevention Resources**

These two websites link to extensive resources for crime prevention and personal safety:

 National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) www.ncpc.org

# Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Policy

Blue Cliff College participates in the federal government's Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act and maintains a drug-free and alcohol-free environment at all campuses. It is Blue Cliff's policy that any person found to be in the possession of, under the influence of, using, selling, offering for sale, or trading drugs or alcohol (whether or not for monetary gain) on our campuses or at our school functions is subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal. Blue Cliff enforces all state and federal drug and alcohol laws, including underage drinking laws.

Blue Cliff College's full Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program is available here:

https://www.bluecliffcollege.edu/wpcontent/uploads/2022/09/DRUG-AND-ALCOHOL-ABUSE-PRE-VENTION-POLICY-04.01.20.pdf.

Additional resources are at the U.S. Department of Education's Higher Education Center for Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Violence Prevention at:

www.higheredcenter.org/prevention.

Local resources for individual campuses are available in **Appendix B.** 

# Policies Relating to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking

Blue Cliff College prohibits crimes of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking and cooperates with outside law enforcement agencies and exchanges criminal information. Students, faculty, staff, and visitors are encouraged to report criminal offenses to the local policy department in addition to reporting them to designated college officials. The college will assist students in notifying local law enforcement if requested.

### Definitions of Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking

#### LOUISIANA

"Consent" is not defined in Louisiana law.

**"Sexual Assault"** is not defined under Louisiana law, but several criminal laws cover the offenses of rape or sexual assault.

"Rape" as defined in Louisiana is the act of anal, oral, or vaginal sexual intercourse with a male or female person committed without the person's lawful consent. La. R.S. § 14:41. "Forcible rape" is defined as rape when the victim is prevented from resisting the act by force or threats of physical violence under circumstances where the victim reasonably believes that such resistance would not prevent the rape, and when the victim is incapable of resisting or of understanding the nature of the act by reason of stupor or abnormal condition of the mind produced by a narcotic or anesthetic agent or other controlled dangerous substance administered by the offender and without the knowledge of the victim. La. R.S. § 14:42.1. "Simple rape" is defined as rape when the victim is incapable of resisting or of understanding the nature of the act by reason of a stupor or abnormal condition of mind produced by an intoxicating agent or any cause and the offender knew or should have known of the victim's incapacity, where the victim, through unsoundness of mind, is temporarily or permanently incapable of understanding the nature of the act and the offender knew or should have known of the victim's incapacity, where the female victim submits under the belief that the person committing the act is her husband and such belief is intentionally induced by any artifice, pretense, or concealment practiced by the offender. La. R.S. § 14:43.

"Sexual battery" is defined as the intentional touching of the anus or genitals of the victim by the offender using any instrumentality or any part of the body of the offender, or the touching of the anus or genitals of the offender by the victim using any instrumentality or any part of the body of the victim, when any of the following occur:

- (1) The offender acts without the consent of the victim.
- (2) The act is consensual but the other person, who is not the spouse of the offender, has not yet attained fifteen years of age and is at least three years younger than the offender.

- (3) The offender is seventeen years of age or older and any of the following exist:
  - (a) The act is without consent of the victim, and the victim is prevented from resisting the act because either of the following conditions exist:
    - The victim has paraplegia, quadriplegia, or is otherwise physically incapable of preventing the act due to a physical disability.
    - (ii) The victim is incapable, through unsoundness of mind, of understanding the nature of the act, and the offender knew or should have known of the victim's incapacity.
  - (b) The act is without consent of the victim, and the victim is sixty-five years of age or older. La. R.S. § 14:43.1.

"Oral sexual battery" is defined as the intentional touching of the anus or genitals of the victim by the offender using the mouth or tongue of the offender, or the touching of the anus or genitals of the offender by the victim using the mouth or tongue of the victim, when any of the following occur:

- (1) The victim, who is not the spouse of the offender, is under the age of fifteen years and is at least three years younger than the offender.
- (2) The offender is seventeen years of age or older and any of the following exist:
  - (a) The act is without the consent of the victim, and the victim is prevented from resisting the act because either of the following conditions exist:
    - The victim has paraplegia, quadriplegia, or is otherwise physically incapable of preventing the act due to a physical disability.
    - (ii) The victim is incapable, through unsoundness of mind, of understanding the nature of the act, and the offender knew or should have known of the victim's incapacity.
  - (b) The act is without the consent of the victim, and the victim is sixty-five years of age or older. La. R.S. § 14:43.3.

"Stalking" under Louisiana law is defined as the intentional and repeated following or harassing of another person that would cause a reasonable person to feel alarmed or to suffer emotional distress. Stalking includes but is not limited to the intentional and repeated uninvited presence of the perpetrator at another person's home, workplace, school, or any place which would cause a reasonable person to be alarmed, or to suffer emotional distress as a result of verbal or behaviorally

#### Annual Security Report

implied threats of death, bodily injury, sexual assault, kidnapping, or any other statutory criminal act to himself or any member of his family or any person with whom he is acquainted. La. R.S. § 14:40.2(A) "Harassing" means the repeated pattern of verbal communications or non-verbal behavior without invitation which includes but is not limited to making telephone calls, transmitting electronic mail, sending messages via a third party, or sending letters or pictures.

