Sonoma State University
2021 Campus Safety Plan
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Availability, Location, and Methods to Summon Law Enforcement Assistance
The Sonoma State University Police Department is located on campus at 1801 East Cotati Avenue, Verdot Village, Rohnert Park, CA, and provides law enforcement services 24 hours a day to our community. Police dispatch can be reached directly 24 hours a day by phone at 707-664-4444. Emergencies can be reported by calling 911.

The peace officers of Sonoma State University have state-wide police authority and jurisdiction per Penal Code 830.2 and Education Code 89560 and are vested with law enforcement powers and responsibilities, identical to the local police or sheriff departments in your home community.

Crime Reporting
The campus community is strongly encouraged to report all known or suspected crimes on campus to the University Police Department as soon as possible. When calling the police, do the following:

- Provide your name, telephone number, and location
- Give clear and accurate information
- Be prepared to supply suspect and vehicle description, the direction of travel, and other relevant facts
- Don’t hang up until instructed by the dispatcher

By Telephone
- Emergency: 9-1-1
- Non-emergency 707-664-4444

In-Person
- Sonoma State University Police at the south end of Verdot Village across from Parking Lot D and the Student Center. There is no public access to the building without employee escort. Call (707) 664-4444 and a staff member will meet you.

Emergency Blue Light Call Stations
Emergency call stations that allow for one button activation are located throughout campus. Upon activation, the emergency telephone will put you in contact with a 911 dispatcher. There are 33 call stations located throughout campus, including the residential community.

Special Safeguards for Facilities or Activities

Security of and Access to Campus Facilities
All campus facilities are key or key-card accessed, and most are open daily for scheduled campus community use. Campus key control and distribution is a function of the Seawolf Service Center and Facilities Services. To provide for the security of campus facilities, the University Police Department enforces Educational Code 89031 & housing policies. University Police may revoke campus facility access per Penal Code 626.
Security Considerations Used in Maintenance of Campus Facilities

The Campus Safety Committee, which includes faculty, staff, and student representation along with many campus departments that oversee various safety programs or activities, meets monthly to review campus conditions, projects, hazards, and safety programming. As a function of this committee, a multi-disciplinary group of campus employees conducts regular inspections and security surveys of campus during different seasons and times of day/night to review indoor/outdoor lighting, shrubbery, and walkways.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, University protocols were developed to reduce on-campus presence of faculty, staff, and students pursuant to public health guidelines. These protocols included reducing open buildings to limit exposure, pre-approval for employee access to campus, and significantly increased sanitation protocols.

Special Event Safety Planning

Preparation for large events on campus involves the creation of Incident Action Plans, according to the Standardized Emergency Management System and in collaboration with mutual aid agencies and contracted safety personnel. All special events on campus are planned with consideration for personal and fire safety.

Actions Taken in the Preceding 18 Months to Increase Safety

- Implemented campus safety and sanitation protocols in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure the safety of on-campus faculty and staff, residential students, and students taking classes on campus
- Established the Sexual Misconduct/Assault Response Team (SMART) with campus and community partners to present a collaborated response to interpersonal violence, including dating/domestic violence, sexual harassment, sexual assault, and stalking
- Supported students and campus departments in ensuring the safety of activities related to various national social justice movements
- Developed the Interpersonal Violence Prevention Team to increase awareness of interpersonal violence, recognize the signs, and provide safe ways to intervene members of our community in need
- Enhanced alcohol and other drug student screening, assessments, and training to better support students working through abuse and addiction challenges
- Reviewed and improved laboratory and research safety
- Updated the Injury Illness Prevention Program and expanded online safety training for employees
- Developed extensive exposure investigation protocols in support of Sonoma County Department of Public Health to ensure the timely and accurate identification of COVID-19 cases, exposures, and at-risk persons.
- Obtain a California Office of Emergency Services campus grant to fund programming to reduce and prevent incidents of sexual assault, dating, and domestic violence, as well as stalking
- Hired a second Confidential Advocate to serve students impacted by interpersonal violence
- Developed and implemented new crime prevention and related educational materials in support of outreach activities and community education and safety
- Formalized Behavioral Intervention Team and threat assessment processes
- Increased residential security by enhancing security for residential windows and sliding doors
- Sent six employees to the Green Dot the bystander intervention program to advance the bystander intervention program at SSU
- Increased de-escalation training requirements for police officers
- Implemented body-worn camera use for all police patrol staff
- Increased collaboration with the Rohnert Park, Public Safety Department to ensure collaborative investigations and training of police personnel
Changes in Safety Precautions and Initiatives Expected to Be Completed during the Next 24 Months

- Develop the “Safe SSU” website and program to align all campus safety initiatives into a single information point and support campus-wide safety initiatives.
- Apply for a Department of Justice campus grant to advance interpersonal violence prevention and education.
- Develop COVID-19 surveillance testing for residential students
- Assess the application of video camera systems, alarms, and other progressive technologies to enhance campus safety and investigative capacity.
- Develop a partnership with Humboldt State University to expand the bystander intervention training and efforts at Sonoma State.
- Improve building lock systems to allow for greater control of access control to authorized persons
- Develop a Police Chief’s Advisory Board to support campus safety, crime prevention and response, and emergency response
- Implement training for instructors, students, and staff related to crime prevention, personal safety, First Aid/CPR, and emergency response
- Assess the development of a multi-disciplinary Mental Health Crisis Intervention team
- Maintain and grow community partnerships with Verity Rape Crisis Center, YWCA Sonoma County, Rohnert Park Police Department, Cotati Police Department and Sutter Health to continue to educate, provide prevention programming, and coordinated response to interpersonal violence in the greater SSU community.
- Develop partnership with University Police and Athletics to increase training and support in risk reduction, alcohol and drug abuse and addiction support, and other safety initiatives
- Explore the development of a student ambassador program to support ongoing University Police safety initiatives
- Develop a program to increase of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) throughout campus
- Develop and expand the capacity of SMART through resource sharing and collaboration in education and prevention opportunities.
- Increase bystander and prevention education by expanding into classrooms, working with clubs and organizations, and engaging more student leaders as peer educators.

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California State University, Sonoma Statistical Report 2019


The statistics were compiled using the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting program definitions, occurring on campus, and in compliance with California State Education Code, Chapter 16, of the Donahue Higher Education Act, Section 67380.

2019 Statistics (California Education Code 67380(a)(1)(a))

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<td>Destruction of property</td>
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<td>Illegal Drugs</td>
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<td>Alcohol intoxiciation</td>
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* Part I violent crimes include willful homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

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