2019
Annual Security Report
GEORGIA PiedMONT TechNICAL COLLeGE

Georgia Piedmont Technical College, a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia, promotes a student-centered environment for lifelong learning and development, encompassing academic and technical education for employment in a global community.

For information contained in this report, please contact the Georgia Piedmont Technical College Police Department
404-297-9522 ext. 1700
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CLERY ACT

This information is supplied in compliance with the federal Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act. This Act contains safety and security related laws and regulations from the Higher Education Opportunity Act as amended (2009). The Act requires colleges and universities across the United States to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses. Because the law is tied to participation in federal student financial aid programs it applies to most institutions of higher education both public and private. It is enforced by the U.S. Department of Education. The "Clery Act" is named in memory of Jeanne Ann Clery who was murdered while asleep in her residence hall room on April 5, 1986 at Lehigh University, Pennsylvania.

This report contains information on:

- The Georgia Piedmont Technical College Police Department Clery Act Requirements
- How to Report Criminal Activities Individual Responsibility
- Crime Prevention Programs
- Georgia Piedmont Technical College Crime Statistics Sexual Assault Policy
- Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act Reducing the Risk of Sexual Assault
- Reporting Sexual Assault
- College Responses to Reports Involving Sexual Assault
- The Campus Safety Officer and/or college official responsibilities
- Victims of a Sexual Assault options
- Sex Offender Registry and Access to Related Information Rape Awareness
- Outside Agencies Available to Render Assistance
- Sex Offender Registry and Access to Related Information Crime Alert Bulletins
- Drug Free School and Workplace Policy Violence-Free College Policy
- Policy Prohibiting Deadly Weapons and Dangerous Instruments Access to Campus Facilities

Note: Georgia Piedmont Technical College does not have or officially recognize any student campus housing on or off campus
President's Message
Dr. Tavarez Holston

Dear Community Member:

We at Georgia Piedmont Technical College are committed to providing a safe environment, and we ask that everyone takes ownership of this goal.

This report is prepared by a comprehensive team representing various campus sectors: Georgia Piedmont Technical College Campus Police Department, Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action, Title IX, Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and the Vice President of Administrative Services.

Not only does this report comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, it is part of our ongoing effort to inform you of the safety programs and services available and the steps you can take to maintain your safety and the security of others.

Please know that the safety and well-being of our students, faculty, staff, and visitors are our foremost concern. The best protections against campus crime are: a strong law enforcement presence; an aware, informed, alert campus community; and a commitment to reporting suspicious activities and using common sense when carrying out daily activities.

Georgia Piedmont Technical College works diligently to reduce risk and the potential for crime. Safety and security is a shared responsibility, and we expect all current and prospective community members to contribute to the safety and security of our campus. Thank you for attention to this very important mission.

Best wishes,
Dr. Tavarez Holston President
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Dear Campus Community,

Georgia Piedmont Technical College is one of Georgia’s oldest and most respected technical colleges. Campus safety is a top priority here at Georgia Piedmont Technical College. The Georgia Piedmont Technical College Police Department is committed to maintaining a safe and secure environment to study, work and visit, for our students, faculty, staff, alumni and visitors. We are committed to developing and implementing programs to reduce the opportunity for crime by specializing in using a problem solving, community-oriented philosophy toward crime prevention.

The Georgia Piedmont Technical College Police Department is a recognized police department within the State of Georgia and works closely with local law enforcement to meet the needs of the college community.

Crime prevention is a shared responsibility that involves all members of the college community, and a truly safe campus can only be achieved with everyone’s cooperation. Please do not hesitate to contact my office for your law enforcement needs.

Thank You,

Christopher Hughes  
Chief of Police  
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Accessibility of Information

Georgia Piedmont Technical College distributes a notice of availability regarding the Annual Security Report to all students and employees, by October 1st of each year. Anyone, to include prospective Georgia Piedmont Technical College students and employees, as well as outside community may obtain an electronic copy on the Georgia Piedmont Technical College website; https://www.gptc.edu/, as well as under the Annual Security Report drop-down under Security & GPTC Police section. A printed copy of this report may also be obtained by contacting the Georgia Piedmont Technical College Police Department at (404) 297-9522 ext. 1700, 495 N. Indian Creek Dr. room 168, Clarkston, GA 30021.

Non-Discrimination Statement

Georgia Piedmont Technical College is an equal opportunity employer and offers career and technical education programs for all regardless of race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, gender, religion, disability, age, political affiliation or belief, genetic information, disabled veteran, veteran of the Vietnam Era, spouse of military member of citizenship status (except in those special circumstances permitted or mandated by law). This non-discrimination policy encompasses the operation of all technical college-administered programs, programs financed by the federal government including any Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) Title I financed programs, educational programs and activities, including admissions, scholarships and loans, student life, and athletics. It also encompasses the recruitment and employment of personnel and contracting for goods and services. The Technical College System and Technical Colleges shall promote the realization of equal opportunity through a positive continuing program of specific practices designed to ensure the full realization of equal opportunity.

The following persons has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

- **Title IX Coordinator**, DeKalb Campus, DeKalb County, Sadie Washington, Building A, Room 157, 495 N. Indian Creek Drive, Clarkston, GA 30021, 404/297-9522, ext. 1210, TitleIXCoordinator@gptc.edu
- **Equity Coordinator**, DeKalb Campus, DeKalb County, Nathan Gholston, Building A, Room A-170, 495 N. Indian Creek Drive, Clarkston, GA 30021, 404/297-9522, ext. 1154, gholstonn@gptc.edu
- **ADA Coordinator/504 Coordinator**, DeKalb Campus, DeKalb County, Candice Buckley, Building A, Room A-103, 495 N. Indian Creek Drive, Clarkston, GA 30021, 404/297-9522, ext. 1111, ADA504Coordinator@gptc.edu
- **Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Compliance Officer**, DeKalb Campus, DeKalb County, Sadie Washington, Building A, Room A-157, 495 N. Indian Creek Drive, Clarkston, GA 30021, 404/297-9522, ext. 1210, washingtons@gptc.edu

