



2024 Annual Security Report  
Lancaster Campus



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## INTRODUCTION

High Desert Medical College (HDMC) is dedicated to providing a safe environment for students, employees, and the public who visit our campus. The College is open five days a week. We work diligently to deter criminal activity, but we cannot do it alone. Emergencies, crimes, and suspicious activities should be reported immediately. As part of our public safety responsibility, the Annual Security Report (ASR) has been compiled in compliance with federal law (the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, commonly known as the Clery Act); the 2008 Revision to the Higher Education Opportunity Act and California Education Code section 67380, which informs members of the community of institutional policies concerning campus security (including crime reporting policies, alcohol and drug use, crime prevention, sexual assault and other matters of related importance); and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA), which amends the Clery Act, under the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act provision (i.e., the Campus SAVE Act).

This report contains statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on the campus and on public property within or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus. High Desert Medical College does not own or operate any student housing facilities.

Each year at a town hall meeting, enrolled students are hand delivered a notification on how to access and obtain a copy of the Annual Security Report (ASR). Faculty and staff receive similar notification by hand delivery. Copies of the report may be obtained by accessing it on the School's website at [www.HDMC.edu](http://www.HDMC.edu) or by visiting or calling the Campus President's Office at (661) 558-2044.

All prospective students and employees are notified that they may access the report at the School's website: [www.HDMC.edu](http://www.HDMC.edu) or may obtain a copy by calling (661) 940-930

## I. CRIME STATISTICS

### Policies for Preparing the Annual Disclosure of Crime Statistics

This report is prepared by HDMC's Campus Safety Survey Administrator (CSSA) to comply with the *Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act*. The provided crime statistics, arrest statistics, and disciplinary referral statistics include those reported to the College officials designated under policy to receive crime reports, and other officials who have significant responsibility over student and college activities. Crime statistics from local law enforcement agencies that have jurisdiction where the HDMC campus is located and the immediately adjacent public property as defined in geography of location are also included in this report. HDMC does not own or operate any non-campus properties. The Director of Facilities compiles the statistics received from the above sources into this report.

The details of the campus crime statistics is found in the Appendix to this report and may also be viewed on our website at [www.HDMC.edu](http://www.HDMC.edu). Current students and employees are also notified every year by hand delivered notification of the publication of this report and how to access it.

Prospective students may view a copy of the campus crime statistics report online through links provided on the HDMC homepage at [www.HDMC.edu](http://www.HDMC.edu). Paper copy of the report may also be obtained at the Admissions Office located in the Main Campus.

Prospective employees may view a copy of the campus crime statistics report online through links provided on the HDMC online homepage at [www.HDMC.edu](http://www.HDMC.edu). Paper copy of the report may also be obtained from the Campus President at the Main Campus.

## II. REPORTS TO U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION VIA THE WEB-BASED DATA COLLECTION

HDMC's crime statistics concerning the number of criminal offenses and referrals for campus disciplinary actions are submitted annually by the Campus President to the U.S. Dept. of Education via the web-based data collection system at: <https://surveys.ope.ed.gov/campussafety/>

Definitions of crimes comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act. Crime statistics are provided by the local police department. HDMC's Campus Incident Log is available at the Campus President's office located on campus.

## III. CRIME DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply to the incidents of crime disclosed in the crime statistics tables contained within this report:

**Murder and Non-Negligent Manslaughter:** The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.

**Negligent Manslaughter:** The killing of another person through gross negligence.

**Sexual Assault:** An offense that meets the definition of rape, fondling, incest, or statutory rape as used in the FBI's UCR program.

**Sex Offenses/ Forcible:** Any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

- **Rape** - The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.
- **Sodomy** – The penetration, no matter how slight, of the anus with any body part of object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.
- **Oral copulation** – vaginal, anal
- **Fondling/Sexual Battery** – The touching of the private body parts of another for the purposes of sexual gratification without consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.

**Sex Offenses/ Non-Forcible:** Non forcible sex offenses include sexual conduct with individuals that the law assumes are not capable of giving consent to sexual acts. (Includes attempts)

**Incest** – Sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

**Statutory Rape** – Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent (18 yrs).

**Aggravated Assault:** An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Simple assaults are excluded.

**Arson:** Any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, or personal property of another.

**Burglary:** The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft. Attempted forcible entry is included.

**Robbery:** The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

**Motor Vehicle Theft:** The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

**Drug/Narcotic Violations:** The production, distribution, and/or use of certain controlled substances and the equipment or devices utilized in their preparation and/or use. The unlawful cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, use, possession, transportation, or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance.

**Liquor Law Violations:** The violation of state and local municipal laws and ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, transporting, furnishing, possessing of intoxicating liquor; maintaining unlawful drinking places; bootlegging; operating a still; furnishing liquor to a minor or intemperate person; using a vehicle for illegal transportation of liquor; drinking on a train or public conveyance; and all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned. (Drunkness and driving under the influence are not included in this definition.)

**Weapons Law Violations:** The violation of federal, state and local laws or ordinances dealing with weapon offenses, regulatory in nature, such as: manufacture, sale, or possession of deadly weapons; carrying deadly weapons, concealed or openly; furnishing deadly weapons to minors; aliens possessing deadly

weapons; and all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned.

**Drug Law Violations:** Violations of federal, state, and local laws relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing, and making of narcotic drugs. The relevant substances include opium or cocaine and their derivatives (morphine, heroin, codeine), marijuana, synthetic narcotics (Demerol, methadone), and dangerous non-narcotic drugs (barbiturates, Benzedrine).

**Hate Crimes:** Under the Clery Act, a hate crime is a criminal offense committed against a person or property which is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias. "Bias" is defined as a preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their race, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, or gender identity.

**Hate Incident:** Any noncriminal act motivated by bias against any person or group of persons, or the properties of any person or group of persons because of the ethnicity, race, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability of the person or group, or bias based upon the perception that the person or group has one or more of those characteristics.

**Simple Assault:** An unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration or loss of consciousness.

**Intimidation:** To unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct, but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack.

**Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property (Except "Arson"):** To willfully or maliciously destroy, damage, deface, or otherwise injure real or personal property without the consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it.

**Larceny/Theft:** The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.

#### **Access to Campus Policy**

High Desert Medical College's Access to Campus Policy states that during business hours, the campus will be open to students, parents, employees, contractors, guests, and invitees. Normal business hours are defined as the regular hours of operation including scheduled classes and events. Generally, during the weekend hours, access to the campus is approved by the Campus President. In the case of periods of extended closing, such as an emergency, the Campus President or designee will admit only those with prior written approval to enter the campus.

## **IV. REPORTING CRIMINAL ACTIONS & EMERGENCIES**

High Desert Medical College (HDMC) strongly encourages victims or witnesses to report all criminal incidents to College administration, regardless of their nature. This is to ensure that appropriate action can be taken, crime statistics can be recorded for the College's Annual Security Report (ASR), and timely warnings (crime bulletins) can be issued if needed. Crimes that occur off-campus (not immediately adjacent to the college) should be reported to the local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the location of occurrence. College emergencies including in-progress crimes should be reported immediately by calling (661) 940-9300. A crime can also be reported in-person to the Campus President

located in Suite 123, manager on duty or The City of Lancaster Police Department may be contacted by dialing 9-1-1 for emergencies.

### **Title/Office to whom Students and Employees should Report a Crime Offense**

Anyone with information that may prompt a timely warning to be issued and/or to report crimes for this report is encouraged to contact the Campus President or any manager, staff or faculty member immediately, either in person at Suite 123 or by phone at (661) 940-9300. In addition to the Campus President, you may also report crimes to:

- Vice President of Human Resources, Main Campus, Suite 123  
661-579-2952
- Director of Admissions, Suite 123  
661-579-2914
- Director of Financial Aid, Main Campus, Suite 123  
661-579-2912
- Director of Student Services, Main Campus,  
Suite 125 661-579-2907

### **Encouragement of Accurate and Prompt Reporting of all Crimes**

All members of the college are encouraged to accurately and promptly report all crimes directly to the Campus President or other appropriate administrator and to the local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction when the victim of crime elects to, or is unable to, make such a report.

Reporting of Crimes: HDMC encourages any person to contact the Campus President to report a perceived or actual threat or suspicious circumstance they feel should be reported. Reports will be documented in accordance with state and federal laws regarding privacy, the California Public Records Act and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. These reports may also assist the Campus President in their public safety efforts and assist in issuing a timely warning to the college community and/or determining where there is a pattern of crime with regard to a particular location, method, or suspect.

### **Timely Warnings**

In the event that a situation arises, either on or off campus, that in the judgment of the Campus President constitutes an ongoing or continuing threat, a campus wide “timely warning” will be issued. The warning will be issued through the college e-mail system to students, faculty, and staff. A crime for which a timely warning would be issued is one that is mandated for reporting under the Clery Act and is considered by the institution to represent a serious or continuing threat to students and/or employees. The Campus President, in conjunction with the Director of Admissions & Financial Aid, will provide appropriate warnings to the parties affected or involved whenever there is a credible threat to their safety. This may be done in person, by email, college social media and college website postings.

