Sexual Assault Reporting Options

# Background

The DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program helps prevent sexual assault involving service members through training and education programs, provides treatment and support to victims of sexual assault and promotes military system accountability when sexual assaults are investigated.

## Key points

* **Restricted reporting —** Victims may report a sexual assault to the installation sexual assault response coordinator, a victim advocate or healthcare personnel without a formal report being made to law enforcement or command. Victims choosing this option may receive medical care and victim advocacy services including:
* Assessment of safety and assistance development of a safety plan
* Assessment of medical needs, information about a sexual assault forensic examination and referral to medical care
* Information about the installation’s response to a report of sexual assault, including information about reporting options and the military disciplinary system
* **Comprehensive information about and referral to military and civilian resources**
* **Unrestricted reporting —** A victim who makes an unrestricted report of sexual assault may receive victim advocacy services and assistance pursuing an official investigation by making a report to law enforcement, the commander or the sexual assault response coordinator.
* **Chaplains —** Victims may also report a sexual assault to a chaplain. While a report to a chaplain is not a restricted report under the policy, it is a privileged communication that may be protected under the Military Rules of Evidence.

### Eligibility

Anyone who is entitled to receive care at a military treatment facility is eligible to receive medical treatment for a sexual assault. Active-duty service members, military service academy cadets and midshipmen, National Guard and reserve service members when performing active service and inactive duty (as defined in section 101(d)(3) under Title 10), and members of the Coast Guard are eligible for the restricted reporting option. Members of the National Guard and reserve not performing federal duty, retired members of any component and DoD civilian employees are not eligible for the restricted reporting option or benefits.

### Availability

Reporting options are available worldwide to victims of sexual assault.

### Resources

[Department of Defense Policy](http://www.militaryonesource.mil/sexual-assault/leaders?Content_id=267805)

[Department of Defense Legislation](http://www.militaryonesource.mil/sexual-assault/leaders?Content_id=267804)

[Department of Defense Service Regulations and Orders](http://www.militaryonesource.mil/sexual-assault/leaders?Content_id=267806)

[Reporting Options](https://safehelpline.org/reporting-options.cfm)

[Support Services](http://www.militaryonesource.mil/sexual-assault/leaders?Content_id=268273)

[Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program Info Paper](http://www.militaryonesource.mil/sexual-assault/leaders?Content_id=268278)

[Sexual Assault Prevention and Response general information](http://www.sapr.mil/index.php/dod-policy/sapr-strat-plan)

[Victim Assistance](http://www.sapr.mil/index.php/victim-assistance)

[Additional Resources](http://www.militaryonesource.mil/sexual-assault/leaders?Content_id=268272)