Any complaints filed against the Title IX Coordinator, Equity Coordinator, or ADA Coordinator/504 Coordinator on any campus/center shall be handled by the President, DeKalb Campus, DeKalb County, Building A, 495 N. Indian Creek Drive, Clarkston, GA 30021, 404/297-9522.
Georgia Piedmont Technical College adheres fully to the requirements of Title IX in both policies and procedures. It is the policy of Georgia Piedmont Technical College that all students and employees shall be provided an environment free of unlawful harassment (including sexual harassment and sexual violence), discrimination and retaliation. All students and employees are expressly prohibited from engaging in any form of harassing, discriminating, intimidating or retaliatory behavior or conduct in all interactions with each other, whether or not the interaction occurs during class or on or off campus. Visitors to campuses shall not engage in prohibited conduct and may be barred for such conduct if other corrective measures are ineffective. Allegations of unlawful harassment occurring at clinical sites to which students are assigned shall be investigated in accordance with this procedure. Any individual who has engaged in prohibited conduct will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion or dismissal. All students are encouraged to report any act of unlawful harassment, discrimination, retaliation and/or intimidation. Reports will be treated in an expeditious and confidential manner.

REPORTING CRIMES AND OTHER EMERGENCIES

Reporting to GPTC Police

Georgia Piedmont Technical College encourages each member of the campus community to promptly report any crimes and criminal activity to the College Police Department 404-297-9522 ext. 1700 for immediate action. Reporting crimes is voluntary. Georgia Piedmont Technical College has taken measures to ensure the safety and security of the campus community; however, the College environment is not immune from criminal incidents that occur in the surrounding communities. The GPTC Police Department is open Monday-Thursday 7:00am-10:00pm, Friday from 7:00am-3:00pm, and Saturday 8:00-3:00pm. There are several ways to contact the department for assistance:

**Telephone.** If you are on campus, dial extension 1700. If you are off campus, dial 404-297-9522 ext. 1700 or 678-230-5593.

**Email.** For non-emergency questions, comments or concerns, email security@gptc.edu

**In Person (DeKalb Campus).** The GPTC Police Department, headquarters, is located on the DeKalb Campus, in Building A, Room 168. The physical address is 495 North Indian Creek Drive, Clarkston, GA 30021.

**Other on Duty GPTC Police/Security and Emergency Contact Information:**
- DeKalb Campus, Clarkston 404-297-9522 ext. 1700 or 678-230-5593
- South DeKalb Campus, Decatur 404-297-9522 ext. 6015 or 678-628-6257
- Regional Transportation Center, Lithonia 404-297-9522 ext. 1700 or 678-526-7384
- Newton Campus Buildings A, B, & C, Covington 404-297-9522 ext. 3100 or 1700
- Newton Bldg. D & Conf. Center, Covington, 404-297-9522 ext. 5000 or 1700

**Crimes Involving Student Organizations at Off Campus Locations**

Crimes involving anyone at off campus locations should be reported to the local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction of the location by calling 911. GPTC does not have any officially recognized off campus student organizations.
Voluntary, Confidential Reporting

Reporting crimes or emergencies is voluntary. All crimes and emergencies should be accurately and promptly reported to Georgia Piedmont Technical College Police Department 404-297-9522 ext. 1885 or ext. 6015 or call 911 for the local police department if a college police officer is not available. However, all crimes should still be reported to the Georgia Piedmont Technical College Police Department for the purpose of investigating, making a report and for annual disclosure in the Annual Security Report. College police do not have a process for confidential reporting due to state open-records laws. If you are the victim of a crime and do not want to pursue action with the Georgia Piedmont Technical College Police Department or local police department, you may still want to consider making an anonymous report, by reporting the crime and not disclosing your personal information to authorities. With such information, the college can keep an accurate record of incidents involving its students, determine if there is a crime pattern, help identify an assailant and alert the College community to potential danger.

Reporting to Other Campus Security Authorities

A Campus Security Authority is an individual or organization associated with an institution other than GPTC Police that crimes and emergencies may be reported to. If a crime is reported to any of these individuals, basic information about the type of crime and the location where it occurred will be shared with college police for the purposes of investigation, timely Timely Warning Report and inclusion in the Annual Security Report. A Campus Security Authority is a Clery-specific term that encompasses four groups of individuals and organizations associated with an institution as follows:

- A campus law enforcement unit;
- Any individual or individuals who have responsibility for campus security but who do not constitute a GPTC Police department such as an individual who is responsible for monitoring the entrance into institutional property (e.g. an access monitor);
- Any individual or individuals who have responsibility for campus security but who do not constitute a GPTC Police department such as an individual who is responsible for monitoring the entrance into institutional property (e.g. an access monitor);
- An individual or organization specified by the college campus security statement as the individual or organization to which students and employees should report criminal offenses;
- An official of a school who has significant responsibility for student and campus activities including, but not limited to, student housing, student discipline, and campus judicial proceedings.

How Campus Security Authorities are Identified:

Campus Security Authorities include all GPTC Police sworn law enforcement personnel and administrators and non-sworn personnel responsible for campus security (unarmed campus security); officials with significant responsibility for student/campus activities, who have the authority and duty to take action or respond to particular issues on behalf of the college and any individual or organization specified in an institution’s statement of campus security policy as an individual or organization to which student and employees should report criminal offenses.
Campus Security Authorities includes but is not limited to:

- Members of the GPTC Police Department, selected members of the Office of Student Affairs and selected Vice Presidents
- Director of Human Resources
- All Campus Deans
- Title IX Coordinator
- Advisors to student organizations

Pastoral and Professional Counselors Confidential Reporting Procedures

As a result of the negotiated rulemaking process which followed the signing into law, the 1998 amendments to 20 U.S.C. Section 1092 [f], clarification was given to those considered to be campus security authorities. Pastor and “Professional Counselors,” when acting as such, are not considered to be a campus security authority and are not required to report crimes for inclusion into the annual disclosure of crime statistics. Pastoral and Professional Counselors are encouraged; if they deem it appropriate, to inform persons being counseled of the procedures to report crimes on a voluntary basis for inclusion into the annual crime statistics. Georgia Piedmont Technical College does not employ pastoral or professional counselors at this time.