**"Dating violence"** under Louisiana law includes but is not limited to physical or sexual abuse and any offense against a dating partner as defined in the Criminal Code of Louisiana, except negligent injury and defamation, committed by one dating partner against the other. La. R.S. § 46.2151(C) "Dating partner" means any person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim and where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:

- (1) The length of the relationship.
- (2) The type of relationship.
- (3) The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

"Domestic Violence" under Louisiana law includes both "Family Violence," defined as any assault, battery, or other physical abuse which occurs between family or household members, who reside together or who formerly resided together La. R.S. § 46.2121.1(2) as well as "Domestic Abuse," which includes physical or sexual abuse and any offense against the person as defined in the Criminal Code of Louisiana, except negligent injury and defamation, committed by one family or household member against another. "Domestic abuse" also includes abuse of adults when committed by an adult child or adult grandchild. La. R.S. § 46:2132. "Family members" under Louisiana law means spouses, former spouses, parents and children, stepparents, stepchildren, foster parents, and foster children. "Household members" means any person of the opposite sex presently or formerly living in the same residence with the defendant as a spouse, whether married or not, who is seeking protection under this Part. If a parent or grandparent is being abused by an adult child, adult foster child, or adult grandchild, the provisions of this Part shall apply to any proceeding brought in district court.

#### MISSISSIPPI

"Consent" is not defined in Mississippi law.

"Sexual Battery" means engaging in sexual penetration with another person without his or her consent, a mentally defective, mentally incapacitated or physically helpless person, a child at least 14 but under 16 years of age, if the person is 36 or more months older than the child, or a child under the age of 14, if the person is 24 or more months older than the child. Sexual penetration includes cunnilingus, fellatio, buggery or pederasty, any penetration of the genital or anal openings of another person's body by any part of a person's body, and insertion of any object into the genital or anal openings of another person's body. Ms. Code 97-3-96 to 97.

"Stalking" means purposefully engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person, or making a credible threat if the person knows or should know that the conduct would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her own safety, to fear for the safety of another person, or to fear damage or destruction of his or her property. Course of conduct means a pattern of conduct composed of a series of two or more acts over a period of time, however short, evidencing continuity of purpose and that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her own safety, to fear for the safety of another person, or to fear damage or destruction of his or her property. Reasonable person means a reasonable person in the victim's circumstances. Ms. Code 97-3-107.

"Domestic Abuse" and "Dating Abuse" mean the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between spouses, former spouses, persons living as spouses or who formerly lived as spouses, persons having a child or children in common, other individuals related by consanguinity or affinity who reside together or who formerly resided together or between individuals who have a current or former dating relationship: (1) attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing bodily injury or serious bodily injury with or without a deadly weapon; (2) placing, by physical menace or threat, another in fear of imminent serious bodily injury; (3) criminal sexual conduct committed against a minor; (4) stalking; (5) cyberstalking; or (6) sexual offenses. Ms. Code 93-21-3.

A dating relationship means a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature between two (2) individuals; it does not include a casual relationship or ordinary fraternization between two (2) individuals in a business or social context. Whether a relationship is a "dating relationship" shall be

#### Annual Security Report

determined by examining the following factors: (1) the length of the relationship; (2) the type of the relationship; and (3) the frequency of interaction between the two (2) individuals involved in the relationship.

#### NEW YORK

The New York State Penal Code describes prohibited Sex Offenses in §§ 130.00 to 130.91 and 130.95 to 130.96 and prohibited Stalking Offenses in §§ 120.45-120.60.

"Sexual Assault" includes non-consensual sexual intercourse and non-consensual sexual contact. "Non-consensual sexual intercourse" means any form of sexual penetration or intercourse (vaginal, anal, or oral), however slight, with any object by an individual upon another individual without consent and/or by force. Intercourse means: vaginal or anal penetration by a penis, object, tongue, or finger; and oral copulation (mouth to genital contact or genital to mouth contact). "Non-consensual sexual contact" means any intentional sexual touching, however slight, with any body part or object by an individual upon another individual without consent. Intentional sexual contact includes contact with the breasts, buttocks, or groin, or touching another with any of these body parts; making another person touch any of these body parts; and any intentional bodily contact in a sexual manner.

"Dating Violence" means violence or coercive behavior committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the complainant's statement and with consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. Dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual, physical, or psychological abuse, or the threat of such abuse.

"Domestic Violence" means felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of New York, or 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 New York. In the New York State Penal Law, "lack of consent" is defined as resulting from the following circumstances:

A. Forcible Compulsion, which occurs when there is:1.) Actual physical force;2.) Threat of physical force, expressed or implied, that puts the victim in fear of being physically harmed or of another person being physically harmed;

3.) Imminent threat to kidnap the victim or third person B. Incapacity to Consent. A person is deemed incapable of consent when: 1.) Physically helpless: Unable to indicate a lack of consent because he or she unconscious, or has a physical disability and unable to physically or verbally communicate lack of consent. 2.) Under 17 years of age a. If the victim is under 11, or if a person at least 18 (or over) has sex with someone under 13, this constitutes a first degree sexual offense b. If a person 18 or over has sex with someone under 15, this constitutes a second degree sexual offense c. If a person 21 years old or over has sex with someone under 17, this constitutes a third degree sexual offense 3.) Mentally incapacitated: Made temporarily incapable of understanding or controlling his or her conduct, such as after being given a drug or other intoxicating substance without his or her consent. 4.) Mentally Disabled: Suffering from a mental illness or condition that renders him or her incapable of understanding the nature of his or her conduct.

