I’ve been assaulted—now what do I do?

You are not alone. Many people survive sexual violence and cope with these experiences.

It can happen to anyone and it is NOT your fault. You don’t have to deal with it alone. We can help.

The resources listed here are victim-centered, meaning victims can exercise more control over what support and/or treatment they wish to receive.

Are you safe?
If you are not safe, call 911 or DePauw Public Safety at 765.658.5555 for immediate assistance.

If you are in a safe place, call a trusted friend and one of the campus or community resources listed here, such as SASA (Sexual Assault Survivor Advocates) 765-658-4650.

Do you need medical attention?
Immediate medical attention may be necessary to treat injuries, prevent STD’s or pregnancy, and collect forensic evidence. All these services are available at the DePauw Wellness Center, at no cost to students. Our medical staff are specially-trained in caring for students and can administer a “rape kit” in a private examination room, day or night. SASAs are specially-trained DePauw staff who can explain the process and help you arrange the exam. Alternatively you can call 765.658.4800 and request an examination by a SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) Nurse. Allowing this exam does not commit you to anything, but it may provide valuable forensic evidence if you choose to pursue prosecution. To prepare for the exam, it is best to avoid bathing, douching, urinating, eating, drinking, or changing your clothes. A SASA or trusted friend can accompany you to the exam. If you do not wish to be treated on campus, Putnam Co. Hospital provides medical services, including the SANE exam, and SASAs or advocates from Putnam Co. Family Support Services can connect you to other, local resources.

Do you need someone to talk to?
After a sexual assault, victims often wonder what to do next: how to access resources, how to report to campus authorities or how to involve the police. A SASA can help, as can the staff at the Student Life Office (UB 210), DePauw Counseling Services, and the Women’s Center. The Student Life Office can help you with your living arrangements, academic class situations, strategies for completing work and many other accommodations. Staff at International Student Services can help answer visa and immigration questions.

Do you want to report?
Reporting is not required to receive university services, but can be beneficial to you and the community. It’s important to talk to someone, even if you don’t want to make an official report, file charges or pursue a full investigation. Assistant Dean Julia Sutherlin in UB 210 can assist with reasonable accommodations to your housing, class or sports schedule, campus job, or extracurricular activities, regardless of whether or not you choose to make an official report.

Ways to Report
* Report Confidentially: To report without involving any judicial process, contact medical staff, mental health counselors and/or ordained ministers who have been trained to provide pastoral care. Staff at the DePauw Wellness Center can help you. Sexual Assault Survivor Advocates (SASAs) also have limited confidentiality and are trained to help students who experience sexual violence.
* Report to Public Safety: Reporting to Public Safety allows for an investigation to be conducted and the information collected during that investigation to be reviewed by both the on-campus sexual misconduct process and the local Prosecutor’s Office. You will be given the opportunity to discuss your desired involvement in these processes during the review period. DePauw Public Safety investigators are fully-sworn police, specially-trained in sexual assault investigations. Call 765.658.5555, day or night, to speak with a trained officer.
* Report to the Student Life Office in UB210: Julia Sutherlin, the Assistant Dean of Students, manages the on-campus judicial process. She can assist you in navigating this process as well as connect you to resources; call 765.658.4270.
* Report to the Title IX Coordinator: Renee Madison is the Title IX coordinator. Call 765.658.4914 or email: reneemadison@depauw.edu to make a report.
* Report to Local Police: In Indiana, sexual violence is prohibited under Indiana Code 35-42-4. You can always report sexual assault or other crimes to local police regardless of the University’s involvement. Public Safety cooperates fully with local police and with the Prosecutor’s Office. Call 911 or 765.653.2925 (non-emergency).

If you’ve just experienced a sexual assault, these options may feel daunting. Talking to a SASA can help. The Student Handbook (available online) describes the Sexual Misconduct Policy in detail and staff in the Student Life Office can explain that process. The DePauw Title IX coordinator can assist you, as can Public Safety.

Please use these resources. You don’t have to do this alone. We can help.