Individual Responsibility

Georgia Piedmont Technical College encourages everyone to become an active participant in his/her personal safety. This can be achieved in part by reporting crimes that occur on college property immediately to the GPTC Police at 404-297-9522 ext. 1885. Every member of the college community has an obligation to make a report of the crime or criminal activity to GPTC Police. Remember, safety is everyone’s responsibility. It is College policy that criminal offenses occurring on college property will be reported to the police for investigation.
Personal safety while on campus is the result of a partnership between the GPTC Police Department and each individual on campus. Georgia Piedmont Technical College strives to ensure the safety of all individuals within its community. Students and employees, collectively and individually, must take responsibility for their own safety and that of their personal belongings.

Simple precautions are the most effective means of maintaining personal security. Each campus of Georgia Piedmont Technical College provides well-lit parking areas and walkways for use.

Safety escorts are available upon request, call 404-297-9522 ext.1700. Unattended cars should always be locked. When you leave items of value in your car, they should be locked in the trunk. Students should notify GPTC Police or a College employee of any unusual events or individuals present on campus.

**Additional Resources for Crime Victims**

Crime victims have a number of offices at GPTC available to them that are here to offer support and provide information about programs and services available. Some of the offices a student crime victim may contact for information and assistance include:

Main Number: (404) 297-9522

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<tr>
<td>Chief of Police</td>
<td>Ext.1569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President of Student Affairs</td>
<td>Ext. 1752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Human Resources</td>
<td>Ext.1210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title IX Coordinator</td>
<td>Ext.1210</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dean of Student Affairs</td>
<td>Ext. 1111</td>
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**About the Georgia Piedmont Technical College Police Department**

The GPTC Police Department consist of sworn certified Police Officers and non- sworn, who administers the security needs for all campus sites. The sites include the DeKalb Campus, Newton Campus Buildings A-C, Newton Campus-building D and the Regional Transportation Training Center. GPTC Police duties include enforcing laws, preventing and investigating crimes, providing security and encouraging safety awareness. All Georgia Piedmont Technical College Police Officers are certified by the State of Georgia and have full arrest powers. For minor offenses involving GPTC rules and regulations committed by a GPTC student, police officers may also refer the individual to the Office of Student Affairs. Georgia Piedmont Technical College Police Department also provides unarmed Security Officers to
assist with campus safety and security. The Security Officers are for visibility purposes and do not have arrest powers. Officers patrol the campus Monday-Thursday 7:00am-10:00pm, Friday 7:00am – 3:00pm, and Saturday 8:00-3:00pm. Police and Security Officers provide additional security by patrolling parking lots, buildings, assisting students and employees, and providing safety escorts.

**Officers’ Jurisdiction**

GPTC Police Officers have complete police authority to apprehend and arrest anyone involved in illegal acts on-campus and areas immediately adjacent to the campus. If minor offenses involving College rules and regulations are committed by a College student, GPTC Police Officers may also refer the individual to the disciplinary division of Student Services. Major offenses such as rape, murder, aggravated assault, robbery, and auto theft may be reported to the local law enforcement agency and joint investigative efforts with officers from GPTC Police Department and the local law enforcement authorities may be deployed to solve these serious felony crimes. The prosecution of all criminal offenses, both felony and misdemeanor, are conducted at either Municipal, State, Superior, or Federal Court of the appropriate jurisdiction.

GA law 20-4-39 states “campus policemen and other security personnel who are regular employees of the Technical College System of Georgia shall have the power to make arrests for offenses committed upon any property under the jurisdiction of the Technical College System of Georgia and for offenses committed upon any public or private property within 500 feet of such property.”

**Training of Police Officers**

GPTC Police Officers have completed a training course required of all state certified peace officers in the state of Georgia. They obtain, at minimum, 20 hours per year of training certified by the Georgia Peace Officers Standards and Training Council including the areas of Firearms Requalification Use of Force, Crisis Intervention, and De-Escalation Techniques.

**Working Relationships with Local, State, and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies**

The GPTC Police Department has a verbal agreement with local police agencies as it relates to jurisdiction and for violations out of the scope of our expertise. This includes agreements, between the institution and such agencies for the investigation of alleged criminal offenses. If student or staff needs to report a crime that occurred off campus, the GPTC Police Department will ensure that the responsible jurisdiction is apprised of the reporting crime.
Timely Warning Reports - Crime Alert Bulletins
The GPTC Police Department is primarily responsible for determining the content and distributing a Timely Warning Report to the community, and such notifications are distributed via official GPTC email or phone alert.

A Timely Warning Report is considered for distribution to the GPTC community for all Clery Act crimes that are (1) reported to campus security authorities or local police and (2) determined by the institution to represent a serious or continuing threat to students and employees. Such reports shall be provided to students and employees in a manner that is timely, that withholding as confidential the names and other identifying information of victims, and will provide protective advice that will aid in the prevention of similar occurrences.

Timely Warning Report are designed based on the severity of the crime, the continuing threat to the College Community and the population most likely to be at risk. Timely Warning Report will provide a description of the incident, where and when it occurred, a physical description of the perpetrator, any connection to previous reported incidents, category of individuals who may be at risk and the date and time the Timely Warning Report was issued. Dissemination of Timely Warning Report will depend on similar factors and will consist of posting on the college Web page, GPTC Alert phone notification, bulletin board postings or electronic mail. Similar mechanisms may be used in the event of other emergency circumstances that, while not criminal in nature, nevertheless threaten the safety of members of the College Community.

The decision to issue a timely warning shall be decided on a case-by-case basis. The decision is made by the College President, Chief of Police or his designee considering all available facts, including whether the crime is considered to be a serious or continuing threat to students or employees. Certain specific information may be withheld from a warning if there is a possible risk of compromising law enforcement efforts. But if a crime occurs that would pose a serious or continuing threat to the GPTC community, a Timely Warning Report would be distributed to the campus community.

How Will Timely Warning Report Be Issued
The warning process will at a minimum entail a combination of the following:

- All-campus electronic mail notifications
- Electronic posting on the GPTC website at https://www.gptc.edu/
- Physical postings of bulletins in designated campus buildings by GPTC Police and assigned personnel, depending upon circumstances
- Alertus Emergency Alert Software
- The campus wide Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) announcement system.

