

Timely Warning Notifications

The University of Washington is required to send out timely warning notifications to students about crimes or potentially dangerous situations committed on or near campus. The intent of these emails is to inform students so that they can take appropriate precautions regarding their personal safety.



Resources

University of Washington Police
(206) 685-UWPD
www.washington.edu/admin/police

UWPD Crime Victim Advocate
(206) 543-9337
www.washington.edu/admin/police/crimevictimadvocacy

Sexual Assault & Relationship Violence Information Service (SARIS)
(206) 685-4357
www.washington.edu/students/saris

Seattle Police Department
(206) 625-5011
www.cityofseattle.net/Police/

Vice President and Vice Provost for Student Life
(206) 543-4972
www.washington.edu/provost/studentlife/

Community Standards and Student Conduct
(206) 685-6194
<http://depts.washington.edu/cssc>

Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life
(206) 543-1810
www.uwgreeks.com

W UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

W UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Parents' Guide *to* Student Safety

Parents play an important role in the lives of their students. You have been their advisors and advocates. We encourage you to have discussions with your student about personal safety in and around the campus community.

The Division of Student Life

You may have had conversations with your son or daughter about personal safety in the past, but in the college environment students are often more trusting and open to people who appear to be peers. Taking the time to talk to your student about personal safety now and throughout the year can help reduce risk. Here are some tips to discuss during those conversations:

- The University of Washington is in an urban environment and may be very different from your neighborhood. Awareness is key to reducing students' risk of being a target for crime.
- There is safety in numbers--students should walk with others on well-lit streets and change directions when they feel uncomfortable.
- Be alert. This means no cell phone chatting and no earphones. Do not walk around when you are not fully able to focus on what is going on around you--call a friend for a ride, take the bus or a taxi.
- Do not openly display expensive items like cell phones, laptops, and iPods. Lock your car every time and do not leave valuables in plain sight.
- Do not verbally or physically resist opportunistic criminals. Your safety is more important than your belongings.
- Pay attention to traffic. Around the UW, there are many cars, buses, skateboarders and others sharing the streets and paths. Encourage your student to cross at crosswalks, follow traffic signals and make themselves visible to traffic.
- TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS. If something doesn't feel right to you, it probably isn't. Get out of the situation and report it to the police by calling 911.
- Report any crime or suspicious activity immediately to the University of Washington Police Department (UWPD) and/or the Seattle Police Department (SPD). Crime can only be addressed if it is reported promptly.

While efforts are in place to reduce crime rates on and around campus, incidents occur every year--particularly at the start of each academic quarter. Personal awareness and preparedness can do a lot to reduce the risk of your student being a victim of a crime.

What to do if your student is the victim of a crime:

- Being the victim of crime can be a scary and traumatic experience. In the event that your student is the victim of a crime, their first impulse may be to contact you for advice. Have your son or daughter hang up and dial 911. Students can call 911 from their cell phones and will be connected directly to the Seattle Police Department. If the incident happened on campus have them ask to be connected to the UW Police Department.
- Both SPD and UWPD have Crime Victim Advocates who can assist your student. The UWPD Crime Victim Advocate is available to help victims, their families, and witnesses through the process of physical, emotional, and financial recovery. Many resources are available and are listed on the back of this brochure.

A Word about Cell Phones:

- Cell phones are your student's greatest crime-fighting tool. Have them USE IT to report incidents or call 911 for help!
- Many students feel safer at night talking on their cell phones to friends or family while walking. Unfortunately while doing this, your student is not as aware of the surroundings and may actually become more of a target. Encourage your student to stay aware by getting off the phone, leaving the ear buds out and refraining from texting when walking in the University District.

Remind your student that staying alert is the best defense.

*"The UW area's beauty is **deceptive**. This is a city campus and street smarts are important at all times. The parents of off-campus and Fraternity & Sorority students should speak to their students about personal safety. Use the buddy system and be on **high alert**, especially at night."* -Jenny Selby, UW Parent