## **Title IX Policy**

## Introduction

Abcott Institute values civility, dignity, diversity, education, honesty, and safety. Abcott Institute is firmly committed to maintaining a campus environment free from all forms of sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual assault. Sexual misconduct and relationship violence are inconsistent with these values, violate institutional policy, and are prohibited at Abcott Institute and will not be tolerated. Similarly, retaliation for having brought forward a concern, allegation, or for participating in an investigation of a report of sexual misconduct or relationship violence is also prohibited and is grounds for disciplinary action.

Sexual misconduct in any form will not be tolerated and will be dealt with promptly. When an allegation of misconduct is reported, protective and other remedial measures will be used to reasonably ensure such conduct ends, is not repeated, and the effects on the victim and community are remedied, including serious sanctions when a responding party is found to have violated this policy.

The institution uses the preponderance of the evidence (also known as "more likely than not") as a standard for proof of whether a violation occurred. In campus investigations, legal terms like "guilt, "innocence," and "burdens of proof" are not applicable. Abcott Institute never assumes a respondent is in violation of its policy. Campus investigations are conducted to consider the totality of all evidence available from all relevant sources, both inculpatory and exculpatory evidence.

Our Policy provides information regarding how an individual – whether a student, faculty member, or staff member - can make a report of sexual misconduct or relationship violence impacting a student and how Abcott Institute will proceed once it is made aware of any such report. The policy also includes education and information on prevention programs.

## **Title IX Coordinator**

Abcott Institute has appointed a Title IX Coordinator responsible for implementing the Abcott Education Title IX Sexual Harassment/Sexual Misconduct Policy and related procedures. The Title IX Coordinator oversees compliance with all aspects of the sex/gender harassment, discrimination, and misconduct policy. Questions about this policy should be directed to the Title IX Coordinator.

Anyone (whether or not the person reporting is the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimination or sexual harassment) wishing to make a report relating to discrimination or harassment may do so by reporting the concern to Abcott Institute at any time (including during non-business hours) in person, by mail, by telephone or by electronic mail via the contact information below.

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