The GPTC Chief of Police or designee reviews all college police reports to determine if there is an ongoing threat to the community and if the distribution of a Timely Warning Report is warranted. Timely Warning Reports may also be posted for other crime classifications, as deemed necessary.
EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND EVACUATION PROCEDURES

Emergency Management at Georgia Piedmont Technical College
The Georgia Piedmont Technical College Emergency Operations Plan is designed to provide a resource for Georgia Piedmont Technical College personnel, administrators, and students to assist with information and provide guidelines in planning and responding in a crisis. While the Plan does not cover every conceivable contingency, it does provide the basic administrative guidelines to cope with most emergencies.

All College administrators, especially those whose responsibilities and authority include the operational areas specified in the Plan, must adhere to these guidelines. Only those College administrators responsible for directing and/or coordinating emergency operations may approve exceptions to these crisis management procedures as required to fulfill the emergency response. The Chief of Police is responsible for annual review of these procedures with input from other key stakeholders on campus, including the Public Safety Review Team, as well as selected others with specific responsibilities outlined in the plan.

The College’s Emergency Operations Plan, located at www.gptc.edu contains “best practices” and information about Emergency Guidelines for the campus community; College emergency procedures; pre-emergency planning and performance expectations; “shelter-in-place,” “secure-in-place” and evacuation guidelines; and local contingency and continuity planning requirements. College departments are responsible for developing contingency plans and continuity of operations plans for their staff and areas of responsibility.

Drills, Exercises, and Training
The college conducts an emergency response and evacuation exercises on campus each year, including fire drills, tabletop exercises and tests of its emergency notification system, and the GPTC Alert System (immediate mass notification). These tests and drills are designed to assess and evaluate the emergency plans and capabilities of the institution. The college tests aspects of the campus emergency notification system annually. Additionally, the mass notification system, GPTC Alert, which distributes email and text to all faculty, staff and students, is tested annually. Fire drills are conducted each semester. The exercises listed below were conducted in 2018:

- 8/21/18 – Evacuation for Fire Panel Alert, Clarkston DeKalb Campus
- 8/29/18 – Fire Drill, Newton B Campus
- 9/5/18 – Fire Drill Starnes Campus
- 11/19/18 – Active Shooter Drill

General information about the emergency response and evacuation procedures for Georgia Piedmont Technical College are publicized each year as part of the institution’s Clery Act compliance efforts (GPTC’s Annual Security Report). That information is available on the Georgia Piedmont Technical College website at www.gptc.edu.

GPTC Police have received training in Incident Command and Responding to Critical Incidents on Campus. When a serious incident occurs that causes an immediate threat to the
campus, the first responders to the scene are usually GPTC Police, local law enforcement agencies, local fire responders and emergency medical services. All departments typically respond and work together to manage the incident. Depending on the nature of the incident, other College departments and local or federal agencies could also be involved in responding to the incident. General information about the emergency response and evacuation procedures for Georgia Piedmont Technical College are publicized each year as part of the institution’s Clery Act compliance efforts (GPTC’s Annual Security Report). That information is available on the Georgia Piedmont Technical College website at www.gptc.edu.

Emergency Notification to the GPTC Community about an Immediate Threat
The President’s Office, including GPTC Police, receives information from various offices/departments on campus and local 911 public safety agencies. When the President or designee (Administrator in Charge or “Notifier”) confirms that there is an emergency or dangerous situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of some or all members of the GPTC community, the Notifier is authorized by the President to determine the content of the message and to use some or all of the systems described below to immediately communicate the threat to the GPTC community or to the appropriate segment of the community, if the threat is limited to a particular building or segment of the population. The Notifier will delay the notification only if issuing a notification will, in the judgment of the first responders or the on-duty police officer, compromise the efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency. In the event of a serious incident that poses an immediate threat to members of the GPTC community, the College has various systems in place for communicating information quickly. Some or all of these methods of communication may be activated in the event of an immediate threat to the GPTC campus community. These methods of communication include network emails, emergency text messages that can be sent to a phone or PDA (individuals can sign up for this service on the Campus website), fire alarms, public address and emergency messages on the campus website. The College will post updates during a significant emergency on the GPTC Campus website. Significant emergencies include: fire, tornado, and gas leak, nearby chemical or hazardous waste spill, earthquake, terrorist incident, armed intruder, bomb threat, civil unrest, explosion, outbreak of serious illness.

The following employees are authorized by the President to request an emergency notification message at their discretion based on information and good faith judgment: Chief of Police, Executive Vice President, Executive Director of Marketing & Communications, Dean of Industrial Technologies, Vice President of Student Affairs, Director of Facilities, and the Director of Human Resources, by the Executive Director of Marketing & Communications.

The Executive Director of Marketing & Communications and the President will develop information to be disclosed to the broader community and will disseminate the information through media outlets, newspapers, web sites, radio and television. Georgia Piedmont Technical College does not have any student housing or dormitories.
GPTC Emergency Opt-in Enrollment
To provide GPTC faculty, staff and students with timely emergency and weather closing notifications, the college utilizes an emergency alert system through Regroup. Regroup delivers messages via **SMS (text message to your cell phone), e-mail, and voice phone calls**, and when you enroll you may enter any number of contact numbers/email addresses where you wish to receive notifications. To opt in, text the two words, ‘join emergency’ to 30890.

Sign up is quick and easy, and GPTC pledges that your information is confidential and used ONLY for notification via GPTC Alert! You will not be spammed, and GPTC will NOT use this system for “routine reminders” (such as registration deadlines, etc.) GPTC’s regroup will be used exclusively for emergency and weather/campus closing messages.

To receive notifications via SMS text messages to your mobile phone, you must have text messaging enabled on that, but if you do not have text messaging.

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<th>Established Warning Point</th>
<th>Hazard</th>
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<tr>
<td>National Weather Service</td>
<td>Timely Warning Report for weather events, floods, and wild land fires</td>
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<tr>
<td>C.D.C</td>
<td>Communicable disease/public health emergencies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Fire Department</td>
<td>Structure fire and hazardous material events</td>
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The college will contact the following radio and television stations as early as possible to announce college closings due to hazardous weather conditions:

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<th>Station</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WXIA</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAGA</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
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<tr>
<td>WGCL</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSB</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Evacuation Procedures
GPTC has established procedures to ensure to the greatest extent possible the safety and welfare of the College’s students and employees. However, there are no intercom system in the buildings.