Depending on the particular circumstances of the crime, especially in all situations that could pose an immediate threat to the community and individuals, letters may be issues to active students, staff, and faculty. This will allow for a more immediate notification. In such instances, a copy of the notice is posted in the student lounge. Anyone with information warranting a timely warning should report the circumstances to the Campus President’s office by phone to the campus at (661) 940-9300 or by email at [rmilad@hdmc.edu](mailto:rmilad@hdmc.edu). Telephone notification is preferred, as it allows immediate response time from the Campus President’s Office.

## **Procedures for Professional Advisor to encourage Students to Report Crimes on a Voluntary, Confidential Basis**

Professional Advisors are encouraged, if and when they deem it appropriate, to verbally inform their clients to report a crime to the Campus President on a voluntary or confidential basis for inclusion in the College's Annual Security Report and Web-based report to the Department of Education. The College is not required to provide a timely warning with respect to crimes reported to a pastoral or professional Advisor.

### **Voluntary/Confidential Reporting:**

If you are a victim of a crime and do not wish to make a report to local police department, you may still want to consider making a confidential report. With your permission, any of the following High Desert Medical College designee can file a report on the details of the incident without revealing your identity.

- Campus President 661-558-2044
- Vice President of Human Resources 661-579-2952
- Director of Admissions 661-579-2914
- Director of Student Services, 661-579-2907
- Director of Financial Aid, 661-579-2912

The purpose of a confidential report is to comply with your wish to keep the matter confidential, while taking steps to ensure the future safety of yourself and others. With such information, the School can keep an accurate record of the number of incidents involving students, determine where there is a pattern of crime with regard to a particular location, method, or assailant, and alert the campus community to potential danger.

Reports made to local police department should include personal and/or identifying information. This is important for law enforcement to investigate the information to determine if a timely warning needs to be issued to the college community, to avoid double counting crime statistics for the Annual Security Report, and to provide victims' rights information when applicable.

If a victim does not want a report to go further than notification to the local police department, the police department may explain that he/she may be required to submit the information for statistical purposes to college, but it can be submitted without identifying the victim.

### **Lost and Found**

All lost and found items should be turned in or claimed at the Campus main lobby desk located at Suite 123 during business hours from 8:00 am to 6pm Monday through Friday. Please be prepared to present a photo identification to claim your property. Items turned in as lost and found will be held for a period of at least ninety days before any disposition is attempted.

### **Weapons on College**

Weapons are not allowed on HDMC campus at any time. This prohibition includes but is not limited to explosives, firearms, replica firearms, pellet guns, BB guns, Tasers, batons, knives, dirks, daggers, ice picks, razors, or other dangerous objects. Persons bringing weapons to campus may be subject to arrest and/or disciplinary sanctions.

### **Smoking on Campus**

It is the policy of the HDMC not to allow smoking on campus. This policy pertains to students, faculty,



staff, administrators, visitors, and the general public. This policy shall apply at HDMC Main campus in Lancaster, CA. This policy shall also apply to electronic cigarettes or other imitation cigarette devices.

### **Skateboarding/Rollerblading/Bicycles and Motorcycles on Campus**

No person shall ride a skateboard, roller-skates, rollerblades or non-motorized scooter on HDMC property. Bicycles and motorized bicycles shall not be operated on pedestrian walkways or in buildings. Bicycles and motorized bicycles must park only in designated areas. Motorcycles are not permitted to drive in any area that motor vehicles are prohibited from entering except designated motorcycle parking areas.

### **Animals on Campus Policy**

HDMC College is committed to providing its employees, students, and visitors with a healthy environment in which to work and study. No animals are allowed on campus except those animals that are individually trained to provide services to individuals with disabilities.

### **Controlled Substances and Alcoholic Beverages**

#### ***Possession, Use and Sale of Alcoholic Beverages***

HDMC maintains a Drug Free Environment and “prohibits the use, possession, or distribution of narcotics, other legally controlled substances, or alcoholic beverages on college property”. Any student or employee found in violation of these policies by the possession, use and/or sale of alcoholic beverages may be subject to arrest, citation, and/or disciplinary action. Disciplinary sanctions may include suspension, expulsion or discharge from employment.

#### ***Enforcement of State Underage Drinking Laws***

In addition, it is a misdemeanor to sell, furnish, give, or cause to be sold, furnished or given away, any alcoholic beverage to a person under 21 or any obviously intoxicated person, and no one under 21 may purchase alcoholic beverages. It is also unlawful for any person under 21 to possess alcoholic beverages on any street or highway, or in any place open to the public. The College will strictly enforce all state laws relating to underage drinking and/or possession.

#### ***Possession, Use and Sale of Illegal Drugs***

The possession, use, sale, manufacture and/or distribution of controlled substances are unlawful under both State and Federal laws.

#### ***Enforcement of Federal and State Drug Laws***

All federal and state drug laws are strictly enforced by the College.

## **V. SECURITY PROCEDURES & PRACTICES**

Members of the HDMC community must take responsibility for their own personal safety, the safety of others, and their property (when possible), as they do when away from the College. Members of the community are strongly encouraged and reminded to:

- Promptly report all crimes and suspicious persons or activity to the Campus President.
- Always be aware of your personal safety and your surroundings.
- Never leave your property unattended lock windows to your car, office, and residence.
- Keep all valuables with you or leave them at home.
- Walk on well-traveled pathways and in well-lit and populated areas. Walk with friends or groups when possible.

- Call the Campus President, or Security Guard on duty, for a safety escort if you feel afraid or need to walk in isolated areas or at times when areas are unpopulated or closed.
- Engrave owner identification numbers onto electronics and items of value and keep a list of serial numbers and description of property and provide it to the Police in the event your property is stolen.
- Use the internet wisely and never send money or provide personal identifying information, credit card information, or bank information to someone you do not know or to a company or person you did not initiate contact with on your own (such as Airlines, Department Stores, Amazon, etc.)

## VI. CRIME PREVENTION & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAMS

- **New Student Orientation:** Student Services personnel provide personal safety tips and emergency contact information to new students on a regular basis. Students are informed of general crime prevention policies such as voluntary confidential crime reporting procedures and safety programs.
- **New Employee Orientation:** The Campus President present safety policies and procedures to new employees. Employees are informed of injury and illness prevention, workplace violence, safety programs, and voluntary confidential crime reporting procedures.
- **“Great California Shakeout” earthquake drill:** Held once a year. Students and employees are encouraged to participate and receive helpful information towards earthquake preparedness, and are encouraged to practice the “Drop, Cover and Hold On” safety action on the day and time of the drill.
- **Emergency Procedure Presentations:** Offered to both students and employees during orientation. Topics covered include, building evacuations, and earthquake procedures

## VII. EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND EVACUATION PROCEDURES

### Procedures to Immediately Notify the College Community in the Event of an Emergency

HDMC will immediately notify the college community upon confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of students and employees on the campuses. Students and employees may be directed to evacuate the building or the campus and assemble in safe locations depending on the type, size and location of the emergency.

The college community may be notified through various methods including the institution’s email, college website, college social media (Facebook, Instagram), and/or in person from first responders. The form of notification may vary depending on the nature of the emergency. To report an emergency contact the Campus President at 661-940-9300 or by dialing 9-1-1. You may also activate the nearest fire alarm pull station in cases of a suspected or actual fire.

Building evacuation routes are posted in classrooms and administrative offices.

### Confirmation of Significant Emergencies or Dangerous Situations

If a serious incident were to occur on college that causes an immediate threat or possible threat to the college community, the Campus President would assume the initial responsibilities, including but not limited to; response, assessment, confirmation of the emergency, scene containment, coordination of resources, investigation and follow-up, as well as documentation of the incident.

Additionally, mutual-aid assistance may be summoned from outside law enforcement or public safety resources by the College to assist if there is a significant emergency. These agencies may include but are not limited to; the Police Department, Fire Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, Los Angeles County Fire Department and the California Highway Patrol.

### **Description of the Process the Institute will use**

In the event of an emergency, natural disaster or the occurrence of a hazardous condition the College must ensure the activation of a plan or procedures to protect and govern employees, students, visitors on its campuses.

### **Confirmation that there is Significant Emergency or Dangerous Situation**

There are different departments and authorized individuals who have the ability to initiate the notification systems described above if there is an emergency or dangerous situation. Certain members of the College, Campus President, Director of Admissions & Finance, Director of Student Services, and/or Administrative Assistant are some of the departments with employees that have the ability to use different notification systems. Some of the notification systems may also be operated and initiated from on and off campus locations. In the event of a fire alarm activation, the Campus President will first be notified and send first responders to the location of the alarms.

