Education

Effective educational programming changes behaviors and cultures.

Educational programming should be evidence-based and tailored to meet the needs of student-athletes. Complementary educational programming must be provided for those individuals who directly influence student-athletes’ decision making and behaviors. Coaches, athletics administrators, sports medicine staff, academic support personnel, faculty, family of student-athletes and other students also should be planned participants.

When effective educational programming and an implementation plan are in place:

- Educational programming occurs at the following time periods:
  - Orientation activities.
  - Team meetings.
  - Before significant competitive events.
  - Before prolonged periods away from school (such as spring break, winter break, summer break).
  - During national awareness months, times that mark significant campus history/events, and during other higher-vulnerability periods.
  - Throughout a student-athlete’s collegiate experience.

- Student-athletes, coaches and other staff in athletics participate in ongoing education focused on the definition and nature of sexual violence and about positive, consensual behavior, including:
  - Healthy relationships.
  - Consent.
  - Sexual violence prevalence and attitudes.
  - Harassment.
  - Hazing and bullying.
  - Stalking.
  - Discrimination.
  - Compliance, accountability and sanctions for non-compliance with federal law, state law, institutional policies and athletics’ policies.

- Student-athletes, coaches and other staff in athletics receive education regarding: misogynistic, homophobic, demeaning, marginalizing and hostile language; how negative language choices adversely impact team cultures; and how positive language choices can contribute to respectful and healthy environments.

- Student-athletes receive evidence-informed substance abuse prevention/education, including the relationship between alcohol and other drugs, and sexual violence.

- Student-athletes receive skill development training on:
  - Respectful communication in healthy relationships.
  - Bystander intervention training.
  - Negotiating consent, giving consent and respecting non-consent.
  - Active listening and managing a referral process.

- Educational activities are evaluated for how they are experienced by both learners and presenters (process).

- Programs are evaluated to assess changes in student-athlete behaviors and attitudes, including the following:
  - Intended and actual behaviors to prevent sexual violence.
  - Intended and actual behaviors to support survivors.
  - Requests for additional or improved training and education.