- All occupants of a given building should exit the building according to the posted evacuation route.
- Once the occupants are outside the building they should proceed to the designated “Evacuation Safety Zone” for that building.
• Faculty and Administrators will be responsible for accounting for their students and employees once they reach the evacuation zone.

In the event that it is necessary to evacuate the entire campus by automobile the following procedure will be taken:

• GPTC Police will designate GPTC personnel to assist in directing traffic.
• All traffic will be suspended until the campus is cleared.
• All traffic must flow continuously as directed by authorized personnel.

SECURITY OF AND ACCESS TO CAMPUS FACILITIES

The use of any property or facility owned by Georgia Piedmont Technical College, or upon which College activities are conducted, is limited to registered students, authorized visitors, and employees.

The Vice President of Student Affairs and Chief of Police shall have authority to designate certain campus areas or facilities as public areas or facilities, which shall be open to members of the general public without prior registration with the GPTC Police Department, or certain events as public events for which prior registration with the GPTC Police Department shall not be required. In addition, the Vice President of Student Affairs and Chief of Police shall have the authority to adopt different procedures for registering visitors for designated events.

All students, faculty, and staff shall conspicuously display an identification badge issued by the College at all times while on campus. All students shall be required to possess a valid identification card at all times while on campus, and shall present the same to faculty or staff when requested.

Most campus facilities are unlocked during normal business hours. Labs that contain computers and related equipment are only open for use when an instructor or other authorized staff member is present. Employees, students, or visitors needing access to any facilities that are closed or locked must contact the GPTC Police Department or Facilities Maintenance and must have a valid reason for entering a closed or restricted area. Proper identification will be required from any person seeking access to a locked area. Students will not be allowed access to locked areas without an instructor or other authorized staff member present. Students will be denied general access to closed facilities during breaks and holidays in which the campus is officially closed.

Access control is a very important part of security. Facilities Maintenance personnel supervise the locking and unlocking of buildings. The Director of Facilities approves and issues keys. All buildings on the GPTC campuses are alarmed and monitored while closed. Only staff with keys and an access code can enter after hours. Students may not remain in the buildings without an instructor present.
Outdoor lighting is maintained for access to buildings and in parking areas. Maintenance reports for broken locks or lights should be made immediately to the Director of Facilities. The college maintains agreements with public utilities and contractors for routine maintenance and replacement of exterior lighting. Video surveillance cameras are in use at campuses. Campus grounds, lawns, trees and shrubbery are maintained in a manner to increase visibility and to deter criminal activity.

**Special Considerations for Residence Hall Access**
Georgia Piedmont Technical College does not have any residence halls. Therefore, this section does not apply.

**Security Considerations for the Maintenance of Campus Facilities**
Facilities and landscaping are maintained in a manner that minimizes hazardous conditions. GPTC Police and security personnel constantly patrol the premises and are able to check for malfunctioning lights or unsafe conditions and report them to Facilities.

**CAMPUS SECURITY POLICIES, CRIME PREVENTION AND SAFETY AWARENESS**

**Crime Prevention and Safety Awareness Programs**
Your Campus Security Department's Crime Prevention Programs are intended to provide you with information to reduce the possibility of anyone becoming the victim of a crime. "YOU" are the key element in crime prevention. Each person is responsible for his or her personal safety. If you develop good safety and security habits, you can assist us in assuring a safe environment here at Georgia Piedmont Technical College. The GPTC Police Department and Police Officers are available to participate in faculty and staff in-service programs as well as Student Affairs activities. Crime Prevention activities include:

**Student programs**
- Presentation at New Student Orientations (campus wide)
  - Campus Safety & Crime Prevention PowerPoint Slide in overall Orientation Program
  - Frequency: Beginning of each term
- Ongoing reminders of “See Something, Say Something” Program
  - Frequency: Reminders are sent at the beginning of each term via campus email
  - Campus Security Posters are prominently displayed at each campus with “See Something, Say Something” tips and emergency contact numbers.

**Employees programs**
- Presentation at New Faculty/Adjunct Meetings (DeKalb Campus)
  - Guest Speaker from GPTC Police Department
  - PowerPoint Presentation
  - Frequency: Beginning of New Term
- Information available on the GPTC Portal for Employees
- Ongoing reminders of “See Something, Say Something” Program
  - Frequency: Reminders are sent at the beginning of each term via campus email
Email reminders to employees regarding the need for accurate reporting and how to utilize our Maxient System
  o Frequency: Reminders are sent three times per term via campus email to Employees

Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT)
The purpose of the Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) is to provide a cross-functional, multidisciplinary review of student behaviors perceived as aberrant, threatening or dangerous. Our goal is to confidentially address behaviors of concern, while demonstrating due diligence for the safety of our students, faculty and staff. BIT meetings maximize the opportunity to effectively resolve the issue and minimizes the likelihood that problematic behavior will escalate.

- Concern Form — For non-emergency situations, click the link https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?GeorgiaPiedmontTC and follow the prompts to submit your concern. When prompted to include the “nature of the report” please choose BIT.
- The BIT will coordinate a team response to the issue and keep you informed. This may include removal from class and/or campus until the threat can be assessed. Please also inform your School Dean or supervisor.
- The team does not replace disciplinary processes, classroom management, other programs and services, and/or public safety response to incidents.

GPTC’s RESPONSE TO SEXUAL AND GENDER VIOLENCE

Georgia Piedmont Technical College (GPTC) is committed to maintaining a fair and respectful environment for living, work and study. To that end, and in accordance with federal and state laws, the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) policy, and college policy, the College prohibits harassment of or discrimination against any person because of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment and pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, ethnicity or national origin, religion, age, genetic information, disability, or veteran status by any member of the GPTC Community on campus, in connection with a College program or activity, or in a manner that creates a hostile environment for members of the GPTC community. Incidents of harassment and discrimination will be met with appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, expulsion, or termination from GPTC.

