



TITLE IX POLICY VAWA

South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy is committed to providing a work and school environment free of unlawful harassment or discrimination. School policy prohibits harassment or discrimination based on race, creed, ethnic origin, religion, ancestry, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions), military or veteran status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, marital status, age, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information or any other basis protected by the federal, state or local law. Additionally, in accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes sexual harassment and sexual violence, and South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy has jurisdiction over Title IX complaints.

South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy's anti-harassment policy applies to all persons involved in the operation of South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy and prohibits unlawful harassment by any employee of South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy, as well as students, customers, third parties, vendors or anyone who does business with South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy. It further extends to prohibit unlawful harassment by or against students. Any employee, student or contract worker who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action. To the extent a customer, vendor or other person with whom South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy does business engages in unlawful harassment or discrimination, South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy will take appropriate corrective action. The grievance procedure will provide that complaints may be filed about discrimination in any academic, educational, extracurricular, athletic or other programs operated or sponsored by, or related to South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy, whether the programs take place on the campus of a school, during a school-sponsored field trip, or other off-campus events.

As part of South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy's commitment to providing a harassment-free working and learning environment, this policy shall be disseminated to South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy community through publications, South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy website, new employee orientations, student orientations, and other appropriate channels of communication. South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy will provide training to key staff members to enable South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy to handle any allegations of discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment or sexual violence, promptly and effectively. South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy will respond quickly to all reports, and will take appropriate action to prevent, to correct, and if necessary, to discipline behavior that violates this policy.

Definitions

Sex Discrimination is defined as treating individuals differently on the basis of sex with regard to any aspect of services, benefits, or opportunities South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy provides such as:

- ❖ Treat a person differently in determining whether he or she satisfies any requirement or condition for the provision of an aid, benefit, or service;
- ❖ Provide different aid, benefits, or services or provide aid, benefits, or services in a different manner;
- ❖ Deny any person an aid, benefit, or service
- ❖ Subject any person to separate or different rules of behavior, sanctions, or other treatment in providing an aid, benefit, or service
- ❖ Aid or perpetuate discrimination against any person by providing significant assistance to any agency, organization, or person which discriminates on the basis of sex in providing any aid, benefit or service to students or employees;
- ❖ Otherwise limit any person in the enjoyment of any right, privilege, advantage, or opportunity.

Sexual Harassment is defined as unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature. It includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Sexual harassment is conduct that explicitly or implicitly affects a person's employment or education or interferes with a person's work or educational performance or creates an environment such that a reasonable person would find the conduct intimidating, hostile or offensive.

Sexual Violence is defined as physical sexual acts engaged in without the consent of the other person or when the other person is unable to consent to the activity. Sexual violence includes sexual assault, rape, battery, and sexual coercion; domestic violence; dating violence; and stalking.

Domestic Violence is defined as abuse committed against an adult or a minor who is a spouse or former spouse, cohabitant or former cohabitant, or someone with whom the abuser has a child, has an existing dating or engagement relationship, or has had a former dating or engagement relationship.

Dating Violence is defined as abuse committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim.

Sexual Assault occurs when a physical sexual activity is engaged in without the consent of the other person or when the other person is unable to consent to the activity. The activity or conduct may include physical force, violence, threat, or intimidation, ignoring the objections of the other person, causing the other person's intoxication or incapacitation through the use of drugs or alcohol, and taking advantage of the other person's incapacitation (including voluntary intoxication).

Stalking is behavior in which a person repeatedly engages in conduct directed at a specific person that places that person in reasonable fear of his or her safety or the safety of others.

Consent is informed, voluntary and revocable. Consent is an affirmative, unambiguous, and conscious decision by each participant to engage in mutually agreed-upon sexual activity. It must be given without coercion, force, threats or intimidation. Consent must be ongoing throughout a sexual encounter and can be revoked at any time. Once consent is withdrawn, the sexual activity must stop immediately.

Prohibited Conduct

This policy strictly prohibits sexual or other unlawful harassment or discrimination as well as sexual violence, as defined above. Sexual or other unlawful harassment or discrimination includes any verbal, physical or visual conduct based on sex, race, age, national origin, disability, color or any other legally protected basis if:

- ❖ submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's education or employment;
- ❖ submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as a basis for decisions concerning that individual's education or employment; or
- ❖ it creates a hostile or offensive environment, which means the alleged conduct is sufficiently serious to limit or deny a student's or ability to participate or benefit from the student's education program.