### **Determining the Appropriate Segments of the Campus Community to receive Notification**

The Police in conjunction with the Campus President will determine what information to release about the situation and appropriately notify the affected persons. Depending on the type, size and nature of the emergency, the college community may be notified if there is likelihood the entire college would be affected. However, in other confined and limited emergencies, only individuals in a specific area or building may be notified.

As stated above, affected persons may be notified through the college email, college website, college social media (Facebook, Instagram), and/or in person from first responders. Additional affected persons may be notified if required, based on the continuing assessment of the situation.

When the College follows its emergency notification procedures, it is not required to issue a timely warning based on the same circumstances; however, the college will provide adequate follow-up information to the community as needed.

### **Determining the Content of the Notification**

As stated above, the Police, the Campus President are responsible for determining the content of the information released. Factors that may be taken into consideration regarding the content are the facts and circumstances known at the time about the emergency, the potential persons affected by the emergency, any appropriate information, safety actions, directions, and if any other information should be disseminated at different points in time.

### **Initiating the Notification System**

As soon as confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation exists, HDMC will, and without delay, take into account the safety of the community, and determine the content of the notification and initiate the notification system. If issuing a notification, compromises the efforts to assist a victim or to contain the situation, or otherwise mitigate the emergency, then in the professional judgment of the responsible authorities, the notification will not be initiated or will be limited

### **Institution will take in to account the safety of the Community**

As stated earlier, and in addition to on campus departments and officials, local emergency response agencies, including but not limited to the Police Department, Fire Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff's department may also be responsible for emergency response and procedures for a significant emergency or dangerous situation on the campuses.

### **List of the Titles/Offices Responsible for Emergency Procedures**

- Campus President – prevention, assessment, notification, recovery, mitigation policies and procedures
- Director of Admissions and Financial Aid - response, assessment and notification • Director of Student Services – notification
- Vice President of Human Resources – notification

### **The Institution's Procedures for Disseminating Emergency Information to the Larger Community**

If residents of the surrounding neighborhoods that border the campuses become affected by a serious or ongoing threat occurring on campus, notification may be made through the City of Lancaster Police Department reverse 911-phone system, city email and/or personal contact. The City of Lancaster is responsible for determining the content of the notification and disseminating that information to the larger community.

### **The Institution's Procedures to Test the Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures**

Scheduled evacuation drills are conducted on the Campus at least once a year. These evacuation drills may be announced or unannounced. Students and employees learn the locations of the designated evacuation areas, are provided information on evacuation procedures and told when it is safe to return to the buildings.

During the Great California Shakeout Earthquake Drill. Fire alarm systems are also activated during evacuation drills to further test the operation of the system.

Evacuation drills may be conducted in coordination with the Police Department and/or Fire Department as well as a combination of other departments on college. Participating personnel may provide input on how to improve the emergency procedures that are currently in place.

The evacuation drills are designed to assess how personnel meet their responsibilities during the drill, and are designed to evaluate and test the College's emergency operations plan that is in place and whether or not adjustments are needed to improve those plans.

### **Publicizing its Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures**

To keep the college community informed of the emergency procedures in place, an email will be sent by the Director of Facilities to all staff and faculty in conjunction with the evacuation drills.

### **Documenting for each Test**

All evacuation drills are documented by the Director of Facilities and contain a description of the drill, the date it was held, that start time and end time and whether it was announced or unannounced.

Evacuation Area: Main Campus – *Public parking lot in front of campus*

## **VIII. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

The High Desert Medical College does not discriminate on the basis of sex, gender, including gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation in its education programs or activities. The College seeks to provide an education environment in which students, faculty, and staff work together in an atmosphere

free of Sexual Misconduct, including Sexual Assault, Sexual Harassment, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence and Stalking. Every member of the College community shall be aware that Sexual Misconduct, and/or acts of violence with a sexual nature directed toward another person will not be tolerated and are prohibited by federal and state law as members of the College community, students shall comply with College policies and guidelines in addition to federal, state, and local laws whether on or off campus. The College will discipline persons identified as responsible for Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking as described in this report. In an ongoing effort to prevent Sexual Misconduct, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence and Stalking, the College provides information on education and prevention programs, investigates complaints, dispenses corrective or disciplinary action where appropriate, provides referrals for medical care/counseling, modified classes, reduced course loads, work assignment assistance, stay away orders, leaves of absence, and more. The College also provides information to victims on pursuing criminal action and obtaining protective orders, if needed.

The **Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013** requires that institutions report incidents of sexual assault, domestic and dating violence (also known as 'intimate partner violence) and stalking in its annual security report. The following federal law definitions apply to this reporting requirement. In addition, VAWA requires that institutions publish state law jurisdictions of the same crimes.

#### Federal Definitions

**Domestic Violence:** Is defined as a felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed

- By a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim; By a person with whom the victim shares a child in common;
- By a person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with, the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;
- By a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred;
- By any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred.

**Dating Violence:** Is defined as violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the reporting party's statement and with consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. For the purposes of this definition. Dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse. Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

**Stalking:** is a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person's safety or the safety of others or suffer substantial emotional distress.

#### California Penal Code Definitions

The following is a summary of the definitions applicable to Title IX and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (2013) offenses (sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking) under California state law.

**Consent:** Positive cooperation in act or attitude pursuant to an exercise of free will. The person must act freely and voluntarily and have knowledge of the nature of the act or transaction involved. A current or previous dating or marital relationship shall not be sufficient to constitute consent where consent is at issue. Nothing in this section shall affect the admissibility of evidence or the burden of proof on the issue of consent.” See Cal. Penal Code § 261.6.

**Sexual Assault:** The California Penal Code establishes three categories of sexual assault and related offenses: rape, spousal rape, statutory rape, and sexual battery.

**Rape:** is defined under section 261 of the California Penal Code as an act of sexual intercourse under certain, enumerated circumstances, including:

- a) where a person is incapable, because of a mental disorder or developmental or physical disability, of giving legal consent, and this is known or reasonably should be known to the accused;
- b) where the accused uses force, violence, duress, menace, or fear of immediate and unlawful bodily injury;
- c) where any intoxicating or anesthetic substance, or any controlled substance, prevents the accuser from resisting, and this condition was known, or reasonably should have been known by the accused;
- d) where the accuser is at the time unconscious of the nature of the act, and this is known to the accused;
- e) where the accuser submits under the belief that the accused is someone known to the accuser other than the accused, and this belief is induced by any artifice, pretense, or concealment practiced by the accused, with intent to induce belief;
- f) where the accused threatens to retaliate physically in the future against the accuser or any other person, and there is a reasonable possibility that the accused will execute the threat; and
- g) where the accused threatens to use the authority of a public official to incarcerate, arrest, or deport the accuser or another and the accuser has a reasonable belief that the accused is a public official.

The definition of **spousal rape** under section 262 of the California Penal Code generally tracks the definition of rape, except that the accused is the spouse of the accuser.

Section 261.5 of the California Penal Code refers to statutory rape as “unlawful sexual intercourse.” The term means an act of sexual intercourse accomplished with a person who is not the spouse of the perpetrator, if the person is under eighteen years old. The crime is either a misdemeanor or a felony depending on whether the age difference between the accused and accuser is greater or less than three years.

Under section 243.4 of the California Penal Code, sexual battery is defined, in part, as touching the intimate part of the accused against his or her will for the purpose of sexual arousal while the accuser is either: (1) unlawfully restrained by the accused or an accomplice; (2) institutionalized for medical treatment and seriously disabled or medically incapacitated; or (3) under the impression, due to the accused’s fraudulent representations, that the touching served a professional purpose.

**Domestic Violence:** Section 243(e) of the California Penal Code defines “domestic battery” to mean willful and unlawful touching that is committed against: (1) the accused’s spouse or former spouse; (2) the accused’s cohabitant or former cohabitant; (3) the parent of the accused’s child; (4) the accused’s fiancé or fiancée, either former or current; or (5) someone with whom the accused has, or has had, a dating relationship (i.e. frequent, intimate associations primarily characterized by the expectation of affectional

or sexual involvement independent of financial considerations). In addition, section 273.59 of the California Penal Code prohibits the willful infliction of corporal injury resulting in a traumatic condition upon an accuser who meets these same five categories.

**Dating Violence:** California law has no criminal law that exclusively addresses dating violence. However, California domestic battery and corporal injury laws, both set forth above, encompass acts committed within the context of dating relationships.

**Stalking:** Under section 646.910 of the California Penal Code, stalking is defined as willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly following or harassing the accuser and making a credible threat with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear for his or her safety, or the safety of his or her immediate family.

