

# CAMPUS SAFETY

## Parental Concerns about Campus Safety

The Clery Act is a legislative (federal) directive which documents how well colleges and/or universities are addressing the issue(s) of campus crime. In order to be in compliance with this legislation, all campuses are required to have emergency alert systems in place to ensure students' protection and well-being. In addition, colleges and/or universities are required to give a detailed report which includes statistics on crime-related incidents that have occurred on campus within the last 3 years.

The Clery Act has 8 Main tenets that colleges/universities **MUST** address:

- Publish an Annual Security Report by October 1<sup>st</sup>
- Maintain a public crime log
- Disclose crime statistics for incidents within a set area
- Report on seven major crime categories:
  - Criminal Homicide
  - Sexual Assault
  - Aggravated Assault
  - Robbery
  - Burglary
  - Motor Vehicle Theft
  - Arson
- Issue timely warnings of Clery Act crimes
- Implement an emergency response, notification, and testing policy
- Compile and publish an annual fire safety report
- Enact policies and procedures to handle reports of missing students

For additional information regarding the Clery Act & Campus Safety, please access the website, <https://clerycenter.org>



## Parental Concerns about Staying Connected with Students

Parents have a variety of methods in which they can stay in contact with their student(s) – smart phones and social media have definitely made this possible! Parents can also stay connected by accessing the school's website. Colleges/universities have developed tabs specifically targeted for parents with this intended purpose. Moreover, some institutions provide a parent-guardian track during student orientation and create webinars for parents on topics like homesickness, student academics, and career services. Parents should contact the institution ahead of time to see if a parent track is offered. Another method for parents to stay connected is to inquire about various services that are offered once their student(s) has actually enrolled in college. Weekly newsletters, Face book pages, and web chats are readily available for parents to stay abreast on what's happening on campus!

Lastly, parents are strongly encouraged to familiarize themselves with the departments on campus to help guide their student(s) in the right direction when problems arise; however, parents should not try to solve their student's problems. The college experience is an opportunity for students to blossom into adulthood. Homesickness is normal, but parents should encourage their student(s) to branch out and become involved on campus. This is an exciting time where students are expected to grow, mature, and foster new relationships as they become more independent.