Every member of the GPTC community is expected to uphold this policy as a matter of mutual respect and fundamental fairness in human relations. All members of the student body and employees are expected to ensure that nondiscriminatory practices are followed at the College. Any student, employee, visitor with a complaint or concern that is related to these standards should contact the Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs at 404-297-9522, Ext. 1176, located in “A” Building, Room 101D or the Office of Human Resources at 404-297-9522, Ext. 1210 located in “A” building, Room 157.

Georgia Piedmont Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs and sexual harassment and sexual violence are types of sex discrimination. Other acts can also be forms of sex-based discrimination and are also prohibited whether sexually based or not and include dating violence, domestic violence, and...
stalking. As a result, Georgia Piedmont Technical College issues this statement of policy to inform the community of our comprehensive plan addressing sexual misconduct, educational programs, and procedures that address sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, whether the incident occurs on or off campus and when it is reported to a college official. In this context, Georgia Piedmont Technical College prohibits the offenses of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking and reaffirms its commitment to maintain a campus environment emphasizing the dignity and worth of all members of the college community.

A complete copy of Georgia Piedmont Technical College policy governing sexual misconduct is found in the conduct proceedings.

**Definitions**

**Consent:** The State of Georgia does not define “Consent” in reference to sexual activity. However, Georgia Piedmont Technical College defines "Consent" in reference to sexual activity as a voluntary, positive agreement between the participants to engage in specific sexual activity. Consent must be clear and unambiguous for each participant at every stage of a sexual encounter. The absence of "no" should not be understood to mean there is consent. A prior relationship does not indicate consent to future activity.

Communicating consent to sexual activity can occur in a variety of ways, but one should presume that consent has not been given in the absence of a clear, positive agreement. While verbal consent is not an absolute requirement for consensual sexual activity, verbal communication prior to engaging in sex helps to clarify consent. Communicating verbally before engaging in sexual activity is imperative. However, potentially awkward it may seem, talking about you and your partner's sexual desires, needs, and limitations provide a basis for a positive experience.

A person who is asleep or mentally or physically incapacitated, either through the effect of drugs or alcohol or for any other reason, is not capable of giving valid consent. The use of alcohol or drugs may seriously interfere with the participants' judgment about whether consent has been sought and given.

In Georgia, **Sexual Assault** is defined under OCGA 16 -6-5. As “sexual contact” is that is perpetrated by “a person who has a supervisory or disciplinary authority over another individual.”

**Rape:** Under Georgia law O.C.G.A 16-6-1, rape is defined as a man having “carnal knowledge” of “a female forcibly and against her will.” In this instance, carnal knowledge is very specifically defined as “penetration of the female sex organ (vagina) by the male sex organ (penis).” Rape can occur even between spouses, so the defendant cannot use the fact that he is married to the person accusing him of rape as a defense.

Georgia OCGA § 16-6-1 states (a) A person commits the offense of rape when he has carnal knowledge of: (1) A female forcibly and against her will; or (2) A female who is less than ten
years of age. Carnal knowledge in rape occurs when there is any penetration of the female sex organ by the male sex organ. The fact that the person allegedly raped is the wife of the defendant shall not be a defense to a charge of rape.

(b) A person convicted of the offense of rape shall be punished by death, by imprisonment for life without parole, by imprisonment for life, or by a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment for not less than 25 years and not exceeding life imprisonment, followed by probation for life. Any person convicted under this Code section shall, in addition, be subject to the sentencing and punishment provisions of Code Sections 17-10-6.1 and 17-10-7.

**Sodomy** is oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Sexual Assault with an Object is the use of an object or instrument to unlawfuly penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary, permanent mental or physical incapacity. An object or instrument is anything used by the offender other than the offender’s genitalia (e.g. fingers, bottle, handgun, stick, etc.).

**Fondling** is the touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or, not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.

**Domestic Violence:**
In Georgia, the term Domestic Violence is not defined but Family Violence is defined under OCGA § 19-13-1 as “The occurrence of one or more of the following acts between past or present spouses, persons who are parents of the same child, parents and children, stepparents and stepchildren, foster parents and foster children, or other persons living or formerly living in the same household: (1) Any felony or (2) Commission of offenses of battery, simply battery, simple assault, assault, stalking, criminal damage to property, unlawful restraint, or criminal trespass”.

**Dating Violence:**
In Georgia, the term Dating Violence is not defined however “Family Violence” as defined under OCGA § 19-13-1 to include some dating situations – i.e. persons who are parents of the same child, other persons living or formerly living in the same household.

**Stalking:**
In Georgia, Stalking is defined under O.C.G.A. 16-5-90 as “(a)(1) A person commits the offense of stalking when he or she follows, places under surveillance, or contacts another person at or about a place or places without the consent of the other person for the purpose of harassing and
intimidating the other person. For the purpose of this article, the terms ‘computer’ and ‘computer network’ shall have the same meanings as set out in Code Section 16-9-92; the term ‘contact’ shall mean any communication including without being limited to communication in person, by telephone, by mail, by broadcast, by computer, by computer network, or by any other electronic device; and the place or places that contact by telephone, mail, broadcast, computer, computer network, or any other electronic device is deemed to occur shall be the place or places where such communication is received.

For the purpose of this article, the term ‘place or places’ shall include any public or private property occupied by the victim other than the residence of the defendant. For the purposes of this article, the term ‘harassing and intimidating’ means a knowing and willful course of conduct directed at a specific person which causes emotional distress by placing such person in reasonable fear for such person's safety or the safety of a member of his or her immediate family, by establishing a pattern of harassing and intimidating behavior, and which serves no legitimate purpose. This Code section shall not be construed to require that an overt threat of death or bodily injury has been made.

(2) A person commits the offense of stalking when such person, in violation of a bond to keep the peace posted pursuant to Code Section 17-6-110, standing order issued under Code Section 19-1-11, temporary restraining order, temporary protective order, permanent restraining order, permanent protective order, preliminary injunction, or permanent injunction or condition of pretrial release, condition of probation, or condition of parole in effect prohibiting the harassment or intimidation of another person, broadcasts or publishes, including electronic publication, the picture, name, address, or phone number of a person for whose benefit the bond, order, or condition was made and without such person's consent in such a manner that causes other persons to harass or intimidate such person and the person making the broadcast or publication knew or had reason to believe that such broadcast or publication would cause such person to be harassed or intimidated by others."