The complete text of section 243 of the California Penal Code is available at [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=243.&lawCode=PEN](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=243.&lawCode=PEN)

## **CRIMINAL OFFENSES, AWARENESS AND REPORTING**

### **Sexual Assault Prevention Policy**

HDMC prohibits any sexual assault or physical abuse, including, but not limited to, rape, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking (as defined by California law), whether committed by an employee, student, or member of the public, occurring on HDMC property. Sexual assault and any related misconduct as named above is a violation of HDMC policies and regulations, and is subject to all applicable punishment, including criminal procedures and employee or student discipline procedures.

### **Prevention, Education and Awareness Programs**

High Desert Medical College's **Student Services Office** provides a variety of information on prevention education and awareness raising programs to students, staff, administrators, and faculty aiming to prevent sexual violence, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking. The office is located on at Suite 125 or may be contacted by calling (661) 940-9300.

In addition, through community-based workshops conducted semi-annually and on-campus, the College provides in-person workshops on topics such as bystander intervention, primary prevention, healthy masculinity, consent, communication, and supporting survivors.

### **Engaged Bystander Intervention**

Bystanders are individuals who observe violence or witness the conditions that perpetuate violence. They are not directly involved but have the choice to intervene, speak up, and/or do something about it. A bystander is someone who is present and thus potentially in a position to discourage, prevent or interrupt an incident. Engaged bystander intervention is the act of feeling empowered and equipped with the knowledge and skills to effectively assist in the prevention of sexual violence. Bystander intervention does not have to jeopardize the safety of the bystander.

High Desert Medical College is an advocate for bystander intervention when it is conducted in a positive and safe manner and when it is executed to prevent harm in the event of potential domestic violence, dating violence, stalking or sexual assault on a person other than the bystander. Knowing how and when to intervene may be dependent in part on recognizing the situation as an emergency or non-emergency.

### **Procedures Students should follow if a Sex Offense Occurs**

The first priority for a victim of a dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking is to get to a place of safety away from the attacker. Seek medical care as soon as possible. Even if you do not have any visible physical injuries, you may be at risk of becoming pregnant or acquiring a sexually transmitted disease. Contact someone who may help you such as law enforcement, your local rape crisis center or a person you trust.

### **Preservation of Evidence**

If you are a victim of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking, time is also a critical factor for the preservation of evidence that may be helpful for proving the criminal offense occurred or may be helpful in obtaining a protection order. Completing a forensic examination would not require someone to file a police report, however having a forensic examination will help preserve evidence in case you decide at a later date to file a police report. It is ideal to collect forensic evidence from the body within 72 hours. However, a victim should not refrain from reporting an assault simply because there has been a delay.

- Do not wash your hands, bathe yourself, use the restroom, brush your teeth, or drink anything until a medical exam can be provided and evidence collected.
- Consider remaining in the clothing worn during the assault or putting the clothing in a paper bag (not plastic) so that it can be entered into evidence.
- Do not clean or straighten up the area where the assault occurred.
- Note names/descriptions of other people who may have witnessed, been present in the area or have knowledge of the assault.

Sexual assault forensic examinations may be obtained at the Antelope Valley Medical Center located at: 1600 W Ave J, Lancaster, CA 93534 – (24 hour hotline) 661-723-7273 or 661-949-5572

### **How and to whom the Alleged Offense should be Reported**

These crimes should be reported as soon as possible to the Campus President by dialing (661) 940-9300, or local area law enforcement by dialing 9-1-1. You may also report the offense to;

- Vice President of Human Resources, 661-579-2952
- Director of Admissions 661-579-2914
- Director of Student Services, 661-579-2907
- Director of Financial Aid, 661-579-2912

In addition to law enforcement and on college resources, a victim may contact community organizations that assist victims of these crimes;

- Peace Over Violence (626) 793-3385 (West San Gabriel Valley), (213) 626-3393 (Central Los Angeles), and (310) 392-8381 (South Los Angeles)
- Sexual Assault Response Team (877) 209-3049
- YWCA (818) 242-1106
- RAINN-Rape/Abuse/Incest/National Network Hotline (800) 656-4673
- Valley Oasis (661) 949-6143 or (661) 723-7273

### **Information on Student's Options to Notify appropriate Law Enforcement Authorities**

A victim of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking has the option to report the offense directly to the Campus President by dialing (661) 940-9300, or by contacting local area law enforcement by dialing 9-1-1.



### **Assistance from College Authorities in Notifying Law Enforcement**

If the victim requests, college personnel will assist a victim by notifying the appropriate law enforcement authorities. When filing a police report, an officer will take a crime report, and if appropriate, arrange for a free medical exam. Once the report has been investigated and a suspect has been identified, law enforcement officers will take any appropriate action, including bringing the case to the District Attorney's Office for review.

The Police Department will be notified of any dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking investigation that is reported to have occurred on the College campus.

### **Declining to Notify Law Enforcement**

A victim also has the option to decline to notify such authorities and filing a police report will not obligate the victim to prosecute.

### **Protective Orders, Criminal/Civil Prosecution and Rights of Crime Victims**

Where applicable, a victim may have the right to obtain an order of protection, no contact orders, restraining order or similar lawful orders issued by a criminal, civil, tribal court, or by the College. HDMC will honor, comply and enforce current and valid restraining orders and/or orders of protection. When an order of protection is violated, a victim should immediately enforce that order by notifying the appropriate jurisdiction that issued it.

In cases of violations of Emergency Protective Orders and Temporary Restraining Orders, a victim should immediately notify local law enforcement by calling 9-1-1. In cases of violations of college "no contact" orders, the appropriate office or individual who issued the order should be immediately contacted.

**Criminal Prosecution:** A victim may or may not request criminal prosecution. The HDMC Campus President strongly encourages a victim to prosecute criminal acts; however they are under no obligation to do so. A victim may contact the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, Antelope Valley Branch Office, 42011 4<sup>th</sup> Street West, Suite 3530, Lancaster, CA. 93534 (661) 974-7700, the City of Lancaster Police Department located at 501 W Lancaster Blvd, Lancaster, CA. 93534, (661) 948-8466.

**Civil prosecution:** A victim may also pursue civil remedies through the civil court system. Contact the Michael Antonovich Antelope Valley Courthouse, 42011 4th St W, Lancaster, CA 93534, (661) 483-5797.

**Rights of Crime Victims:** Victims of crime or a family member of a victim have many rights throughout the criminal justice system. Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, 211 W. Temple St, Suite 1200, Los Angeles, CA. 90012 (213) 974-3512.

**College Orders of Protection:** Discrimination and Harassment Investigations, the College may take measures to protect a complainant who reports being the victim of these crimes. These protective measures may include; prohibiting the accused individual from having any contact with the complainant, by providing escorts to ensure that the complainant can move safely between classes and activities, ensuring the complainant and alleged perpetrator do not attend the same classes or work in the same work area, and preventing offending third parties from entering the college. Orders of protection may be requested from the Campus President at (661) 940-9300

## **Procedures HDMC Will Follow in the Case of Alleged Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault or Stalking**

### **(i) Protection of Confidentiality of Victims and other Necessary Parties**

HDMC will maintain the identity of any alleged victim or witness or third party reporter of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking on college property, as defined above, in confidence unless the alleged victim or witness, or third party reporter specifically waives that right to confidentiality. All inquiries from reporters or other media representatives about alleged domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assaults or stalking on college property shall be referred to the Campus President's Office, which shall work with the Campus President to assure that all confidentiality rights are maintained. Alleged victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking are also required to maintain any such information in confidence, unless the alleged assailant has waived rights to confidentiality.

To protect the privacy of the individuals involved, the College will not release names without the consent of those involved unless the release is essential to the health and safety of the victim, or the college community, or in fulfillment of the legal obligations of the College.

The College will keep an investigation confidential to the extent possible, but cannot guarantee absolute confidentiality because release of some information on a "need-to-know-basis" is essential to a thorough investigation. When determining whether to maintain confidentiality, the College may weigh the request for confidentiality against the following factors; the seriousness of the alleged harassment; the complainant's age; whether there have been other complaints about the same individual; and the accused individual's rights to receive information about the allegations if the information is maintained by the College as an "educational record" under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. The College will inform the complainant if it cannot maintain confidentiality.

It is important for a victim to know that certain information concerning details of the offense and the actual investigation of these crimes may be given to other College employees or to outside persons or organizations under contract with the College to investigate the offense.

### **(ii) Publicly Available Recordkeeping**

The College will complete publicly available record keeping without the inclusion of personally identifying information about the victim. The College will redact (remove) first and last names and other personal identifying information such as addresses, physical descriptions/date of birth, contact information, social security/driver's license/passport and student ID numbers from reports before it is released to other parties, including any Clery Act reporting and disclosures and entries in the Daily Crime Log and Annual Security Report.

### **(iii) Confidential Accommodations or Protective Measures**

The College will also maintain as confidential any accommodations or protective measures provided to the victim, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the College to provide the accommodations or protective measures. The College may disclose information about a protective measure to an individual found to have engaged in domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking when the protective measure/sanction directly relates to the victim. For example, the College may inform the accused individual they must stay away from the victim.

