



2023 Annual Security Report

Florence-Darlington Technical College does not discriminate in admissions or employment on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or disability in its programs and activities. For inquiries on nondiscrimination policies, contact:

This information is provided in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act as amended through the Violence Against Women Act of 2013. This report is prepared in cooperation with the local law enforcement agencies surrounding our campuses.



Introduction

Florence Darlington Technical College is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all members and guests of the campus community. The college has developed a series of policies and procedures that are designed to ensure that precautionary measures are taken to protect persons and property on campus.

Clery Crimes and Reporting

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (20 USC § 1092(f)) is the landmark federal law that requires colleges and universities across the United States to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses. The law applies to most institutions of higher education, both public and private, and is tied to participation in federal student financial aid programs. It is enforced by the U.S. Department of Education.

Originally known as the Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act, the law was amended in 1992 to require that schools afford victims of campus sexual assault certain basic rights and was amended again in 1998 to expand the reporting requirements. The 1998 amendments also formally renamed the law in memory of Jeanne Ann Clery, a 19-year-old Lehigh University freshman who was raped and murdered in her residence hall room in 1986. Subsequent amendments in 2000 and 2008 added provisions dealing with registered sex offender notification and campus emergency response, respectively. The 2008 amendments also added a provision to expand hate or bias crime categories and to protect crime victims, bystanders, and others from retaliation.

CLERY ACT REQUIREMENTS

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act) requires colleges and universities to:

- Publish and distribute to all enrolled students and current employees through appropriate publications and mailings an Annual Security Report (ASR) every year by October 1st that contains three (3) calendar years of campus crime statistics and certain campus security policy information;
- Provide a notice to all prospective students and employees that describe the ASR's availability and that a paper copy is available if the ASR is posted online;
- Disclose crime statistics for all the Florence Darlington Technical College Campuses, public areas immediately adjacent to or running through campuses, and certain non-campus properties;
- Provide "Timely Warning" notices of those crimes that have occurred and pose an "ongoing threat to students and campus activities;"
- Provide "Emergency Notifications" for dangerous or emergency situations; and
- Disclose in a public crime log any crime that occurred on campus, on non-campus property, or on public property and is reported to the FDTC Campus Safety/Security Department.

Report certain types of crimes on an annual basis. These crimes include:

- Criminal Homicide: Murder and Non negligent Manslaughter; and Negligent Manslaughter
- Sex Offenses: Rape; Fondling; Incest; and Statutory Rape
- Stalking
- Domestic Violence
- Dating Violence
- Rape
- Robbery
- Aggravated Assault
- Burglary
- Motor Vehicle Theft
- Arson
- Hate Crimes: Including Larceny-Theft; Simple Assault; Intimidation; and Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property
- Arrests and Disciplinary Referrals for Violations of Weapons, Drug, and Liquor Laws

For more information on the federal Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, please visit the Jeanne Clery Act Information website.

Drugs and Alcohol

Florence Darlington Technical College prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of illegal drugs or controlled substances by students as set forth in South Carolina Code of Laws, Section 44-S3-110et seq. This law prohibits possession or sale of drug paraphernalia (such as roach clips, bongs, water pipes, cocaine spoons) as defined in South Carolina Code of Laws, Section 44-S3-1510et seq. and the distribution or delivery of an imitation (“look-alike”), non-controlled substance represented as a controlled substance, as defined in South Carolina Code of Laws, Section 44-S3-390. Detailed information on federal and state alcoholic beverage and other drug laws may be found in the Student Handbook.

In the state of South Carolina it is illegal to purchase, possess or consume alcohol if you are under the age of 21. It is also illegal for a person of legal age to purchase alcohol for a person less than 21 years of age.

The college must maintain its primary function as a center of learning. No one under the influence of alcohol or other drugs will be allowed to attend class or remain on campus. At the same time, it must be clear that local, state and federal laws apply equally on campus as well as off campus. The abuse of alcohol and the use of illegal drugs by members of the College community are incompatible with the goals of our College. Substance abuse programs have been developed both on campus and within this community. They offer alcohol and other drug education, counseling, and referral services

Title IX Discrimination & Sexual Assault

Members of the Florence-Darlington Technical College community, guests, and visitors have the right to be free from all forms of gender and sex-based discrimination. Additionally, all members of the campus community are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that does not infringe upon the rights of others.

Florence-Darlington Technical College complies with the provisions of Title IX and all other applicable non-discrimination laws and regulations.