What constitutes a stalking offense in New York State? Under the New York State Penal Law, a person has committed the crime of stalking when he or she intentionally, and for no legitimate purpose, engages in a course of conduct directed at a specific person, and knows or reasonably should know that such conduct: 1.) is likely to cause reasonable fear of material harm to the physical health, safety or property of such person, a member of such person's immediate family, or a third party with whom the person is acquainted; or 2.) causes material harm to the mental or emotional health of such person, where such conduct consists of following, telephoning or initiating communication or contact with such person, a member of such person's immediate family or a third party with whom such person is acquainted, and the actor was previously clearly informed to cease that conduct; or 3.) is likely to cause such person to reasonably fear that his or her employment, business or career is threatened, where such conduct consists of appearing, telephoning or initiating communication or contact at such person's place of employment or business, and the actor was previously clearly informed to cease that conduct.

#### Annual Security Report

The severity of the crime of stalking, and the associated potential punishment, increases depending on the circumstances including, but not limited to, whether the conduct causes a person to fear physical injury, the commission of a sex offense, or kidnapping and whether a weapon is used in the commission of the crime. For more information about the definition of stalking offenses in New York State, see <a href="http://ypdcrime.com/penal.law/article120.htm">http://ypdcrime.com/penal.law/article120.htm</a>. [Additional information is available from the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault at:

https://ypdcrime.com/penal.law/article120.php]

Procedures Victims Should Follow When Reporting Crimes of Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking Procedures for reporting criminal sex offenses are the same as for campus crime in general. Community members, students, faculty, staff, and visitors are encouraged to promptly and accurately report all crimes and public safety-related incidents or concerns to the Campus Director or the Title IX Coordinator and the appropriate local police agency, even if the victim of such crime elects not to or is unable to make such a report. We encourage anyone who witnessed or has been a victim of a crime to immediately report the incident by dialing 911 or dial one of the non-emergency numbers listed below. Should a student or staff member be a victim of a crime, witness a sex-related crime or become aware of potential criminal activity including threats, a report should be immediately filed with the school director or the Title IX Coordinator. Full details will be recorded and maintained in the campus security file and action will be taken. Contact information for local authorities is as follows:

#### Call 911 for all Emergencies

#### For Non-Emergencies Call:

Alexandria1	(318) 449-5099
Gulfport 1	(228) 868-5959
Lafayette1	(337) 291-8600
Metairie1	(504) 835-3116
ABC Training Center	
Acadiana Area Career College1	(337) 291-8600

To report an incident to Blue Cliff Officials, please contact your Campus Director (listed on page 6).

## Preserving Evidence

Once you are in a safe place, it is important to consider preserving evidence for the purpose of proving that a criminal offense or a violation of the student code has occurred. Place clothing and other materials in a paper bag. Do not rearrange the scene of the incident if possible. Consider visiting a hospital for a medical examination. Save relevant messages and pictures that may help create a record of individuals' movements, attitudes, or actions.

Victims have the option to notify local law enforcement authorities, including local police, even if they do not plan to file a grievance with the school. Blue Cliff will assist victims in contacting the appropriate local authorities. Victims also have the right to decline to notify such authorities.

In addition, victims may request that a no-contact order be put in place by the institution upon reporting the incident to a school official.

Blue Cliff will protect the confidentiality of victims and other necessary parties by completing publicly available recordkeeping, including Clery Act reporting and disclosures, without the inclusion of personally identifying information about the victim. Blue Cliff will maintain as confidential any accommodations or protective measures provided to the victim, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality will not impair the ability of the institution to provide the accommodations or protective measures.

Sanctions for individuals who sexually assault members of the Blue Cliff community are outlined in the grievance procedure below. Blue Cliff will, upon written request, disclose to the alleged victim of a crime of violence (as that term is defined in Section 16 of Title 18 of the U.S. Code) or a non-forcible sex offense, the report on the results of any disciplinary proceeding conducted by Blue Cliff against the student or employee who is the alleged perpetrator of the crime. If the alleged victim is deceased as a result of such crime or offense, the next of kin of the victim shall be treated as the alleged victim for the purposes of this paragraph.

When a student or employee reports that they have been a victim of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, whether the offense occurred on or off campus, Blue Cliff will provide the student or employee a written explanation of their rights and options, including:

- procedures to follow if a crime of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking has occurred, including:
  - the importance of preserving evidence that may assist in proving that the alleged criminal offense occurred or may be helpful in obtaining a protection order;

#### Annual Security Report

- how and to whom the alleged offense should be reported;
- options about the involvement of law enforcement and campus authorities, including the victim's option to (1) notify proper law enforcement authorities, including on-campus and local police; (2) be assisted by campus authorities in notifying law enforcement authorities if the victim so chooses; and (3) decline to notify such authorities.
- information about how Blue Cliff will protect the confidentiality of victims, including completing publicly available recordkeeping without inclusion of personally identifying information about the victim, and maintaining as confidential any accommodations or protective measures provided to the victim;
- existing counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid, and other services available for victims both within the institution and in the community;
- options for, available assistance in, and how to request changes to academic, living, transportation, and working situations or protective measures. Blue Cliff will make such accommodations or provide such protective measures if the victim requests them and if they are reasonably available, regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to campus police or local law enforcement; and,
- an explanation of the procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking.