## **Notification to Students of existing On- and Off-Campus Services**

### **On-Campus Services**

- Information on services available may be obtained at the Student Services Office located at the Main Campus, Suite 125 – (661) 940-9300

### **Off-Campus Services**

- Peace Over Violence: (626) 793-3385 (West San Gabriel Valley), (213) 626-3393 (Central Los Angeles), and (310) 392-8381 (South Los Angeles)
- Peace Over Violence Stalking Hotline: (877) 633-0044
- Rape Treatment Center, Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center: (310) 319-4000
- Antelope Valley Domestic Violence Rape Crisis Center (S.A.R.S): (661) 949-6143 or (661) 723-7273
- The Los Angeles YWCA Domestic Violence Hotline: (310) 270-4117
- The California Coalition Against Sexual Assault: (916) 446-2520
- RAINN-Rape/Abuse/Incest/National Network Hotline: (800) 656-4673
- The National Domestic Violence Hotline: (800) 799-7233
- Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Victim Assistance Program: (800) 380-3811

## **Notification to Students that the Institution will Change a Victim’s Academic and Living Situation after an Alleged Sex Offense**

The College will provide written notification to victims about options for, available assistance in, and how to request changes to academic and to report the crime to local law enforcement. The College is obligated to comply with a student’s reasonable request for academic situation change following an alleged sex offense. The Campus President is responsible for providing assistance to a student or employee to change class, assistance in working with instructors on “make up” assignments or tests, working with other college services on behalf of the student, allowing for the withdrawal of a class without a penalty, and change of work locations and/or work schedules for employees.

When making an accommodation or protective measure, the College will take necessary steps to minimize the burden on the victim. For example, it is not appropriate to remove a victim from a class while allowing an accused individual to stay.

When deciding what accommodations or protective measures to take, the College may look at different factors, including but not limited to; the specific need expressed by the victim, the age of the parties involved, the severity or pervasiveness of the allegations, any continuing effects on the victim and if the victim and accused individual share the same class or work location.

To request a student academic situation change, please contact the Campus President at (661) 940-9300. To request a work situation change, please contact the Campus President at (661) 940-9300.

### **Procedures for Campus Disciplinary Action in case of an Alleged Sex Offense**

HDMC is committed to providing a prompt, fair, and impartial process from the initial investigation to the final result for an institutional disciplinary proceeding of reported domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking. The College encourages the victims to contact local police department or their personal attorneys.

#### **Types of Disciplinary Proceedings**

HDMC has two types of disciplinary proceedings. Disciplinary proceedings for students and for employees. Both proceedings are formal in cases involving an alleged dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking incident. The Campus President with consultation with other administrative staff are responsible for conducting disciplinary proceedings involving employees which may include employment termination.

(i) For students:

Determination of violation of policy and appropriate sanctions. Upon receipt of a complaint, the Campus President will conduct an investigation and make a determination. If a violation of policy is found, a recommendation for expulsion will be made to the Campus President and designee.

Appeal Procedures. An accused student may appeal any sanction using the regulation for appealing a disciplinary decision.

(ii) For employees:

Determination of a violation of policy and appropriate sanctions. The Campus President or designee will make a determination if there was a violation of policy and the appropriate sanctions after an investigation is completed. The Campus President will receive the recommendation for sanction and may impose personnel action against the employee and may also include employment termination from college.

#### ***Anticipated Timeline of Completion***

The College will undertake the investigation step as promptly and swiftly as possible. To that end, efforts will be made to complete the investigation process within 90 days after receipt of the complaint. However all efforts are made to complete this process without unnecessary delay. If the College imposes discipline against a student or employee as a result of the findings in its investigation, the student or employee may appeal the decision.

#### ***Decision Making Process***

The Directors shall make recommendations to the Campus President for disciplinary actions against employees.

#### ***Where and How to File a Complaint***

In addition to the reporting mechanisms described above, complaints alleging, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking may be filed with:

- Campus President, Main Campus, Suite 123 or (661) 558-2044
- Director of Admissions, Main Campus, Suite 123 or (661) 579-2914

Complaints may be made orally or in writing within one year of the date of the alleged violation or the date on which the complainant knew or should have known of the facts underlying the complaint. If a complainant decides to file a formal written unlawful discrimination or harassment complaint against the college, he/she must file the complaint with the Campus President.

***How the College Will Determine Which Type of Proceeding to Use Based on the Circumstances of an Allegation?***

The College will determine which type of proceeding to use based on the type of allegation, i.e. dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking and whether it involves students and/or employees. These proceedings will be assigned formal hearings and be conducted by the appropriate officials.

***Standards of Evidence***

The standard of evidence used during an institutional disciplinary hearing arising from an allegation of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking will be a “preponderance of the evidence” standard. This standard is the same as is used in civil courts, and is not the standard of beyond a reasonable doubt. The preponderance of the evidence means that the offense “more likely than not” occurred—i.e., greater than 50% likelihood.

In evaluation of complaints involving sexual assault, it is not a valid excuse that the accused believed the complainant consented if: (A) the accused’s belief arose from his or her own intoxication or recklessness, or (B) the accused did not take reasonable steps to ascertain whether the complainant affirmatively consented.

A complainant or witness who participates in an investigation of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking will not be subject to disciplinary sanctions for a violation of the HDMC student conduct policy at or near the time of the incident, unless the HDMC determines that the violation was egregious, including but not limited to, an action that places the health or safety of any other person at risk or involves plagiarism, cheating or academic dishonesty.

**The Accuser and Accused are entitled to the Same Opportunities to have Others Present during Disciplinary Proceedings**

The accuser and the accused will have the same opportunities to have others present during any institutional disciplinary proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by the advisor of their choice.

***No limitations on the Choice of Advisor***

The College may not limit the choice of advisor or presence for either the accuser or the accused in any meeting or institutional disciplinary proceeding; however, the College may establish restrictions regarding the extent to which the advisor may participate in the proceeding, as long as the restrictions apply equally to both parties.

**Both the Accuser and the Accused must be informed of the outcome of any Disciplinary Proceeding brought alleging a Sex Offense**

The College will simultaneously notify, in writing, both the accuser and the accused of:

- The result of any institutional disciplinary proceeding that arises from an allegation of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking
- The institution’s procedures for the accused and the victim to appeal the result of the institutional disciplinary proceeding, if such procedures are available
- Any change of the result
- When such results become final.

***Written Explanation of Rights***

When a student or employee reports to the College that the student or employee has been a victim of

domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, whether the offense occurred on or off-college, the College will provide the student or employee a written explanation of the student's or employee's rights and options as described above.

### ***FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)***

Compliance with these provisions does not constitute a violation of section 444 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g), commonly known as the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA).

### **Terms**

**Proceeding:** All actives related to a non-criminal resolution of an institutional disciplinary complaint, including, but not limited to, fact-finding investigations, formal or informal meetings, and hearings. Proceeding does not include communications and meetings between officials and victims concerning accommodations or protective measures to be provided to a victim.

**Result:** Any initial, interim, and final decision by any official or entity authorized to resolve disciplinary matters within the institution. The result may include any sanctions imposed by the institutions.

**Advisor:** Any individual who provides the accuser or accused support, guidance, or advice.

### **Sanctions the Institution may impose, following a final Determination of the Institution Disciplinary Proceeding**

The college may seek to impose sanctions following a final determination of an institutional disciplinary proceeding regarding dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Each of these crimes is subject to all applicable punishment, including criminal procedures and employee or student discipline procedures. Possible sanctions **for students** may include;

- Reprimand
- Loss of Privileges
- Restitution
- Removal from Class
- Administrative Hold
- Suspension:
  - Summary: Interim suspension of a student for good cause up to 10 days
  - Disciplinary: Formal dismissal for good cause up to 10 days and /or one or more school terms
- Expulsion

A student may appeal a sanction issued by College within five business days to the Office of the Campus President.

Possible sanctions for **employees** may include:

- Suspension without pay
- Demotion to a lower class in which qualified
- Reduction of pay step within class; and/or
- Dismissal

An employee may appeal a sanction within five calendar days to the Office of the Campus President.

### **Protective Measures**

All reasonable and available protective measures may be provided if the victim requests them and if they are reasonably available, regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to the College

administration or local law enforcement. All efforts will be made to minimize the burden on the victim. Protective measures may include but are not limited to;

- Safety escorts
- Giving “no contact” orders
- Preventing offending third parties from entering college
- Adjusting class locations/schedules and /or
- Adjusting work office locations/schedules

#### Prompt, Fair and Impartial Process from the Initial Investigation to the Final Result

The College will make all efforts to complete proceedings within reasonably prompt timeframes according to the College’s policy. Including a process that allows for the extension of timeframes for good cause, with written notice to the accuser and the accused of the delay and the reason for the delay.

