



Covid-19 FAQs

From Office of Sexual Assault Prevention & Response

Is OSAPR still open?

For the health and safety of our community, we are conducting all appointments and meetings remotely, via Zoom or phone.

Please reach out if you do not have a private space to take a remote appointment. Your safety and access are important to us, and OSAPR will work on an alternative plan that works best for you.

You can make an appointment by emailing us at osapr@harvard.edu, or calling our 24-hour hotline at

617.495.9100

Prevention and outreach efforts will also continue virtually. To get in touch about prevention education or to request a training, please reach out to <u>osapr@harvard.edu</u>

What reasons should I reach out to OSAPR?

If you are in doubt, reach out.

We are a confidential resource and specialize in the broad spectrum of what constitutes interpersonal dynamics and harm. This includes relationship advice, sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, and stalking.

We are also here if you wish to talk about stresses that are happening in your relationships at home or at a distance with friends and partners. Feel free to talk to us for other topics as well.

If we are not the right resource, we will find the right place that can provide support.





How can OSAPR help me if I'm no longer on campus?

We understand that your needs may be impacted by changes to your academic, housing, and social environment. OSAPR can still address safety or emotional health concerns and overall wellbeing with you. We can help you with **emotional support, safety planning, finding financial and housing resources, or making a report**. We are also able to provide virtual accompaniment to remote meetings with campus partners.

Resources on campus are still available to you. We understand that it may feel especially challenging to get support while away from Harvard, and we are committed to getting you connected to appropriate Harvard-based supports as well as relevant services in your area. This includes helping make connections to Title IX Coordinators and the Office for Dispute Resolution.

Can I get a forensic exam during this time?

Yes. Medical care following sexual violence is considered a medical emergency, including standardized prevention of pregnancy and prophylactic treatment for STDs and HIV. Protocols for how hospitals are offering these services vary across geographies. For example, many hospitals are limiting the number of people who can accompany patients. **OSAPR can provide support via phone**. Feel free to call us if you wish to talk through your options.

Can I get a restraining order?

Courts are continuing to issue restraining orders (also called protection orders or injunctions). **Check with your local courthouse to see if the filing location or hours have changed** with the new COVID-19 precautions in place or if online filing is permitted. Your local courthouse may have forms available to request a restraining order. If you would like help navigating this process, please contact us. We can still engage in systems advocacy remotely.

You can visit the <u>National Center for State Courts'</u> website where you can find the latest information on your state and local courts and their response to the COVID-19 pandemic.





My restraining order has been violated. What can I do?

If your order has been violated, or if you are in immediate danger, you may want to consider contacting the police in a manner that feels safe for you. Violations of protection/restraining orders are typically arrestable offenses.

OSAPR is here to help you safety plan around your unique situation.

Are Title IX Coordinators available as a resource for Harvard students, staff, and faculty who are studying and working remotely?

Yes. Whether you are on campus or studying or working remotely, the <u>University</u> <u>Title IX Office</u> and our network of local <u>Title IX Coordinators</u> remain available as a resource.

Title IX Coordinators can provide information about resources, help arrange individualized supports that will enable you to access your work or studies, facilitate informal resolutions, and provide information about the <u>Sexual and Gender-Based</u> <u>Harassment Policy</u>, procedures, and the formal complaint process through the <u>Office for Dispute Resolution (ODR)</u>.

Contacting Harvard's Title IX resources is not the same as filing a formal complaint with ODR. Rather, the **Title IX Coordinators and the University Title IX Office are available to help you make an informed decision about which pathways are right for you**.

If you would prefer to engage with the Title IX Office anonymously, you may do so through our online <u>Anonymous Disclosure Form</u>.

Is the Office for Dispute Resolution (ODR) still conducting investigations?

Yes. ODR operations continue, during regular University business hours, using telephonic and other remote communications technology. ODR has extensive experience using such technology, as individuals involved in ODR cases can be located anywhere in the world. A flowchart describing ODR's investigative process can be found <u>here</u>.

For more information, including a description of the informal resolution option, you may visit the <u>ODR website</u>. You may also contact the ODR front office directly





at 617-495-3786, or by email at <u>odr@harvard.edu</u>, including to arrange for an informational conversation with an ODR investigative staff member.

What are some other resources I could contact?



If you need immediate support, please call OSAPR's confidential 24/7 hotline: **617 495 9100**

Some other available 24/7 hotlines & chat:

If talking on the phone is not accessible, you can chat online on both sites.

National Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-656-4673

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233