#### Privacy and Confidentiality

BCC understands that claims of harassment, discrimination, or sexual violence can be sensitive. If the complainant requests confidentiality or asks that the complaint or disciplinary action not be pursued against the alleged perpetrator, BCC will take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with the individual's request. Such steps may include, for example, recommending local counseling services, offering accommodations, providing the campus with additional training on relevant issues, and implementing other measures independent of disciplinary action that could assist the complainant or address the harassment without disclosing the individual's identity.

However, confidentiality cannot be guaranteed in every situation. Following notice of an incident, BCC must weigh a request for confidentiality or request not to pursue a formal investigation and disciplinary action with its responsibility to provide a safe, non-discriminatory environment to all students and employees. Thus, in some cases, it may be necessary to explain to the individual that confidentiality may not be ensured, pursue an investigation, and take all necessary steps to end the alleged misconduct and prevent its recurrence.

The Title IX Coordinator, in consultation with the Campus Director at the location where the claim originates will be the final authority on the degree to which BCC can ensure confidentiality in a specific case. In weighing a request for confidentiality and whether to pursue a formal investigation of an incident, the Title IX Coordinator will consider the seriousness of the alleged harassment; the complainant's age; and whether there have been other harassment complaints about the same individual.

### **Confidential Resources**

Individuals may contact the following resources for support in any incident without the risk of having their identity revealed.

**For Students:** WellConnect gives students access to support services provided by one of their expert, licensed counselors. WellConnect is staffed 24/7/365 with master's level clinicians who are available for free in-the-moment telephonic support and direction. You can call us at any time to talk with a counselor. During the initial call, the WellConnect counselor will help you to work through your concerns. At the end of the call, you will be offered a referral for up to four sessions of face-to-face or telephonic counseling with a dedicated clinician. If you wish to engage in face-to-face counseling, WellConnect will connect you with a provider convenient to your home or work. They assist with any challenges that may arise during a student's time at Blue Cliff College; from time management and test anxiety, to feelings of depression or the loss of a loved one.

WellConnect counselors also provide coaching support, whether to help students start a budget or find local resources to help with daily living needs such as housing, food and childcare. WellConnect also has attorneys and financial experts on staff to consult with the students on legal issues, such as divorce, contract language, or child custody questions. Support with a counselor is available 24/7 (www.studentlifetools.com/), and is just a phone call away at 1 (866) 640-4777. These services are free and confidential for students enrolled at Blue Cliff College.

For Employees: Blue Cliff College employees should refer to their Blue Cross Blue Shield Coverage at www.bcbsla.com for additional information regarding counseling.

#### Annual Security Report

Confidential Reporting: We encourage anyone who witnessed or has been a victim of a crime to immediately report the incident by dialing 911 or dial 1 (877) 238-5473 extension #4 which is the corporate ethics hotline. Crimes can be reported on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in the Annual Security Report. The police department can file a report on the details of an incident without revealing your identity.

The purpose of a confidential report is to maintain the anonymity of the individual, yet it allows the police to take steps to ensure your future safety and that of others. With such information, the college can also keep an accurate record of the number of incidents involving students, employees and visitors, and alert the campus community to potential danger if necessary. Reports filed on a confidential basis are counted and disclosed in the annual crime statistics for the college.

# Blue Cliff College Grievance Procedure

BCC has developed the following grievance procedure for individuals who have experienced sexual harassment or sexual violence, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking. The grievance procedure applies to complaints against students, employees, or third parties. The process has been designed to ensure each complaint is thoroughly investigated and a prompt and equitable resolution is reached. All BCC employees involved in the grievance procedure will receive training annually on how to conduct a fair and impartial investigation into matters involving sexual harassment and sexual violence.

### Filing a Complaint

#### I. Notify Appropriate Personnel

A student or employee may file a Title IX complaint with their Campus Director in person, by mail, or by electronic mail. The Campus Director will then forward the complaint to the Title IX Coordinator.

At the request of the student or employee, BCC staff members will assist the individual in contacting local police and pursuing a criminal complaint. BCC will not wait for the conclusion of a criminal investigation or criminal proceeding to begin its own investigation and if necessary, will take immediate steps to protect the student or employee in the educational or employment setting.

#### II. Preliminary Conference, Response, and Complaint Review

If BCC receives a complaint from a student or employee or otherwise becomes aware of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment or sex discrimination, the Title IX Coordinator will conduct a preliminary conference with the complainant as soon as possible and a copy of this policy will be provided to the victim. The purpose of this initial meeting is to:

- inform the individual of their options under the grievance procedure, their option to notify local law enforcement, and as well as accommodations, remedies, and counseling services available through BCC and the local community;
- address the individual's request for confidentiality, if applicable;
- understand the basic allegations or facts underlying the possible misconduct;
- ensure the victim takes immediate steps to preserve any available evidence, particularly if the allegations involve sexual assault or sexual violence;
- 5) determine if accommodations or other interim action is necessary to protect the victim, the accused, or the BCC community; and
- assess whether the alleged misconduct could rise to the level of prohibited discrimination that warrants a Formal Investigation.