Policy on Non-Discrimination

Florence-Darlington Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, national origin or ethnic group, age, religion, disability, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or age in educational programs and activities as required by Title IX.

What Is Title IX?

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 protects students, employees, applicants for admission and employment, and other persons from all forms of sex discrimination, including discrimination based on gender identity or failure to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity.

Specifically Title IX states no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. Sex discrimination prohibited by Title IX includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual violence, and sexual misconduct. Title IX also prohibits retaliation against an individual who, in good faith, asserts his or her rights under Title IX or other applicable federal laws and state laws prohibiting illegal discrimination.

All students (as well as other persons) at Florence-Darlington Technical College are protected by Title IX—regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, part- or full-time status, disability, race, or national origin—in all aspects of educational programs and activities.

Title IX Procedures

Disclaimer: *In order to comply with recent changes by the U.S. Department of Education to Title IX regulations that will become effective on August 14, 2020, the South Carolina Technical College System Office is implementing the following Procedure on an interim basis until such time as the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education can consider formally adopting this Procedure at its next regularly-scheduled meeting on September 22, 2020. In the event the System Office determines that any revisions to this interim Procedure are necessary prior to adoption by the State Board, such revisions shall be communicated.*

- [Title IX Procedure](#)

Title IX Training

- [Title IX/VAW Investigator Training \(June 25, 2020\)](#)
- [Title IX Update: Final Regulations \(on-demand webinar\)](#)
- [Conducting a Grievance Process Under the New Title IX Regulations \(on-demand webinar\)](#)

About Sex-Based Discrimination

Sex-based discrimination and harassment is unwelcome, pervasive conduct of a sexual nature that creates a hostile environment. It includes, but is not limited to:

- *Unwelcome sexual advances;*
- *Stalking;*
- *Requests for sexual favors, including "Quid Pro Quo";*
- *Other verbal and non-verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature;*
- *Sexual violence;*
- *Gender-based or gender identity-based harassment.*

Title IX violations can occur between:

- A student and another student;
- A student and an employee;
- An employee and another employee;
- A student or employee and a third party (not associated with the college).

Title IX violations can occur:

- On any college-owned or leased property;
- At college-sponsored events regardless of location;
- On-line (including social media and text messaging)*;
- Anywhere in which individuals associated with the college could be present*.

Retaliation

Florence-Darlington Technical College does not and will not tolerate retaliation, in any form, against anyone involved in a Title IX investigation.

If you know or suspect that someone is the victim of retaliation as a result of their affiliation with an investigation, contact the Title IX Coordinator immediately.

Report a sexual or gender-based misconduct incident

If you feel you have experienced sexual harassment or discrimination or know someone who has, please report it immediately using the link below or by contacting any Faculty, Staff or Security Officer.. Please include as much detail as possible.

- [Sexual Misconduct Report Form](#)
- You may also directly contact the Title IX Coordinator.

Title IX Coordinator

Terry Dingle

Associate Vice President Human Resources/Internal Relations
5000 Building
Office 5215
[\(843\)-661-8321](tel:(843)-661-8321)

Information Regarding Sex Offenders

The federal Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act, enacted on October 28, 2000, requires institutions of higher education to issue a statement advising the campus community where law enforcement agency information provided by a State concerning registered sex offenders may be obtained. It also requires sex offenders already required to register in the State to provide notice, as required under State law, to each institution of higher education in that State at which the person is employed, carries on a vocation, or is a student. In South Carolina convicted sex offenders must register with the County Sheriff Office where they reside.

In addition, all persons convicted of violations under the laws of the United States or any other state substantially similar to an offense for which registration is required shall provide to the local agency all necessary information for inclusion in the State Sex Offender Registry within ten days of establishing a residence within South Carolina. Any person required to register shall also be required to re-register within ten days following any change of residence.

Nonresident offenders entering the State for employment, to carry on a vocation, or as a student attending school who are required to register in their state of residence or who would be required to register under this section if a resident of South Carolina shall, within ten days of accepting employment or enrolling in school in the State, be required to register and re-register pursuant to this section. For purposes of this section "student" means a person who is enrolled on a full-time or part-time basis, in any public or private educational institution, including any secondary school, trade or professional institution, or institution of higher education.

