# An Introduction to 2 Policies

On May 19, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education issued new regulations that restrict the types of gender-based misconduct prohibited under Title IX, the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. These regulations do not cover all types of gender-based misconduct that Columbia believes must be addressed in keeping with our own non-discrimination commitment and our obligations under state and local law.

For this reason, the University now has two policies: the Interim Title IX Policy and the Gender-Based Misconduct Policy.

- The Interim Title IX Policy covers the conduct and procedures addressed by the federal regulations.
- The Gender-Based Misconduct Policy has been in place at Columbia for many years; it has now been updated to cover gender-based misconduct that falls outside of the new federal regulations.
- Both are effective as of August 14, 2020.

## HOW TO REPORT AN INCIDENT

You can make a report online at sexualrespect.columbia.edu, in person, by mail, email (titleix@columbia.edu), or phone. You do not need to know which policy might apply. Columbia’s Title IX team will handle that.

## IMPORTANT POINTS ABOUT THE POLICIES

- **Off-Campus Gender-Based Misconduct** will continue to constitute a violation of University policy under the Gender-Based Misconduct Policy.

- **Supportive Measures**, including no-contact directives, housing changes, and other accommodations, will continue to be available with or without an investigation or adjudication.

- **Resolutions** that are not punitive or disciplinary in nature will continue to be available options under each of the Policies.

- Students who are parties in any gender-based investigation or adjudication will have access to attorneys to serve as advisors at no cost.

- **Live hearings**, including the use of remote technology, will continue to be provided for the adjudication of any gender-based misconduct cases and will be required for any case reviewed under the Interim Title IX Policy.

- **Questioning** during an investigation and adjudication will take the form of live cross-examination under the Interim Title IX Policy. The questioning will be monitored by a Hearing panel and must follow our Rules of Decorum. Questioning will continue to occur through an Investigative Team or Hearing Panel under the Gender-Based Misconduct Policy.

Office of University Life