#### III. Informal Resolution

The Complainant has the option to seek an informal resolution in certain cases and where the Complainant, Respondent, and the Title IX Coordinator all agree informal resolution should be pursued. In cases involving allegations of sexual assault, informal resolution is not appropriate, even if both the Complainant and Respondent indicate a preference for informal resolution. The Title IX Coordinator is available to explain the informal and formal resolution procedures.

If the Complainant, the Respondent, and the Title IX Coordinator all agree that an informal resolution should be pursued, the Title IX Coordinator shall attempt to facilitate a resolution of the conflict that is agreeable to all parties. Under the informal process the Title IX Coordinator shall conduct such fact-finding as is useful to resolve the conflict and as is necessary to protect the interests of the parties, the University and the community. Typically, an informal investigation will be completed within 20 days of receipt of the complaint. If it becomes necessary to extend the process, both parties will be notified of a revised expected resolution timeframe.

#### Annual Security Report

A Complainant or Respondent always has the option to request a formal investigation. The Title IX Coordinator also always has the discretion to initiate a formal investigation. If at any point during the informal process, the Complainant, the Respondent, or the Title IX Coordinator wishes to cease the informal process and to proceed through formal grievance procedures, the formal process outlined below will be invoked.

The informal resolution must adequately address the concerns of the Complainant, as well as the rights of the Respondent and the overall intent of the University to stop, remedy and prevent violations of this policy. (Informal actions might include, but are not limited to: providing training to a work unit; having an informal discussion with an individual whose conduct, if not stopped, could rise to the level of discrimination, or hostile environment harassment; or having a confidential conversation with a supervisor or instructor).

The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for assessing whether a Formal Investigation will be conducted under the BCC Grievance Procedure - that is, whether the alleged facts could rise to the level of prohibited discrimination or conduct that warrants remediation and/or disciplinary action. Incidents involving sexual assault or sexual violence are cause for a Formal Investigation, subject to the complainant's request for confidentiality or request not to pursue disciplinary action against the alleged perpetrator. In addition, the Title IX Coordinator may initiate a Formal Investigation if they believe that they lack sufficient information to assess whether the misconduct could rise to the level of discrimination or an individual may pose a threat to the BCC community.

A determination that a Formal Investigation is not necessary does not preclude BCC from taking appropriate action to eliminate, remedy, or prevent prohibited or otherwise disruptive conduct. Appropriate action may include an informal mediation involving the parties; providing training to a work unit; having an informal discussion with an individual whose conduct, if not stopped, could rise to the level of discrimination, or hostile environment harassment; or having a confidential conversation with a supervisor or instructor. In addition, the College may pursue disciplinary sanctions for any actions that violate the student and employee Code of Conduct, even if those actions do not constitute discrimination.

IV. Formal Investigation and Grievance Procedure Assigning an Investigator. When a determination is made to proceed with a Formal Title IX Investigation, the Title IX Coordinator or their designee will be assigned to investigate the claim. **Appropriate Notice.** Throughout the investigation, both the Complainant and the Respondent will be afforded equal reasonable notice to prepare for any meeting or interview. At the outset of the Formal Investigation, the investigator will advise the Respondent of the allegations against him or her in writing and a copy will be provided to the Complainant.

**Equal Opportunity to Participate.** Both the Respondent and the Complainant will have an equal opportunity to participate in the investigation. Both parties will have an equal opportunity to give statements, provide evidence, and request that the investigator meet with relevant witnesses. Both Parties may be accompanied by one advisor of their choosing to any meeting or proceeding during an investigation. The advisor may be a member of the BCC community, a friend or family member, or any other counselor of the individual's choosing. During the live hearing, the decision maker must permit each party's advisor to ask the other party and any witnesses all relevant questions and follow-up questions, including that challenging credibility.

**Evidentiary Determinations.** The investigator has broad discretion in determining whether a witness' statements or documentary evidence is relevant to a determination. The investigator may be asked to address why or why not certain statements or other evidence was relevant in the Investigation Report.

**Standard of Review.** The Title IX investigation procedure will determine findings of fact using the preponderance of the evidence standard. This "preponderance of the evidence" standard requires that the evidence supporting each finding be more convincing than the evidence in opposition to it, meaning it must be more likely than not that the conduct at issue occurred.

**Possible Sanctions.** Not all forms of misconduct will be deemed to be equally serious offenses, and the college reserves the right to impose different sanctions depending on the severity of the offense and/or offender history.

Any student or employee found responsible for violation this policy may receive any of the following sanctions:

- Educational Sanctions includes but it is not limited to the completion of an education assignment (e.g., research paper, program presentation, etc.)
- Formal Written Warning
- Probation
- Revocation of admission and/or degree
- Expulsion
- Suspension

#### Annual Security Report

- No contact (direct or indirect) with the victim
- Banishment from all college property, functions, etc.
- Substance Abuse Assessment
- Training on sex based misconduct
- Employee sanctions: formal written warning, suspension, and/or termination

The Title IX Coordinator will also evaluate any request for accommodations in light of the information available. Under appropriate circumstances accommodations may include adjusting class or work schedules or affording students the opportunity to retake tests or coursework. Accommodations may also include referral to appropriate counseling services.

