

# Sexual Assault: Help and Support at Hamilton College

*If you (or someone you know) may have experienced a sexual assault or unwanted sexual contact of any kind, tell someone what happened. Help and support are available.*

## Seek medical attention as soon as possible

Hamilton College EMT's can help make sure you get the care you need. Call 315-859-4000.

## Preserve physical evidence

Should you decide later to pursue criminal action, evidence collected within 72 hours of the assault can be important for the case. If needed, Campus Safety (315-859-4000) can arrange transportation to Oneida Healthcare Center (315-361-2024) where a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner will collect evidence. Do not shower, bathe, douche, or change your clothes before the examination. If you have changed clothes, bring with you the clothes you were wearing when assaulted.

## Options for Action

Option 1 File a complaint with the College	Option 2 Pursue criminal charges	Option 3 Pursue charges through both the College and police
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Talk to any member of the Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Board (HSMB) or the Senior Associate Dean of Students/Title IX Coordinator to discuss options for action through College procedures.</li><li>• Complete details about this process can be found at: <a href="http://www.hamilton.edu/hsmb">http://www.hamilton.edu/hsmb</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If you wish to file a report of the assault with the police, contact Campus Safety who will arrange for a police officer to come to campus to take your report.</li><li>• Filing a criminal report does NOT obligate you to follow through with legal action or action through the College.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• These processes can occur simultaneously, but will take place independent of one another.</li></ul>

### Contact:

- Campus Safety (315-859-4000)
- Meredith Bonham, Senior Associate Dean of Students/Title IX Coordinator (315-859-4020)
- Any member of the Harassment & Sexual Misconduct Board (see <http://www.hamilton.edu/hsmb/board> for complete list of members)

### Talk confidentially with:

- Counseling Center (315-859-4340)
- College Chaplain (315-859-4130)
- Health Center (315-859-4111)

### Peer Advocate Program

- The peer advocate program provides confidential support to survivors of sexual assault.
- Trained students can help survivors understand their options.
- Learn more about the program at <http://www.hamilton.edu/hsmb> - Click on [Peer Advocate](#)
- Contact a Peer Advocate at [advocate@hamilton.edu](mailto:advocate@hamilton.edu)

## Hamilton faculty and staff are obligated to report incidents of sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator

To prevent further incidents from occurring, consider filing a complaint with the Meredith Bonham, Senior Associate Dean of Students/Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator will keep conversations private, but is required to take some form of action. Students may also speak with members of the counseling services, health services, and college chaplaincy. Those conversations will be held in strict confidence.