College Procedures for Reporting Sexual Assault

Georgia Piedmont Technical College is committed to treating victims of sexual assault with respect and will keep reports of such assaults confidential to the extent required by the victim. Victims are entitled to privacy during every aspect of the reporting process and any ensuing investigation. All information obtained will be confidential. Persons who believe they have been sexually assaulted or been subjected to any sexual offense on campus should immediately report the incident to a local law enforcement agency by calling 911 and the GPTC Police Department or to any College employee who has been identified as a Campus Security Authority.
Victims have the right to receive medical treatment and counseling services. The college official and/or GPTC Police Department will inform victims they have the option to report their case through the college judicial system and/or have the appropriate police agency respond and conduct a full investigation. Victims have the right to refuse these sanctions or any assistance and forgo prosecution after an assault is reported.

Victims will be made aware of appropriate student services and counseling available through community-based counseling services. Georgia Piedmont Technical College will notify victims of
a sexual assault of the options to adjust their academic schedule whenever reasonably possible. Victims also have the right to decline any schedule adjustments.

The following is a list of resources that may be used in the event of a sexual assault or other emergency:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Contact Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Assistance</td>
<td>404-297-9522 ext. 1700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPTC College Police</td>
<td>404-297-9522 ext. 1700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Affairs</td>
<td>404-297-9522 ext. 1111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police/Fire/Ambulance</td>
<td>911 or 311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Emergency Reporting Center</td>
<td>404-294-2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim Services</td>
<td>404-297-9522 ext. 1176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape Crisis</td>
<td>404-377-1428</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**College Disciplinary Procedures in Sexual Assault Incidents**

In addition to criminal prosecution, any Georgia Piedmont Technical College student or employee who is reported to be the perpetrator of a sexual offense (including rape, acquaintance rape or any other forcible or non-forcible sex offense) in connection with any College sponsored activity is subject to College processes and procedures pertaining to disciplinary action. College disciplinary action can be initiated even if criminal charges are not pursued. Allegations brought against a student will be processed according to the complaint procedures identified in the Student Handbook. Sanctions may include suspension or expulsion. Where desired by the victim, the College will make reasonable accommodations to the parties’ academic schedules so as to avoid contact between the victim and the accused.

Allegations brought against an employee will be processed according to the procedures identified in the Employee Policy Manual. Sanctions may include suspension or termination of employment. Reasonable accommodations designed to prevent contact between the victim and the accused will be arranged by the college.

Both the accused and the accuser are entitled to the same opportunities to have others present during a disciplinary proceeding. Both the accused and the accuser will be informed of the outcome (final determination and sanction) of any institutional disciplinary proceeding that is brought alleging a sex offense.

**Education and Prevention Programs**

The College engages in comprehensive educational programming to prevent domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. Educational programming consists of primary prevention and awareness programs for all incoming students and new employees and ongoing awareness and prevention campaigns for students and faculty that:
Identifies domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking as prohibited conduct; Defines what behavior constitutes domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; defines what behavior and actions constitute consent to sexual activity in the State of Georgia; Provides safe and positive options for bystander intervention that may be carried out by an individual to prevent harm or intervene when there is a risk of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against a person other than the bystander;

- Provides information on risk reduction so that students and employees may recognize warning signs of abusive behavior and how to avoid potential attacks.
- Provides an overview of information contained in the Annual Security Report in compliance with the Clery Act.

The College has developed an annual educational campaign consisting of presentations that include distribution of educational materials to new students; participating in and presenting information and materials during new employee orientation; participating in the Spring and Fall Faculty/Staff orientation program; presenting programs throughout the year on at least a quarterly basis, and web-based training programs regarding issues students face with relationships and alcohol. Georgia Piedmont Technical College is committed to providing a safe, secure educational and work environment where individuals are free from the threat of sexual assault or other crimes involving force or intimidation.

Victims of a Sexual Assault should:

- Always go to a safe place.
- Contact GPTC Police if the assault occurred on campus.
- Preserve evidence: Whenever possible the victim should not shower, bathe, or douche, change clothing, or otherwise clean up. If at all possible, do not urinate. Important evidence could be destroyed or lost. Evidence found by investigators will help police conduct the investigation.
- Do not smoke, drink liquids, or brush their teeth if oral contact has been made.
- Keep clothing that was worn at the time of the offense; if clothes are changed, place clothing in a paper bag. (Note: evidence deteriorates in plastic.)
- Get prompt medical attention.
- Write down all details remembered as soon as possible.

Georgia Piedmont Technical College strives to make your educational environment safe. The college recognizes that individual conduct while on campus significantly impacts the quality of campus life. Georgia Piedmont Technical College recognizes sexual misconduct of any kind as a socially irresponsible behavior that violates the rights of other individuals. Student Affairs provides informational brochures and Community Resource information fairs as part of a program to enlighten everyone on how to avoid or prevent a sexual assault and also what to do should one occur.
Sex Offender Registry and Access to Related Information

In accordance to the federal Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act of 2000, also referred to as Megan’s Law, GPTC provides a link to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Sex Offender Registry web site. The Act also requires sex offenders already required to register in a State to provide notice to each institution of higher education in that State at which the person is employed, carries a vocation, or is a student. The sex offender registry is maintained by the Georgia Bureau of Investigations (GBI). You can view the GBI Sex Offender Central Registry at http://gbi.georgia.gov/00/channel_modifieddate/0,2096,67862954_87983024,00.html

Additional information and questions can be referred to the local Sheriff’s Department.

Missing Student Notification Policy

Georgia Piedmont Technical College does not provide any student housing on any of the campuses. Therefore, this policy does not apply to the college. However, GPTC Police Department will assist in any effort to locate a GPTC student who is reported missing to the local authorities.

Procedures for Reporting an Incident

The College has procedures in place that serve to be sensitive to those who report sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, including informing individuals about their right to file criminal charges as well as the availability of medical, counseling and support services, and additional remedies to prevent contact between a complainant and an accused party, such as, academic, transportation and working accommodations, if reasonably available. Students and employees should contact the Vice President of Student Affairs, Title IX Coordinator or GPTC Police. College staff will contact specially trained counselors at the DeKalb Rape Crisis Center for professional assistance to guide a victim through the process.