**Outcome Report.** When the Title IX investigator complete an investigation, they will summarize critical evidence and outline their findings and any recommended action necessary to address and remedy the discrimination in an Outcome Report. This summary will be reviewed by the Campus Director to determine any appropriate disciplinary action. A copy of the Report will be provided to both the Complainant and the Respondent along with a date that the Report will be submitted to the Campus Director for review and possible disciplinary action. Both the Complainant and Respondent will have 7 days to submit a written response to the Report to the Title IX investigator, which will be accompany the Report when submitted to Campus Director.

The Campus Director has broad discretion to request that the investigator interview additional witnesses or collect additional information. The Campus Director will issue a written Outcome Letter including the finding(s) of fact, the rationale for the decision, and if applicable, any actions the College will take to provide accommodations to the Complainant, any institution-wide remedies are being considered or implemented, along with any disciplinary action taken. An Outcome Letter will be provided to both parties, although the content of each letter may be modified subject to the limitations of FERPA and other relevant laws and considerations. Both parties will also be provided with information regarding their right to appeal the decision.

BCC will make every effort to complete a Title IX investigation within 60 calendar days after receiving notice of an allegation of harassment or discrimination. The Title IX Coordinator may extend this timeframe for good cause. If the timeframe is extended, the College will apprise the parties of the progress of the investigation and provide updated timeframes.

#### V. Appeal

If the Complainant or the Respondent is dissatisfied with final determinations made under this policy, that person may file an appeal. The Appeal must be filed in writing with the Title IX Coordinator within 5 calendar days of the Outcome Letter. A delay in filing the Appeal may be grounds for rejection of the Appeal. The Appeal should state the remedy sought by the appealing party.

As soon as practicable, the Title IX Coordinator will provide a copy of the request for an appeal to the non-appealing party, the executive committee which consist of the VP of Admissions, the VP of Finance, and the Regional President who may confer with the investigator and the Campus Director to review the investigation record. Upon completing their review of the record, the Executive Committee will issue a written Appeal Outcome Decision which will be made available to both the Complainant and Respondent. The Appeal Outcome Decision is BCC's final determination on a matter and cannot be further appealed.

#### VI. Retaliation is Prohibited

BCC strictly prohibits retaliation against any individual who brings a good faith complaint under this policy or participates in any portion of a Title IX investigation. Retaliatory conduct violates not only College policy and Title IX, but may also violate state and federal law.

#### VII. False and Malicious Accusations

A complainant whose allegations are found to be both false and brought with malicious intent will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination/dismissal from school.

### Primary Prevention Awareness Programs

Blue Cliff offers all new students and employees prevention programs aimed at the prevention of sex offenses or other intimate partner violence including the prevention of stalking, dating violence, sexual violence, and domestic violence offenses. Sex offenses include any intimate partner violence, stalking, dating violence, sexual violence, and domestic violence offenses. The program covers the following subjects:

- identifies domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking as prohibited conduct;
- defines using definitions provided both by the Department of Education as well as state law what behavior constitutes domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;

#### Annual Security Report

- defines what behavior and actions constitute consent to sexual activity;
- provides a description of safe and positive options for bystander intervention. Bystander intervention means safe and positive options that may be carried out by an individual or individuals to prevent harm or intervene when there is a risk of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking. Bystander intervention includes recognizing situations of potential harm, understanding institutional structures and cultural conditions that facilitate violence, overcoming barriers to intervening, identifying safe and effective intervention options, and taking action to intervene;
- provides information on risk reduction. Risk reduction means options designed 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;
- outlines procedures victims should follow if a crime of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking has occurred, including topics such as how to report such crimes, the importance of preserving evidence, and options for involving law enforcement;
- reviews information about how the institution will protect the confidentiality of victims and other necessary and after parties;
- provides an overview of information contained in the ASR, including procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of sexual assault.

All new campus employees and students are instructed on crime awareness during orientation, including the description of campus security measures and procedures for reporting any criminal activity or emergency. Prospective students and employees are provided with a summary of the campus measures to prevent crime on campus and details for acquiring the complete policies and procedures package from the campus via the campus website.

This information on crime awareness is readily available upon request, and will be updated and re-distributed to all existing students and staff twice a year.

Blue Cliff College Campuses conducts bi-annual in-service programs designed to heighten awareness of crime and its prevention. These in-service programs are conducted by local law enforcement or qualified officials twice a year.

Students are required to follow campus security guidelines for their own personal and property safety, and are encouraged to report any suspicious activity promptly. Prospective students and employees are provided with a summary of the campus measures to prevent crime on campus and details for acquiring the complete policies and procedures package from the campus via the campus website or can be provided by one of the aforementioned CSA's. This information on crime awareness is readily available upon

request, and will be updated and re-distributed to all existing students and staff on an annual basis.

The campus conducts annual in-service programs designed to heighten awareness of crime and its

prevention. These in-service programs are conducted by local law enforcement, campus directors, and/or student services coordinators annually.

Students performing externship or clinical practice off-campus are expected to practice safety and security procedures as if the site were an extension of the campus.