#### The proceedings must be conducted in a manner as follows:

- Is consistent with the College’s policies and transparent to the accuser and the accused
- Includes timely notice of meetings at which the accuser or accused, or both, may be present
- Provides timely and equal access to the accuser, the accused and appropriate officials to any information that will be used during informal and formal disciplinary meetings and hearings
- Is conducted by officials who do not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against the accuser or the accused

#### Proceedings Conducted by Trained Officials

These proceedings will be conducted by officials who receive annual training on the issues related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and how to conduct an investigation and hearing process that protects the safety of victims and promotes accountability. These trainings may include online video/tutorials, webinars, and in-person trainings. The trainings, at minimum address relevant evidence and how it should be used during proceedings, proper techniques for questioning witnesses, basic procedural rules for conducting a proceeding and avoid actual or perceived conflicts of interest.

## **IX. REGISTRATION OF SEX OFFENDERS**

State law requires that all sex offenders attending the College register with the Campus President within five business days of enrollment or employment with the College, in addition to registering with the police department of the city they reside in. Information on registered sex offenders attending the campuses may be obtained by viewing the California Department of Justice Online Megan’s Law Website at [www.meganslaw.ca.gov](http://www.meganslaw.ca.gov) or the national registry at [www.nsopr.gov](http://www.nsopr.gov), or by calling the California Department of Justice Sex Offender Tracking Program at (916) 227-4974.

## **X. DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE**

The Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Regulations (Education Department General Administrative Regulations [EDGAR]) specifies that no institution of higher education shall be eligible to receive funds or any other form of financial assistance under any Federal program, including participation in any federally funded or guaranteed student loan program, unless the institution certifies to the Secretary that the institution has adopted and has implemented a program to prevent the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol by students and employees. In response, HDMC has adopted and implemented program and

policies to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees.

The HDMC Campus is committed to providing a drug free environment. The institutions also prohibit the use of tobacco products and electronic delivery devices on campus. Any type of drug use, including alcohol, is dangerous and potentially life threatening. Drugs and alcohol adversely affect the body, mind and behavior. The effects vary from person to person and from usage to usage. Even low doses of drugs and alcohol can impair judgment and coordination. If you use drugs or alcohol, you risk overdose, accidents, dependence, ill health, as well as legal, financial and personal problems.

The federal laws against drugs are divided into two categories: possession and distribution. The penalties are severe depending upon the type of drug, quantity of the drug, and any prior offense. Simple possession of controlled substances will earn: civil fines up to \$10,000 per violation, jail sentence and denial of Federal benefits. Manufacture, sale or distribution of all scheduled drugs: prison sentence or a FELONY. State laws vary and may be more severe.

Standards of Student Conduct – States that use, possession, or distribution of narcotics, other legally controlled substances, or alcoholic beverages is prohibited. Presence on campus while under the influence of narcotics, other legally controlled substances, or alcoholic beverages is prohibited. A student may be suspended or expelled for violation of this policy.

**A (i). Standards of Conduct for Employees:**

The unlawful possession, purchase, manufacture, use, sale or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by employees on college property is prohibited. The High Desert Medical College (HDMC) will impose sanctions, consistent with local, state, and federal law, for violations of HDMC alcohol and drug policies as stated in college policies or employee handbooks/manuals. Disciplinary action may include appropriate personnel action, up to and including termination and referral for prosecution: and/or require to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program.

If an employee is convicted of violating criminal laws concerning alcohol or drugs, in addition to civil action, the employee may be subject to termination. Legal sanctions may include mandated rehabilitation programs. In addition, failure to disclose previous convictions on a job application is grounds for termination.

HDMC supports the laws and regulations of the United States of America, the State of California, Los Angeles County as well as the counties and cities in which our outreach sites are located. Each student and employee is expected to do the same. Applicable legal sanctions under state, local, and federal law can include forfeiture of personal property and real estate, fines, revocation of driver's license, probation, parole, imprisonment, mandatory minimum sentences, and deportation for non-US citizens.

**A (ii). Standards of Conduct for Students:**

Students are expected to comply with local and state laws pertaining to alcoholic beverages, controlled substances and illegal drugs. In addition, the manufacture, distribution, sale, possession, consumption, use or transportation of alcoholic beverages, controlled substances and illegal drugs and/or possession of drug paraphernalia by any student on campus property, field trips or activities off campus shall be strictly prohibited. This includes possession of alcoholic beverage containers.



High Desert Medical College will impose sanctions, consistent with local, state, and federal law, for violations of its alcohol and drug policies and the Student Code of Conduct. Sanctions may include a verbal warning, written warning, loss of privileges, probation, suspension, expulsion from college, or imposition of a lesser sanction. Sanctions may also include the local law enforcement for prosecution. If a student is convicted of violating criminal laws regarding alcohol or drugs, they may be subject to civil action. Legal sanctions may include classes, prison terms, and mandated rehabilitation programs.

In addition, College policies on drug and alcohol use can be found at [www.HDMC.edu](http://www.HDMC.edu). The following sections of the Standards of Student Conduct pertain directly to Drug & Alcohol use, sale and possession:

- Participating in activities which are in violation of federal, state, or local laws or ordinances while on district premises.
- Use, possession, distribution, or sale of alcoholic beverages on college except as permitted by law.
- Use, possession, distribution, manufacture or sale of narcotics or other hallucinogenic drugs or substances or inhaling or breathing the fumes of, or ingesting, any poison classified as such by the California Business and Professions Code Section 4160, Schedule "D," except as provided by law, is prohibited when on district premises.

The College will impose disciplinary sanctions on students who violate the Standards of Student Conduct.

#### **B. Legal Sanctions:**

High Desert Medical College enforces all federal and state laws and local ordinances.

- **Federal:** Federal Trafficking Penalties table, obtained from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration ([http://deagov.prod.acquia-sites.com/sites/default/files/drug\\_of\\_abuse.pdf#page=30](http://deagov.prod.acquia-sites.com/sites/default/files/drug_of_abuse.pdf#page=30)) is provided below:

## FEDERAL TRAFFICKING PENALTIES

DRUG/SCHEDULE	QUANTITY	PENALTIES	QUANTITY	PENALTIES
Cocaine (Schedule II)	500-4999 grams mixture	<b>First Offense:</b> Not less than 5 yrs, and not more than 40 yrs. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 or more than life. Fine of not more than \$5 million if an individual, \$25 million if not an individual.  <b>Second Offense:</b> Not less than 10 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$8 million if an individual, \$50 million if not an individual.	5 kgs or more mixture	<b>First Offense:</b> Not less than 10 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 or more than life. Fine of not more than \$10 million if an individual, \$50 million if not an individual.  <b>Second Offense:</b> Not less than 20 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if not an individual.  <b>2 or More Prior Offenses:</b> Life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if not an individual.
Cocaine Base (Schedule II)	28-279 grams mixture		280 grams or more mixture	
Fentanyl (Schedule II)	40-399 grams mixture		400 grams or more mixture	
Fentanyl Analogue (Schedule I)	10-99 grams mixture		100 grams or more mixture	
Heroin (Schedule I)	100-999 grams mixture		1 kg or more mixture	
LSD (Schedule I)	1-9 grams mixture	10 grams or more mixture	10 grams or more mixture	
Methamphetamine (Schedule II)	5-49 grams pure or 50-499 grams mixture	50 grams or more pure or 500 grams or more mixture	50 grams or more pure or 500 grams or more mixture	
PCP (Schedule II)	10-99 grams pure or 100-999 grams mixture	100 gm or more pure or 1 kg or more mixture	100 gm or more pure or 1 kg or more mixture	
PENALTIES				
Other Schedule I & II drugs (and any drug product containing Gamma Hydroxybutyric Acid)	Any amount	<b>First Offense:</b> Not more than 20 yrs. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 yrs, or more than life. Fine \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if not an individual.  <b>Second Offense:</b> Not more than 30 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine \$2 million if an individual, \$10 million if not an individual.		
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	1 gram			
Other Schedule III drugs	Any amount	<b>First Offense:</b> Not more than 10 years. If death or serious injury, not more than 15 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2.5 million if not an individual.  <b>Second Offense:</b> Not more than 20 yrs. If death or serious injury, not more than 30 yrs. Fine not more than \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if not an individual.		
All other Schedule IV drugs	Any amount	<b>First Offense:</b> Not more than 5 yrs. Fine not more than \$250,000 if an individual, \$1 million if not an individual.		
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	Other than 1 gram or more	<b>Second Offense:</b> Not more than 10 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if other than an individual.		
All Schedule V drugs	Any amount	<b>First Offense:</b> Not more than 1 yr. Fine not more than \$100,000 if an individual, \$250,000 if not an individual.  <b>Second Offense:</b> Not more than 4 yrs. Fine not more than \$200,000 if an individual,		