Unlawful harassment or discrimination may include racial epithets, slurs and derogatory remarks, stereotypes, jokes, posters or cartoons based on race, national origin, age, disability, marital status, sex or other legally protected categories.

Sexual harassment is conduct based on sex, whether directed towards a person of the opposite or same sex, and may include explicit sexual propositions, sexual innuendo, suggestive comments, sexually oriented "kidding" or "teasing", practical jokes, jokes about or displays of obscene printed or visual material, questions about sexual fantasies, preferences or history, and physical contact such as patting, pinching, or intentionally brushing against another person's body.

Gender-based harassment, including acts of verbal, nonverbal or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on sex or sex-stereotyping are strictly prohibited, even if those acts do not involve conduct of a sexual nature.

Complaint/Grievance Procedure

The following grievance procedures shall be used to address sex discrimination complaints filed by students/employees or complaints filed on their behalf against employees, other students, or third parties.

If you believe that you have experienced or witnessed harassment or sexual violence, notify your Supervisor, South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy Owner, or the Title IX Coordinator as soon as possible after the incident. Do not allow an inappropriate situation to continue by not reporting it, regardless of who is creating the situation. No employee, contract worker, student, vendor or other person who does business with South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy is exempt from the prohibitions in this policy. Supervisors will refer all harassment complaints to the Title IX Coordinator for student-related complaints and to South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy Owner if the complaint involves an employee. In order to facilitate the investigation, your complaint should include details of the incident or incidents, names of the individuals involved and names of any witnesses. A sex discrimination complaint should be filed within 180 days from the date of the alleged discriminatory incident. Upon receiving any report of discrimination, including harassment, regardless of the filing date or when the school receives notice, the school will take steps to prevent recurrence of discrimination and correct its discriminatory

effects on the student, and on others, if appropriate. All documentation pertaining to the complaint/grievance will be confidential. The complaint/grievance once received will be maintained in the student's and/or employee's permanent file, which has limited staff access, this includes verbal complaints.

All complaints involving a student will be referred to the campus's Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator is listed below and has the responsibility of overseeing all Title IX complaints and identifying and addressing any patterns or systemic problems that arise during the review of such complaints.

The Grievant/Complainant may use the Title IX Grievance Form, but it is not required, to file a Title IX discrimination complaint.

South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy:

Title IX Coordinator:

April Pernatozzi
3269 West Liberty Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15216
april@shnhbeauty.com
412-561-3381

School Owner: (for complaints involving employees)

Mary Pernatozzi
3269 West Liberty Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15216
mapbeauty@mapbeauty.com
412-561-3381

South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy ensures that its employee(s) designated to serve as Title IX Coordinator(s) have adequate training on what constitutes sexual harassment, including sexual violence, and that they understand how the Academy's grievance procedures operate. Because complaints can also be filed with the School Owner, these employees also receive training on the Academy's grievance procedures.

Investigation of Complaints

In response to all complaints, South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy promises prompt and equitable resolution through a reliable and impartial investigation of complaints, including the opportunity for both parties to present witnesses or other evidence. The time necessary to conduct an investigation will vary based on complexity but will generally be completed within sixty (60) days of receipt of the complaint. If a complainant requests confidentiality, South & North Hills Beauty Academy will take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with the request. If a complainant insists that his or her name or other identifiable information not be disclosed to the alleged perpetrator, South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy will inform the complainant that its ability to respond may be limited.

The preponderance of the evidence standard will apply to investigations, meaning South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy will evaluate whether it is more likely than not that the alleged conduct occurred.

Both parties will receive written notice of the outcome of the complaint within 60 days of receipt of complaint. Written notice will include:

- ❖ Whether South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy found that the alleged conduct occurred, and whether it constituted discrimination.
- ❖ Any individual remedies offered or provided to the complainant or any sanctions imposed on the respondent that directly relate to the complainant. The respondent's version will not include individual remedies offered or provided to the complainant unless the remedy directly involves the respondent.
- ❖ Any other steps South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy took to eliminate the hostile environment, if South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy found one to exist and prevent recurrence. During the investigation, South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy will provide interim measures, as necessary, to protect the safety and wellbeing of students and/or employees involved. Examples of temporary and permanent measures to protect the complainant as necessary are:
 - ❖ No contact order
 - ❖ Change academic situations as appropriate with minimum burden on the complainant
 - ❖ Counseling
 - ❖ Health and mental services
 - ❖ Escort services
 - ❖ Academic support
 - ❖ Retake a program or withdraw without penalty

If South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy determines that unlawful harassment or sexual violence has occurred, immediate appropriate corrective action will be taken in accordance with the circumstances involved, and South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy will take steps to prevent the recurrence of any harassment or discrimination. Any employee determined by South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy to be responsible for unlawful harassment or discrimination will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Remedies for student-related claims may include, but are not limited to, an order to stay away, suspension or expulsion.