Be aware that there are no perfect protection strategies. There is no way to predict all possible situations. These safety tips are intended to reduce, not eliminate the risk of assault. Getting informed about sex crimes is also very important:

- The primary responsibility for any sexual assault rests with the offender and not the victim.
- Knowledge is power. Though many sex offenders are NOT known to law enforcement, you can educate yourself about those known offenders who reside in your city or county.
- Remember that most sexual assaults are committed by someone that the victim knows. The stranger does not pose the highest risk to you. Up to 90% of sex offenders are known to their victims and include relatives, friends and authority figures. If you feel uncomfortable in someone's presence, trust your feelings and take steps to distance yourself from him or her. Don't be afraid to make a scene if necessary. Tell someone!
- Avoid high-risk situations. Be observant and aware of your surroundings. Avoid poorly lit areas where an attacker might hide. Identify safe people in your neighborhood that you or your children can go to if you need help. Be thoughtful and use good judgment in choosing your friends and partners. Be careful of your use of alcohol and drugs; you are more vulnerable to attack if you are intoxicated. Do not leave your food or drink unattended at a party or in a public place. Don't be embarrassed to use security staff at work or when shopping, to walk you to your car. Do not pick up hitchhikers or stop to help a stranger in a stalled vehicle; use a phone in a safe location to call for help. Be cautious about making personal contact with those you meet on the Internet or in other similar environments.

#### Annual Security Report

 Do not harass the offender. The purpose behind community notification is to reduce the changes of future victimization of persons by this offender. The information presented through this notification should assist you and your family in avoiding situations that allow easy victimization. Initiating contact with the Sexually Violent Predator can increase the risk of you or your family being victimized or may drive the offender underground, placing others at greater risk.

# Sex Offender Registration

The Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act requires institutions to provide notice of how information concerning registered sex offenders may be obtained. It also requires sex offenders already required to register in a state to provide notice, as required under state law, of each institution of higher education in that state at which the person is employed, carries on a vocation, volunteers services, or is a student.

Registries for offenders located near individual Blue Cliff campuses as well as the state of Louisiana Registered Sex Offenders database are available at:

www.nsopw.gov/Core/Portal.aspx
www.nsopw.gov/Core/OffenderSearchCriteria.aspx?Advanced=1
www.sexoffender.com/
www.lsp.org/socpr/default.html

# Appendix A

For charts providing the most recent Clery Act data, please go to pages 42-45 of this brochure.

# **Appendix B**

Alexandria

#### A & D Education Services of Alexandria

1 Alexandria Alexandria, LA 71301 1 (318) 473-0876

#### Alcoholics Anonymous

Alexandria, LA 71301 1 (318) 561-6119

#### Gulfport

Alcohol Abuse & Drug Rehabilitation Long Beach | Gulfport, MS 39501 228-867-9935

Coast Counseling Center 127 Gary St. | Gulfport, MS 39503 228-832-0556

Lafayette

#### Freedom Recovery Centers 325 Kaliste Saloom Rd., Suite 100 | Lafayette, LA 70508-3877

1 (337) 234-1490

#### Alcoholics Anonymous Central Office

115 Leonie St. | Lafayette, LA 70506-6227 1 (337) 991-0830

#### Metairie

Alcoholics & Narcotics Abuse Rehabilitation Metairie, LA 70001 1 (504) 883-0271

Addiction Recovery Resources 4933 Wabash St. | Metairie, LA 70001 1 (504) 780-2766

#### ABC Training Center

Archdiocese Drug Abuse Prevention Program 2789 Schurz Ave. | Bronx, NY 10465 1 (718) 904-1333

ABC Training Center

Archdiocese Drug Abuse Prevention Program 2789 Schurz Ave. | Bronx, NY 10465 1 (718) 904-1333

Acadiana Area Career College Refer to Lafayette Campus

#### Annual Security Report

# Appendix C

Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence The Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence is the federally designated statewide coalition of shelters, nonresidential programs and individuals working to end domestic violence in Louisiana. Our programs serve people from everywhere in Louisiana and who come from all backgrounds. We oppose violence as a means of control over others and support equality in relationships. Louisiana State Hotline: 1 (888) 411-1333.

Alexandria

**Turning Point** 1 (318) 445-2022

Gulfport

**Mississippi Coalition Against Domestic Violence** 1 (800) 898-3234

Gulf Coast Women's Center For Non-Violence 1 (228) 435-1968

Lafayette Faith House 1 (337) 232-8954

Metairie Metropolitan Center for Women and Children 1 (504) 837-5400

ABC Training Center Domestic Violence Help Agency

2175 Lacombe Ave. | Bronx, NY 10473 1 (718) 828-0400

Acadiana Area Career College Refer to Lafayette Campus

# Jeanne Clery Act Campus Crime Statistics Blue Cliff College – Alexandria

Criminal offenses reported to school authorities or police	2021 (on campus	2021 (public property	2022 (on campus)	2022 (public property)	2023 (on campus)	2023 (public property)	Unfounded
Murder/Non- negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arrests or referral for campus disciplinary action	2021 (on campus)	2021 (public property)	2022 (on campus)	2022 (public property)	2023 (on campus)	2023 (public property)	Unfounded
Liquor law violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Abuse Violations	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons: carrying, possessing, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reports of crimes involving bodily injury and prejudice based on race, gender, gender identity, religion, sexual, orientation, ethnicity, national origin or disability	2021 (on campus)	2021 (public property)	2022 (on campus)	2022 (public property)	2023 (on campus)	2023 (public property)	Unfounded
Hate crimes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VAWA Offenses	2021 (on campus)	2021 (public property)	2022 (on campus)	2022 (public property)	2023 (on campus)	2023 (public property)	Unfounded
Dating Violence	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