## FEDERAL TRAFFICKING PENALTIES—MARIJUANA

DRUG	QUANTITY	1st OFFENSE	2nd OFFENSE *
Marijuana (Schedule I)	1,000 kg or more marijuana mixture; or 1,000 or more marijuana plants	Not less than 10 yrs. or more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 yrs., or more than life. Fine not more than \$10 million if an individual, \$50 million if other than an individual.	Not less than 20 yrs. or more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if other than an individual.
Marijuana (Schedule I)	100 kg to 999 kg marijuana mixture; or 100 to 999 marijuana plants	Not less than 5 yrs. or more than 40 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 yrs. or more than life. Fine not more than \$5 million if an individual, \$25 million if other than an individual.	Not less than 10 yrs. or more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if other than an individual.
Marijuana (Schedule I)	More than 10 kgs hashish; 50 to 99 kg marijuana mixture More than 1 kg of hashish oil; 50 to 99 marijuana plants	Not more than 20 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 yrs. or more than life. Fine \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if other than an individual.	Not more than 30 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine \$2 million if an individual, \$10 million if other than an individual.
Marijuana (Schedule I)	Less than 50 kilograms marijuana (but does not include 50 or more marijuana plants regardless of weight) 1 to 49 marijuana plants;	Not more than 5 yrs. Fine not more than \$250,000, \$1 million if other than an individual.	Not more than 10 yrs. Fine \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if other than individual.
Hashish (Schedule I)	10 kg or less		
Hashish Oil (Schedule I)	1 kg or less		

\*The minimum sentence for a violation after two or more prior convictions for a felony drug offense have become final is a mandatory term of life imprisonment without release and a fine up to \$20 million if an individual and \$75 million if other than an individual.

- **State:** In addition to the information listed in the previous page, a complete listing of California substances, how they are placed on the schedule and additional drug information, can be found at: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov>

**C. Health Risks:**

Alcohol and drugs are toxic to the human body. Substance abuse may result in a wide array of serious health and behavioral problems and has both long and short-term effects on the body and the mind. In addition to the problem of toxicity, contaminant poisonings often occur with illegal drug use. HIV infection with intravenous drug use is a prevalent hazard.

Acute health problems may include heart attack, stroke, and sudden death, which can occur for first-time cocaine users. Long lasting effects caused by drug and alcohol abuse can cause problems such as disruption of normal heart rhythm, high blood pressure, leaks of blood vessels in the brain, bleeding and destruction of brain cells, possible memory loss, infertility, impotency, immune system impairment, kidney failure, cirrhosis of the liver and pulmonary damage. Drug use during pregnancy may result in fetal damage and birth defects causing hyperactivity, neurological abnormalities, and developmental difficulties.

**Listed below are additional Health Risks due to Alcohol Abuse**

Known health risks include increased risk of injuries, violence, fetal damage (in pregnant women), depression, neurologic deficits, hypertension, liver and heart disease, addiction and fatal overdose.

Alcohol affects every organ in the drinker's body and can damage a developing fetus. Intoxication can impair brain function and motor skills; heavy use can increase risk of certain cancers, stroke, and liver disease. Alcoholism or alcohol dependence is a diagnosable disease characterized by a strong craving for alcohol, and/or continued use despite harm or personal injury. Alcohol abuse, which can lead to alcoholism, is a pattern of drinking that result in harm to one's health, interpersonal relationships, or ability to work.

**Substance and Possible Long-Term Effects**

**Alcohol**

Toxic psychosis, physical dependence, neurological and liver damage, fetal alcohol syndrome, impaired judgment

**Amphetamines**

Uppers, speed, crank: Loss of appetite, delusions, hallucinations, heart problems, hypertension, irritability, insomnia, toxic psychosis, rebound depression

**Barbiturates**

Barbs, bluebirds, blues: Severe withdrawal symptoms, possible convulsions, toxic psychosis, depression, physical dependence, impaired judgment

**Benzodiazepines**

(Valium, Xanax, Ativan, Dalmane, Rohypnol) benzos, downers, sleepers, tranqs, roofies: Impaired judgment, sedation, panic reaction, seizures, psychological dependence, physical dependence

**Cocaine**

Freebase coke, crack: Loss of appetite, depression, weight loss, seizure, heart attack, stroke, hypertension, psychosis, chronic cough, nasal passage injury, hallucinations

**Codeine**

Physical dependence, constipation, loss of appetite, lethargy, respiratory depression

**Heroin**

H, junk, smack: Physical dependence, constipation, loss of appetite, lethargy, respiratory depression

**Inhalants**

Ames, gas, laughing gas, poppers, snappers: Psychological dependence, psychotic reactions, confusion, frozen airway, sudden death

**LSD**

Acid: May intensify existing psychosis, panic reactions, can interfere with psychological adjustment and social functioning, insomnia, flashbacks

**MDA, MDMA, MOMA**

Ecstasy, "XTC": Same as LSD, sleeplessness, nausea, confusion, increased blood pressure, sweating, paranoia

**Marijuana (cannabis)**

Pot, grass, dope, weed, joints: Bronchitis, conjunctivitis, mood swings, paranoia, lethargy, impaired concentration

**Mescaline (peyote cactus)**

mesc, peyote: May intensify existing psychosis, hallucinations at high dose

**Methamphetamine**

Meth, crystal, chalk, ice: Increased wakefulness, increased physical activity, decreased appetite, increased respiration, rapid heart rate, irregular heartbeat, increased blood pressure, and increased body temperature

**Methaqualone**

Ludes: Coma, convulsions

**Morphine**

M, morf: Physical dependence, constipation, loss of appetite, lethargy

**PCP**

Crystal, tea, angel dust: Psychotic behavior, violent acts, psychosis, hallucinations at high dose

**Psilocybin**

Magic mushrooms: May intensify existing psychosis

**Steroids**

Roids, juice: Cholesterol imbalance, acne, baldness, anger management problems, masculinization of women, breast enlargement in men, premature fusion of long bones preventing attainment of normal height, atrophy of reproductive organs, impotence, reduced fertility, stroke, hypertension, congestive heart failure, liver damage, depression

**D. Resources for Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Recovery For Students**

**a. *Government Programs:***

**Los Angeles Department of Behavioral Health**

<http://losangeles.networkofcare.org/mh/support/index.cfm?id=76>

**County of Los Angeles Public Health**

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov>

1-800-564-6600

**SAMHSA—Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration**

Department of Health and Human Services

<https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/national-helpline>

1-800-662-4357

**California Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs**

<http://www.adp.cahwnet.gov/>

**National Institute of Health Training Guide**

<http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/Publications/EducationTrainingMaterials/guide.htm>

**b. *Private Programs:***

**Sober Recovery Online Resources**

<http://www.soberrecovery.com/links/californiatreatmentcenters.html>

**Matrix Institute**

<http://www.matrixinstitute.org/>

**c. *Community Crisis Lines:***

Students who are experiencing a behavioral health emergency should call 9-1-1.

LA County Mental Health Services PMRT: (818) 832-2410

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - The toll-free call is available 24-hours a day, 7-days a week: (800) 273-8255. The Lifeline provides free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis.

**d. *Crisis Line Resources:***

**Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health**

<http://www.dmh.lacounty.gov>

800-854-7771 – 24 Hours Bilingual

**Los Angeles County Human Services Hotline**

<http://www.211la.org>

Dial 211 – 24 Hours Bilingual

**Didi Hirsch – Suicide Prevention Hotline**

<http://www.didihirsch.org>

**877-7-CRISIS or 877-727-4747**

The Soldiers Project  
www.thesoldiersproject.org  
877-576-5343

**The Trevor Project**

http://www.thetrevorproject.org  
866-488-7386

**Asian Pacific Counseling and Treatment Centers**

520 S. Lafayette Park, PL. #300  
Los Angeles, CA 90057  
(213) 252-2100

**For Employees:**

Employees may access drug and alcohol treatment programs through the following resources:

**Community Drug and Alcohol Treatment**

- **Adult Alcohol Treatment Center**  
www.getrecovery.com  
(855) 337-2026
- **Tarzana Treatment Center**  
https://www.tarzanatc.org  
(888) 919-8827
- **Quest2Recovery**  
https://quest2recovery.com  
(866) 906-2491
- **Design for Change**  
https://designforchangerecovery.com  
(855) 858-6025

**Substance Abuse Referral Resources**

- **Al-Anon Family Groups**  
https://alanonla.org  
818-760-7122
- **Alcoholics Anonymous**  
https://lacoaa.org/meetings/?tsml-region=lancaster  
818-988-3001, 323-936-4343
- **California Health and Human Services**  
<https://data.chhs.ca.gov>

- **Cocaine Anonymous**  
<https://ca.org>  
(310) 559-5833
- **Narcotics Anonymous**  
<https://www.na.org>  
(818) 773-9999
- **Marijuana Anonymous**  
<https://www.marijuana-anonymous.org>  
(800) 766-6779