The State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) maintains a system for making certain Registry information is available via the Internet. The Web address for the SLED State Sex Offender Registry is: <http://www.sled.sc.gov/> and allows you to search for Offenders by Name, City, County, or Zip Code. The information available includes the offender's name; sex, race, age, date of birth, height,

weight, eye, hair and skin color; last reported address, any scars, marks or tattoos, aliases used; the date of conviction, the statute violated; if the offender is a predator; and a photograph if available. Registry information provided under law shall be used for the purposes of the administration of criminal justice, for the screening of current or prospective employees or volunteers or otherwise for the protection of the public in general and children in particular. Use of the information for purposes not authorized by law is prohibited and a willful violation with the intent to harass or intimidate another can result in prosecution.

Incident Reporting

To report incidents of academic, physical threats or sexual misconduct please visit the [incident reporting page](#).

The Daily Crime Log (Incident Report) is available for public inspection at the SIMT Security Office Room 116, located in SIMT Building. Reports are not documented, until a crime or violation is brought to the attention of the Safety/Security Department.

Overview of Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures

What to in case of emergency can be most easily accessed in the [FDTC Emergency Response Guide](#).

Procedures for Reporting Criminal Actions or Emergencies on Campus

Students, employees and visitors are required to immediately report any criminal activities, crimes or emergencies to the Campus Security Office. ***If you are in or see someone in an emergency or life-threatening situation, call 911 immediately!***

MAIN CAMPUS: DIAL EXT. 8210 from a campus phone (843-661-8210 from cellular/off campus). Office located at Guardhouse Campus Entry adjacent to building 100

HEALTH SCIENCES CAMPUS: DIAL EXT. 8510 from a campus phone (843-676-8510 from cellular/off campus) Office located on your left as you enter the building on the first floor

SiMT: DIAL EXT. 2810 from a campus phone (843-413-2810 from cellular/off campus). Office located in room 116 adjacent to Auditorium

On-duty Security Officer-in-Charge: (843) 495-6705

Chief of Security: (843) 687-0964

SECURITY EMAIL: campussecurity@fdtc.edu

Overview of Alerts and Notifications

Emergency Alert System (EAS)

Florence-Darlington Technical College's Emergency Alert System (FDTC Alerts) is an EAS system the college has adopted to communicate vital information to academic credit students, faculty/staff, and the public as efficiently as possible of potential events on campus.

FDTC Alerts includes the following notification methods:

- Mobile Alerts: Text and or voice messages delivered to mobile/home phones, etc. (Students, faculty, and staff members must opt in to receive these messages). See directions below.
- Email Alerts: Email alerts by default will be sent to your FDTC email account. Student, faculty, and staff email address will be prepopulated into the system.
- FDTC Web Alerts: These alerts will be posted to FDTC's website (fdtc.edu) and on FDTC's Facebook page.
- Scrolling signs and sirens: These audible and visual alerts are placed in key areas of the college.

Regroup – FDTC Alert Notification System

Important FDTC Alert Registration Information

You must register with FDTC Alerts to receive timely notifications of campus emergencies or events. The quickest form of notification is a text message, so you are strongly encouraged to opt in and provide a number to receive text (SMS) on capable devices.

Students, faculty, and staff: To register please click the link below, if you have an active FDTC login, please use the 'Already a member?' Log in to access the system. If you are a visitor or client, please use the 'Sign Up' option.

<https://fdtc.app.regroup.com/signup>

Under the Email/Phone tab you have the ability to add additional E-mail addresses and Phone numbers. When adding Cell numbers, please check your preferred message delivery option, Text (quickest method) and/or Voice. Click 'More' to add additional contact numbers. Once entries are complete, click 'Save' at the bottom of the page. Students are encouraged to add parent numbers as additional entries under their profiles.

There is no charge to receive email notifications from FDTC Alerts, but your mobile phone provider may charge a fee for text (SMS) based on your plan.

FDTC Alerts and Email Frequently Asked Questions

Who can sign up for FDTC Alerts?

FDTC Alerts are available to current academic credit students, faculty, staff, and visitor to FDTC's campus.

Will the college or mobile phone provider charge me for text based alerts?

There is no charge to sign up to receive text (SMS) based alerts. Your mobile phone provider may charge a fee; these fees are dependent on your existing calling plan.

What to expect from the FDTC Alerts in an emergency?

The message will give the type of emergency and indicate any possible actions.

Can I register multiple phone numbers or email addresses?

