

On September 22, 2017, Education Secretary Betsy DeVos issued 'interim guidance' granting universities new discretion when complying with requirements under federal Title IX law to resolve and adjudicate allegations of sexual misconduct on campus. It includes language on interim measures, appeals processes, and protections for accused students. Utah Valley University is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for our students and campus community, and the 'interim guidance' does not change our commitment to preventing and responding to sexual misconduct.

In providing an inviting, safe, and supportive learning and working environment, we remain fully committed to addressing sexual misconduct and to providing impartial investigations and adjudications. The Title IX Office in partnership with key offices (Student Conduct, Human Resources, and General Counsel) has worked diligently to create a fair process that reflects our commitment to prevention and campus safety. We are always looking for opportunities to improve. While this new guidance may result in some minimal initial changes to UVU policy and practice, Secretary DeVos stated that the "Department of Education will follow the proper legal procedures to craft a new Title IX regulation that better serves students and schools." This envisioned new Title IX regulation may require more substantive changes to policies and processes at UVU and other higher education institutions. UVU will carefully watch and appropriately participate in this federal process.

UVU has been proactive We are proud of the work that has been done assessing our campus climate, using prevention strategies, and educating our community about sexual assault and the responsibility we all share in maintaining a safe learning and working environment. Our [policies and procedures](#) around Title IX law were most recently updated on June 22, 2017. Additional information regarding UVU's efforts to eliminate sexual misconduct, prevent its recurrence, and address its effects is available on [UVU's Title IX website](#).

UVU reaffirms its commitment to provide a safe and supportive learning and working environment for students, faculty, and staff.