**E. Consequences for Violations**

**Students: Standards of Student Conduct - Student Disciplinary Procedures**

Possible Disciplinary Sanctions:

- **Reprimand** - A written notice to the student that he or she has violated the Standards of Student Conduct. The reprimand serves as documentation of the student's misconduct, and as a warning to the student that further violations may result in formal disciplinary sanctions.
- **Restitution:** Compensation for loss, damage, or injury. Restitution may take the form of appropriate service, monetary reimbursement, or materials replacement.
- **Removal from Class:** Dismissal of a student from class for disruptive behavior. An instructor is authorized to remove a student from class for the day of the removal and the next class meeting. The instructor shall immediately report the removal to the Campus President.
- **Restitution:** Formal action by the Disciplinary Officer to require reimbursement for damage to or misappropriation of property. This may take the form of appropriate service or other compensation;
- **Suspension:** Separation of a student from HDMC for a specified period, after which the student may be eligible for readmission to the college under specified conditions. There are two types of suspensions:
  - **Summary Suspension:** An interim suspension for good cause designed to prevent a student from endangering the health and safety of the college community, destroying or damaging HDMC property, or disrupting or interfering with the orderly operation of the college. A summary suspension may be imposed pending an investigation by college official, or as a means of relieving the tension of the college community or an individual class due to a serious infraction of the Standards of Student Conduct. A student who has been summarily suspended shall be denied access to an individual class or HDMC premises, and lose specified privileges for which he or she may otherwise be eligible.
  - **Disciplinary Suspension:** A formal dismissal of a student for good cause. While under disciplinary suspension a student shall be denied access to an individual class or HDMC premises, and lose specified privileges for which he or she may otherwise be eligible.

- **Expulsion:** A permanent dismissal or separation of the student from HDMC for good cause when other means of correction fail to result in acceptable conduct, or when the presence of the student causes continuing danger to the health and safety of the college community.

**Employees:**

- Employee Drug Free Workplace Policy is accessible at: [www.HDMC.edu](http://www.HDMC.edu) and Notification of the Drug Abuse & Alcohol Prevention Program at the time of employment to be read and signed.
- The College will broadly distribute information about the Drug Abuse & Alcohol Prevention Program to all employees by email blast. Instructors will print and share with their students.

**F. Means of Measuring Outcomes:**

High Desert Medical College shall develop data collection and tracking measures to report program effectiveness. The following activities will be measured and evaluated:

- Collect data and monitor violations and disciplinary sanctions imposed;
- Collect data and monitor referrals for counseling or treatment services;
- Collect data and monitor services provided on college.
- Means of data collection for reporting purposes
- Track student violations
- Track student disciplinary sanctions

**G. Oversight Responsibility:**

Oversight of the Biennial Review Report is the responsibility of the Vice President of Human Resources. Oversight responsibilities include, but are not limited to; final review and approval of information required in the DAAPP, updates to the DAAPP, changes and updates to the annual notification to employees and students, and final approval of the Biennial Review Report.

**XI. MISSING STUDENT NOTIFICATION**

The term “missing student” is defined as any student residing in an on-campus student housing facility who is reported missing from his or her residence. High Desert Medical College does not own or operate any student housing facility.

**XII. FIRE SAFETY LOG**

Maintenance of a Fire Safety Log is mandated for institutions with an on-campus student housing facility. High Desert Medical College does not own or operate any student housing facilities.

**XIII. FIRE SAFETY STATISTICS**

Collection of Fire Safety Statistics is mandated for institutions with an on-campus student housing facility. High Desert Medical College does not own or operate any student housing facilities.

**XIV. ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY REPORT**

Publishing and distribution of the Annual Fire Safety Report is mandated for institutions with an on-campus student housing facility. High Desert Medical College does not own or operate any student housing facilities.



**APPENDIX - CLERY CRIME STATISTICS – January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023**

High Desert Medical College Main Campus:  
701 West Avenue K, Lancaster CA 93534

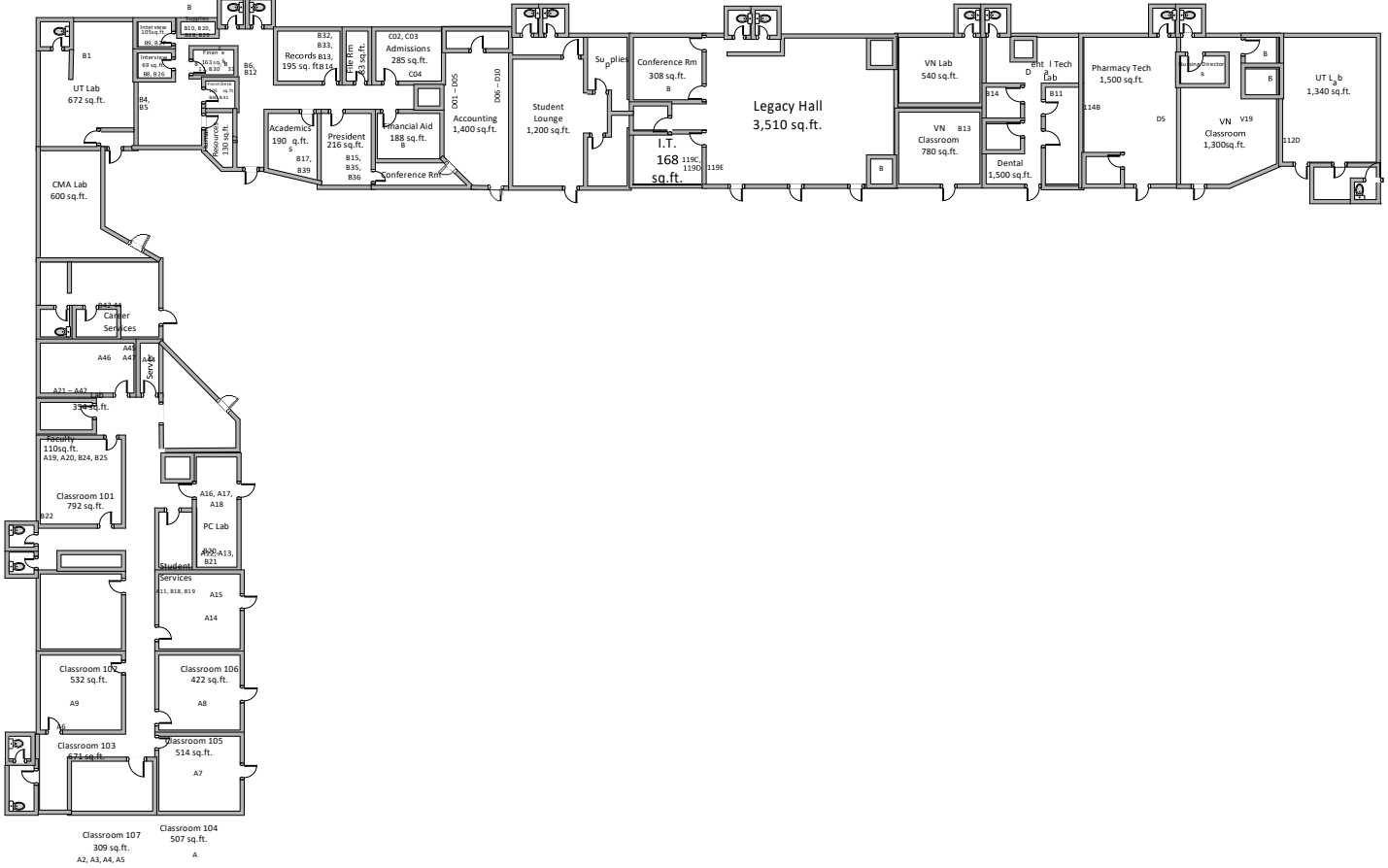
OFFENSES	On-Campus			Public Property		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Murder/Non-negligent manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>SEX OFFENSES/FORCIBLE:</b>						
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Fondling	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>SEX OFFENSES/NON-FORCIBLE:</b>						
Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	1	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	3	0	0	0
Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>VAWA Offenses:</b>						
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	1	0	0
Dating Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>SPECIAL CATEGORY ARRESTS:</b>						
Weapons Offenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Abuse Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS:</b>						
Weapons Offenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Abuse Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Hate Crimes</b>						
2021: There were no on-campus, public property, nor non-campus hate crimes reported.						
2022: There were no on-campus, public property, nor non-campus hate crimes reported.						
2023: There were no on-campus, public property, nor non-campus hate crimes reported.						

# APPENDIX – GEOGRAPHY (Campus Map)

High Desert Medical College Main Campus:  
701 West Avenue K, Lancaster CA 93534

High Desert Medical College  
701 W Avenue K Lancaster, CA 93534  
25,586 sq.ft.

12 Sept 2018



## APPENDIX – GEOGRAPHY (Area Map)

High Desert Medical College Main Campus:  
701 West Avenue K, Lancaster CA 93534