# Jeanne Clery Act Campus Crime Statistics Blue Cliff College – Gulfport

Criminal offenses reported to school authorities or police	2021 (on campus	2021 (public property	2022 (on campus)	2022 (public property)	2023 (on campus)	2023 (public property)	Unfounded
Murder/Non- negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arrests or referral for campus disciplinary action	2021 (on campus)	2021 (public property)	2022 (on campus)	2022 (public property)	2023 (on campus)	2023 (public property)	Unfounded
Liquor law violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Abuse Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons: carrying, possessing, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reports of crimes involving bodily injury and prejudice based on race, gender, gender identity, religion, sexual, orientation, ethnicity, national origin or disability	2021 (on campus)	2021 (public property)	2022 (on campus)	2022 (public property)	2023 (on campus)	2023 (public property)	Unfounded
Hate crimes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VAWA Offenses	2021 (on campus)	2021 (public property)	2022 (on campus)	2022 (public property)	2023 (on campus)	2023 (public property)	Unfounded
Dating Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

# Jeanne Clery Act Campus Crime Statistics

Blue Cliff College – Lafayette

Criminal offenses reported to school authorities or police	2021 (on campus	2021 (public property	2022 (on campus)	2022 (public property)	2023 (on campus)	2023 (public property)	Unfounded
Murder/Non- negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arrests or referral for campus disciplinary action	2021 (on campus)	2021 (public property)	2022 (on campus)	2022 (public property)	2023 (on campus)	2023 (public property)	Unfounded
Liquor law violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Abuse Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons: carrying, possessing, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reports of crimes involving bodily injury and prejudice based on race, gender, gender identity, religion, sexual, orientation, ethnicity, national origin or disability	2021 (on campus)	2021 (public property)	2022 (on campus)	2022 (public property)	2023 (on campus)	2023 (public property)	Unfounded
Hate crimes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VAWA Offenses	2021 (on campus)	2021 (public property)	2022 (on campus)	2022 (public property)	2023 (on campus)	2023 (public property)	Unfounded
Dating Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

# Jeanne Clery Act Campus Crime Statistics

Blue Cliff College – Metairie (Main and Satellite)

Criminal offenses reported to school	2021 (on	2021 (public	2022 (on	2022 (public	2023 (on	2023 (public	Unfounded
authorities or police	campus	property	campus)	property)	campus)	property)	
Murder/Non- negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arrests or referral for campus disciplinary action	2021 (on campus)	2021 (public property)	2022 (on campus)	2022 (public property)	2023 (on campus)	2023 (public property)	Unfounded
Liquor law violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Abuse Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons: carrying, possessing, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reports of crimes involving bodily injury and prejudice based on race, gender, gender identity, religion, sexual, orientation, ethnicity, national origin or disability	2021 (on campus)	2021 (public property)	2022 (on campus)	2022 (public property)	2023 (on campus)	2023 (public property)	Unfounded
Hate crimes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VAWA Offenses	2021 (on campus)	2021 (public property)	2022 (on campus)	2022 (public property)	2023 (on campus)	2023 (public property)	Unfounded
Dating Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### Louisiana Campuses:

#### Blue Cliff College – Alexandria (Online Distance Education Facility)

A Branch of Metairie 1505 Metro Drive, Suite I Alexandria, LA 71301 (318) 445-2778 (855) 807-4548 – Online

Licensed by the Louisiana State Board of Massage Therapy, License No. E2601

Licensed by the State of Louisiana Board of Regents

#### Blue Cliff College – Lafayette

*A Branch of Metairie* 120 James Comeaux Road Lafayette, LA 70508 (337) 269-<u>0620</u>\_\_\_\_

Licensed by the Louisiana State Board of Massage Therapy, License No. E2287 Licensed by the State of Louisiana Board of Regents

#### Blue Cliff College – Metairie

*Main Campus* 3200 Cleary Avenue Metairie, LA 70002 (504) 456-3141

#### Blue Cliff College – Metairie

*Satellite Location* 3908 Veterans Memorial Boulevard Suite A Metairie, LA 70006 (504) 293-0972

Licensed by the Louisiana State Board of Massage Therapy, License No. E2290 Licensed by the State of Louisiana Board of Regents

## Mississippi Campus:

#### Blue Cliff College – Gulfport

*A Branch of Metairie* 12251 Bernard Parkway Gulfport, MS 39503 (228) 896-9727



Licensed by the Mississippi State Board of Massage Therapy, License No. 9803

Mississippi Commission on Proprietary School and College Registration, License No. C-736

## **Other Campuses:**

ABC Training Center 1 E. Fordham Road, Suite 5 Bronx, NY 10468 (718) 364-6700



Licensed by the State of New York, New York State Education Department

#### Acadiana Area Career College 505 Loire Avenue, Suite E Lafayette, LA 70507 (337) 896-9776

Licensed by the State of Louisiana Board of Regents

Visit our web site! www.bluecliffcollege.edu

# Blue Cliff College