

Campus Safety



Campus Safety: It Takes Commitment

Campus safety doesn't just happen. It takes the commitment and cooperation of every member of the University community, from students and faculty to staff and visitors.

Fairleigh Dickinson University takes very seriously the safety of those who study, live and work on its two New Jersey campuses. Through its department of public safety, division of student affairs and other campus departments, the University strives to deter and respond to campus safety problems.

Unfortunately, no institution can guarantee a completely crime-free environment. That is why, in addition to the University's own efforts, students, faculty and staff must assume an active role in making FDU as safe and secure as possible. As members of the University community, we share a responsibility not only for our own safety, but for that of others. Here are five important ways you can help:

- Watch for and report any crimes or suspicious activities.
- Inform yourself about University policies and procedures regarding your safety and well-being, as well as state and federal laws.
- Incorporate practical, common-sense safety measures in your daily activities.
- Do not prop doors open.
- Present your ID when requested.

Safety Begins with Observing the Law

With 10,000 people of diverse backgrounds and interests, FDU's two campuses are the size of a small town. And, like every community, the University has developed certain guidelines and regulations to protect your rights and those of its other members.

Each academic year the University issues the *Student Handbook*. This handbook is available online at <http://fdu.edu> and from the Dean of Students Office. Please take time to familiarize yourself with these policies; it is the responsibility of every student to know and abide by them.

FDU's Florham Campus is part of the larger communities of Florham Park and Madison, while Metropolitan Campus is part of the larger community of Teaneck and Hackensack. In addition to all University regulations, you and any guests you may invite to campus are required to abide fully by the laws of these municipalities, as well as the laws of New Jersey and the United States.

Public Safety: Here for Your Protection

The department of public safety is staffed with a combination of qualified security officers who receive in-house training as well as training by the College and University Public Safety Association. Public safety officers are certified in basic first aid as First Responders and are also trained in CPR and AED.

These public safety professionals respond to a wide variety of calls for help, from medical emergencies to crimes in action. Foot and vehicle patrols of campus grounds, buildings and residence halls, designed to detect any crimes in action, are made 24 hours a day. During these patrols, officers also report any conditions they notice that might pose a threat to campus security (such as broken windows or burned-out lights).

Communication specialists in the department cover telephones and two-way radios, monitors and cameras throughout the campus around the clock. This enables them to dispatch immediate assistance to address each call for service.

A cooperative working relationship exists between the University's department of public safety and the local police municipalities. Local and state police assist the University by responding to criminal violations.

University officers have the authority to detain in custody any individual accused or suspected of a violation of University regulations or state or federal law. While University police officers have primary authority to enforce laws within campus boundaries (including all roadways leading into campus), local and state police can enter the campus and exercise their authority under the following circumstances: under a warrant; in response to a violation of the law in progress; or at the request of the department of public safety or other authorized University officials.

Surveillance cameras are installed at the entrances of the residence halls as well as in various academic buildings.

Developing Good Safety Habits

One of the most effective ways you can help to prevent crime on campus is by practicing good safety habits in your daily activities.

Throughout the year, the department of public safety and the division of student affairs sponsor a wide variety of services and educational programs designed to build your awareness of potential safety problems, alert you to any unusual incidents of crime and to offer ways you can help prevent or deter a crime from happening to you. They include:

- Group Orientation Sessions that advise new students on campus safety concerns and familiarize them with the services of the department of public safety.

- An (on-campus only) Escort Service is available for safety reasons only. Depending on the availability of personnel and the discretion of the supervisor on duty, emergency escorts will be provided.
- Emergency phones*, which are located on campus in key areas. These phones automatically link callers to the department of public safety. Take time to learn their locations in the event of an emergency.
- Smoke detectors and fire extinguishers are strategically placed in all classroom buildings and residence halls to protect both life and property. These alarms are continuously monitored by the local fire departments, the Metropolitan Campus and SimplexGrinnell Central Monitoring Station at the Florham Campus. In compliance with state regulations, fire drills are conducted each semester in all residence halls.
- Ongoing inspection and enhancement of campus grounds to minimize safety hazards, such as the installation of new lighting in key campus locations.
- Visitor Management and Identification allows the department to monitor the amount of visitors on campus at any given time, inform visitors of important safety procedures and rules, have instant accountability of all logged-in visitors and provide a simple way for students to preregister their guests.
- Presentations and workshops on campus on safety issues as underage drinking and date rape are conducted by Dean of Students Office and Public Safety. The Office of Student/Campus Life also sponsors regular seminars designed to promote good safety habits and encourage personal responsibility in the residence halls. Topics include reviews of each residence hall's lock-up policy, guest policy, party policy, emergency procedures and the role of the resident director and assistants. Safety topics are available from your campus department of public safety or designee.

Special Alerts

In the event of any intensified or unusual safety problems, the director of the department of public safety is responsible for alerting members of the University community in the most appropriate way. Depending on the nature of the problem, notification may include announcements in residence halls or classrooms, posted bulletins, table tents in the dining halls and snack areas or articles in the campus newspaper.

Timely warnings can also be done through the FDU Alert notification system. Registration for this service can be done through the University website (www.fdu.edu/alert).

The Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act

The Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act of 2000, which became effective October 28, 2002, requires state law-enforcement agencies to inform colleges and universities about students and employees who are registered sex offenders. Any college or university that receives federal funding must make this information available to any member of the campus community who requests it. Fairleigh Dickinson University is a recipient of federal funding. Information about registered sex offenders may be requested at the department of public safety headquarters on each campus.

* Emergency phones, located at key locations on campus, provide direct phone contact with the department of public safety.

Areas of Particular Concern

Alcohol, Drugs and Weapons

National statistics indicate a very sad and disturbing trend: more than nine of every 10 crimes occurring on college campuses are committed student-against-student.

The University enforces state and federal laws regarding underage drinking. Illegal drugs and the possession of weapons of any kind are outlawed on campus.

The division of student affairs offers an extensive, week-long educational program each year to all members of the University community on the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. Free drug and alcohol counseling services are available to any student in need, and students are also encouraged to seek help for friends with drug- or alcohol-related problems.

- In the state of New Jersey, the legal drinking age is 21. It is illegal to buy alcohol for or offer alcohol to anyone under 21. In addition to state regulations, the University also has established its own policies concerning the use of alcohol on campus. Complete details can be found on pages 35–37, 40 and 58–59 of this edition of the *Student Handbook*.
- FDU's policies comply fully with the Drug-free Schools and Community Act, prohibiting the use, supply or sale of illegal drugs on campus. Students should be thoroughly familiar with University, state and federal policies in this area. Violations of these policies carry severe penalties. Full details are contained on pages 37–40 and 57 of this edition of the *Student Handbook*. Employees should consult their copy of the *Administrative Policy Manual*.
- The intentional use, possession or sale of firearms, ammunition and other weapons of any kind on campus is prohibited. Refer to page 60 in this issue of the *Student Handbook* for complete details on the policy.

Campus Parking and Vehicle Registration

Thousands of students, faculty and staff drive to the University each day to attend classes and work. The enforcement of parking and traffic regulations is essential to accommodate the steady traffic that passes through the University.

All vehicles parked on campus — including those of guests — must be registered with the department of public safety. There are designated areas for permit parking. Vehicles that do not observe posted parking instructions will be ticketed, fined, booted or towed. All motorists are responsible for all fines, as well as finding transportation to banks, ATM machines, etc. Campus Parking and Traffic Regulations may be viewed on the department of public safety's website at <http://view2.fdu.edu/florham-campus/public-safety/parking/> or <http://view2.fdu.edu/metropolitan-campus/public-safety/parking-and-traffic-regulations/>.

Guests on Campus

In general, students, faculty and staff are accountable for the actions and conduct of any guests they invite to campus. All guests are subject to the same rules and regulations governing the conduct of all members of the University community. Guests are permitted in the campus residence halls for limited periods, provided they comply with the guest policy regulations outlined in this edition of the *Student Handbook*.

Students have the ability to preregister their guests by visiting the University website under “Visitors Watch.”

To Call for Help or Report a Crime

It is University policy to have an officer from the department of public safety respond to every emergency call. Each office has a protocol it follows that outlines appropriate responses to campus emergencies.

The Office of Dean of Students on campus also has established procedures to secure help in responding to a criminal act or emergency. All emergencies and criminal acts are reviewed soon after they occur by the Dean of Students Office, which provides appropriate University follow-up, support or possible disciplinary action.

Students may anonymously report concerns to public safety online at <http://view2.fdu.edu/florham-campus/public-safety/speak-devil/> or <http://view2.fdu.edu/metropolitan-campus/public-safety/silent-knight-witness-form/>.

Reporting a Sex Offense

Following an assault, these steps should be followed without delay:

- Victim should proceed to a safe location and notify public safety immediately, who in turn will notify the proper persons and agencies (i.e., dean of students, law enforcement agencies). The sooner you report this incident, the more likely the attacker will be caught.
- DO NOT shower, bathe, douche or destroy any of the clothing you were wearing at the time of the assault.
- Preserve any and all evidence of the crime, including (if possible) where the assault took place.

- Go to the hospital emergency room for medical care. Be sure to let the examining room doctor know that you were attacked (for preservation of evidence).

To call for help or to report a crime, students should immediately contact the department of public safety on their campus by calling (973) 443-8888 — Florham Campus and (201) 692-2222 — Metropolitan Campus.

For more in-depth information see University Policy on Prohibited Discrimination, Harassment and Related Misconduct in this handbook pages 41–56.

University Crime Statistics

In 1990, in the interest of promoting school safety, Congress passed the Student Right-to-Know or Campus Security Act. The result of this act was that law enforcement records of crime committed on campus, which had previously been used for law enforcement and campus safety purposes only, were now made available to the campus community.

In accordance with this act, Fairleigh Dickinson University’s department of public safety is required to make information relating to crime statistics and security measures available to the appropriate law enforcement and government agencies.

For Fairleigh Dickinson University’s latest crime statistics, visit: <http://view.fdu.edu/default.aspx?id=4186>.

A Final Word

Protecting your safety and well-being is of utmost importance to the University. Any suggestions or ideas you may have on how FDU can promote improved safety standards will be welcomed. You are also invited to contact your campus department of public safety at any time if you have a question or need any additional information.