To initiate a criminal investigation, reports of sexual violence should be made to "911" or local law enforcement. The criminal process is separate from Academy's disciplinary process. To the extent that an employee or contract worker is not satisfied with South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy's handling of a harassment or discrimination complaint, he or she may also contact the appropriate state or federal enforcement agency for legal relief.

South Hills & North Hills Beauty should make appropriate referrals to law enforcement and will also notify complainants of the right to proceed with a criminal investigation and a Title IX complaint simultaneously.

South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy will not wait for the criminal investigation or criminal proceeding to be concluded before beginning its own investigation.

Retaliation Prohibited

South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy prohibits any form of retaliation, intimidation or harassment against any individual who filed or otherwise participated in the filing or investigation of a complaint of discrimination. Any individual who believes he/she has been subjected to retaliation may file a separate complaint under this procedure.

Reporting Requirements

Victims of sexual misconduct should be aware that School administrators must issue timely warnings for incidents reported to them that pose a substantial threat of bodily harm or danger to other members of the campus community. South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy will make every effort to ensure that a victim's name and other identifying information is not disclosed, while still providing enough information for community members to make safety decisions in light of the danger. South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy reserves the right to notify parents/guardians of dependent students regarding any health or safety risk, or a change in student status.

Additional Information

South Hills & North Hills Beauty does not allow conflicts of interest (real or perceived) by those handling the procedures. The school does maintain all documentation of any proceeding. The school will inform the students at regular intervals of the status of the investigation. The school will disallow evidence of past relationships.

Employees should contact South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy Director for more information, or any questions related to this policy. Students may contact the Title IX Coordinator with any questions related to this policy. In addition, the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights ("OCR") investigates complaints of discrimination, including harassment of students in educational programs or activities. This agency may serve as a neutral fact finder and will attempt to facilitate the voluntary resolution of disputes with the parties. For more information, visit the OCR website at: <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/> South Hills & North Hills Beauty Academy is committed to maintaining a working and learning environment that provides for fair and equitable treatment, including freedom from sexual harassment. This policy covers anyone who engages in sexual harassment on school property or at school activities.

Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal and/or physical conduct of a sexual nature, when:

1. Submission to the conduct or communication is either explicitly or implicitly made a term or condition of an individual's employment, work opportunity, education, or other benefit;
2. Submission to or rejection of the conduct or communication is used as a factor for employment decisions or other school-related decisions affecting an individual; and/or

3. Such conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's work or school performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or school environment.

Sexual harassment can occur between staff to student, student to staff, student to student, staff to staff, female to male, male to female, female to female, and male to male. Administration will take prompt, equitable, and remedial action on reports and complaints that come to the attention of school personnel, either formally or informally. Allegations of criminal misconduct will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Sexual harassment may include but is not limited to:

- Verbal harassment or abuse of a sexual nature
- Subtle pressure for sexual activity
- Inappropriate or unwelcome touching, patting, or pinching of a sexual nature
- Intentional brushing against a student's or an employee's body

Demanding sexual favors accompanied by implied or overt threats concerning an individual's employment or educational status. Demanding sexual favors accompanied by implied or overt promises of preferential treatment with regard to an individual's employment or educational status

- Use of sexually or gender-degrading words or comments, verbal or written (e.g., graffiti)
- Display in the school, on school grounds, or at school-sponsored events of sexually suggestive pictures
- Leering of a sexual nature
- Spreading of sexual rumors

Engaging in sexual harassment will result in appropriate discipline or other appropriate sanctions against offending students, staff, or contractors. Anyone else engaging in sexual harassment on school property or at school activities will have their access to school property and activities restricted or revoked, as appropriate.

The school shall respect the confidentiality of the complainant and the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed as much as possible, consistent with the school's legal obligations and the necessity to investigate the allegations and take disciplinary action when the conduct has occurred.

Retaliation is prohibited against any person who makes a complaint or is a witness under this policy and will result in appropriate disciplinary action against the person responsible for the retaliation. Individuals who knowingly report or corroborate false allegations will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Each staff member is responsible to immediately report alleged discrimination and/or harassment to his/her supervisor or other appropriate school personnel. Staff members who fail to take prompt action to report allegations or violation(s) of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.