You can enter up to X number of phone numbers and X number of email addresses (student, faculty, and staff emails will automatically be sent to your FDTC email account). It is advised that current academic students enter their parents email or mobile numbers as one of your entries.

What if my phone number changes?

If you change your mobile number, return to the registration page and update your profile information.

Hazardous Weather Policy

The spokesperson (Director of Media Relations) for Florence-Darlington Technical College will notify the following media in the event that the college must close or will not open due to hazardous weather conditions:

Radio: Cumulus Broadcasting, Miller Communications and Quantum Communications
Television: WBTW News 13, WMBF News and WPDE News Channel 15

Information about hazardous weather closings will also be posted on our website at www.fdtc.edu and on our main information line at 843.661.TECH (8324) or toll free 1.800.228.5745, and will be given to the Director of Facilities and Security at Main Campus, who will then notify the other sites.

Safety Tips

General

- Be aware! Recognize your vulnerability.
- Report all suspicious persons, vehicles and activities to the Campus Safety Department immediately.
- Use the "buddy system" and watch out for your neighbor.

- Keep your doors locked whenever you find yourself alone in a building.
- If you see someone being victimized, get involved and notify the Campus Safety Department.

Walking

- Avoid traveling alone at night.
- Confine walking to well-lit, regular traveled walks and pathways. Avoid shortcuts and keep away from shrubbery, bushes, alleyways, or any other areas where an assailant might be lurking.
- Do not accept rides from casual acquaintances.
- When walking to your vehicle or residence, have your keys ready in hand.
- When being dropped off by taxi or private vehicle, ask the driver to wait until you get inside.
- If threatened by an approaching vehicle, run in the opposite direction. The vehicle will have to turn around in order to pursue you.
- When getting out of a car, take a look around to make sure that you are not being followed.
- If you think you are being followed, cross the street and, if necessary, keep crossing back and forth. If you are pursued, call for help and run to a campus building, business, and residence, enlist the aid of a passerby, flag down a passing motorist, or as a last resort pull a fire alarm. Do anything that might attract attention or summon assistance. If you are walking alone and someone passes you, check to be sure that person has continued walking in the other direction.
- If you find yourself confronted by an assailant you must remember that while screaming and struggling in some instances frighten off the assailant, in other instances you may further antagonize the assailant and bring forth a more violent reaction. Above all you must keep your head and assess the situation before choosing your course of action. Whether or not the assailant is armed or has made threats against your life should be a determining factor in your decision. The key word in this type of situation is survival.

Overview of Campus Security

Security and Access to Campus Facilities

Most college facilities are open to the public during the day and evening hours when classes are in session. When the college is officially closed, buildings are secured and only faculty, staff and pre-approved students/ contractors/vendors/guests are admitted.

Campus Security

The Campus Security Department is a private security force empowered by the college to enforce its rules, regulations and policies. Enforcement procedures include issuing parking tickets, issuing summary fines, filing conduct charges, and citizen's arrests. New Age Protection Inc. is the current provider empowered by the college for public safety and the general security of campus facilities.

Members of the department are under the guidance and control of the Director of Physical Facilities. Officers work eight-hour shifts to perform their duties, which include:

- Preventative patrol of grounds and buildings
- Emergency medical assistance
- Incident investigation and reporting
- Hazard control
- Crime prevention
- Parking and traffic management
- Special services including lockout assistance, noise and nuisance control, security escorts, lost and found, and any other needs associated with the quality of life, safety, and security of those on campus.

Campus Security personnel work closely with local, state, and federal police agencies, communicate as needed on the scene of incidents that occur in and around the campus area and work with the investigative staff of local agencies when incidents arise that require joint investigative efforts, resources, crime-related reports, and exchanges of information, as deemed necessary. There is no written memorandum of understanding between Campus Security and local authorities or other policing agencies for investigating criminal incidents.

Crime Statistics

The Jeanne Clery Act requires college and universities to prepare, publish and distribute, by October 1 of each year, campus security policies and crime statistics. Reporting also contains crime statistics from non-campus facilities and remote classrooms.

In accordance with The Jeanne Clery Act, crime statistics are gathered and posted for the campus community and the public to view. The statistics are gathered from the DTC Department of Public Safety and local laws enforcement agencies, which interact with the student population regularly. These statistics are used to inform the community of any crimes that may pose a threat to the stability of the community.

It also requires that crime data be collected, reported and disseminated to the campus community. The act is intended to provide students and their families, with accurate and complete information of safety on the campus.