After an incident of sexual assault and domestic violence, the victim should consider seeking medical attention as soon as possible. In Georgia, evidence may be collected even if you chose not to make a report to law enforcement. Evidence may be stored at the DeKalb Rape Crisis Center up to one year.

Victims of a Sexual Assault should:

- Always go to a safe place. Contact a trusted friend.
- Contact GPTC Police if the assault occurred on campus or contact local law enforcement, or go to the local medical center.
- Preserve evidence: Whenever possible the victim should not shower, bathe, or douche, change clothing, or otherwise clean up. If at all possible, do not urinate. Important evidence could be destroyed or lost. Evidence found by investigators will help police conduct the investigation.
- Do not smoke, drink liquids, or brush their teeth if oral contact has been made.
- Keep clothing that was worn at the time of the offense; if clothes are changed, place clothing in a paper bag. (Note: evidence deteriorates in plastic.)
• Get prompt medical attention.
• Write down all details remembered as soon as possible.

In circumstances of sexual assault, if victims do not opt for forensic evidence collection, health care providers can still treat injuries and take steps to address concerns of pregnancy and/or sexually transmitted disease. Victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, and dating violence are encouraged to also preserve evidence by saving text messages, instant messages, social networking pages, other communications, and keeping pictures, logs or other copies of documents, if they have any, that would be useful to College hearing boards/investigators or police. Although the College strongly encourages all members of its community to report violations of this policy to law enforcement, it is the victim’s choice whether or not to make such a report and victims have the right to decline involvement with the police. The Chief of Police will assist any victim with notifying local police if they so desire.

Procedures for Reported Incidents of Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking
GPTC prohibits domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. If you have been the victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, you should report the incident promptly to the Title IX Coordinator and Human Resource Director, DeKalb Campus Building Room A-157, phone 404-297-9522 x 1210; email washingtons@gptc.edu and GPTC Police (if the victim so desires.) The College will provide resources to persons who have been victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, and will apply appropriate disciplinary procedures to those who violate this policy. The procedures set forth below are intended to afford a prompt response to charges of sexual assault, domestic or dating violence, and stalking, to maintain confidentiality and fairness consistent with applicable legal requirements, and to impose appropriate sanctions on violators of this policy.

As time passes, evidence may dissipate or become lost or unavailable, thereby making investigation, possible prosecution, disciplinary proceedings, or obtaining protection from abuse orders related to the incident more difficult. If a victim chooses not to make a complaint regarding an incident, he or she nevertheless should consider speaking with the DeKalb Rape Crisis Center or law enforcement to preserve evidence in the event that the victim changes her/his mind at a later date.

Once an individual makes a complaint, or receives notice that a complaint has been made against him or her, that individual will receive information regarding support services, such as counseling, advocacy, academic support, disability services, health and mental services, and legal assistance, as is available at the institution.

Accommodations
The college will make accommodations if the victim requests them and they are reasonably available. The college will 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 institution to provide the accommodations or protective measures.
Victim Confidentiality
The College will protect the identity of persons who report having been victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking to the fullest extent of the law.

Risk Reduction of Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, and Stalking
Adopting a sense of personal responsibility for one’s safety and common sense can provide a degree of protection from assault. Following is a list of safety tips:

- Find strength in numbers; attend social gatherings with a friend; stick together and arrange a pre-planned signal to alert one another when it’s time to go or if either needs help
- Avoid walking or jogging alone at night and stick to lighted areas whenever possible; each campus provides escort services during evening hours; contact the relevant GPTC Police Department to arrange for an escort.
- Keep doors and windows locked and remain aware of your surroundings; never hitchhike

Each campus has informational brochures available describing how one may reduce the risk of sexual assault; campus programs designed to provide instruction on defensive skills are conducted upon request. Check Campus Safety Webpages and the College Campus Safety Web page for details. https://www.gptc.edu/current-students/campus-services-amenities/security-campus-police/

Education Programs

Bystander Intervention
The College encourages all community members to educate themselves about interpersonal violence and share this info with friends. Confront friends who make excuses for other people’s abusive behavior, speak up against racist, sexist, and homophobic jokes or remarks. A good bystander is someone who models pro-social behaviors and intervenes when a potentially dangerous situation occurs.

To combat sexual assault on campus, the most powerful tool is your conveying your concern. The best way bystanders can assist in creating an empowering climate free of interpersonal violence is to diffuse the problem behaviors before they escalate.

Often people don’t intervene because they may assume the situation isn’t a problem, or feel it is none of their business. They may assume that someone else will do something, or believe that other people weren’t bothered by the problem. In some cases, a person might
feel their personal safety is at risk. When people do intervene in a situation, they often say that it was the right thing to do, and that they would want someone to intervene if the roles were reversed.

**Bystander Intervention Keys:**

**Notice the Incident.** Bystanders first must notice the incident taking place. Obviously, if they don't take note of the situation there is no reason to help.

**Interpret Incident as Emergency.** Bystanders also need to evaluate the situation and determine whether it is an emergency, or at least one in which someone needs assistance. Again, if people do not interpret a situation as one in which someone needs assistance, then there is no need to provide help.

**Assume Responsibility.** Another decision bystanders make is whether they should assume responsibility for giving help. One repeated finding in research studies on helping is that a bystander is less likely to help if there are other bystanders present. When other bystanders are present responsibility for helping is diffused. If a lone bystander is present he or she is more likely to assume responsibility.

**Attempt to Help.** Whether this is to help the person leave the situation, confront a behavior, diffuse a situation, or call for other support/security.

**Tips for Intervening**

In a situation potentially involving sexual assault, relationship violence, or stalking:

- Do not be antagonistic
- Avoid using violence
- Be honest and direct whenever possible
- Recruit help if necessary
- Keep yourself safe
- Keep your phone handy, call for help or document when you can safely do so.
- If things get out of hand or become too serious, contact Campus Security/Police.

**Rape Awareness**

Georgia Piedmont Technical College strives to make your educational environment safe. The college recognizes that individual conduct while on campus significantly impacts the quality of campus life. Georgia Piedmont Technical College recognizes sexual misconduct of any kind as a socially irresponsible behavior that violates the rights of other individuals. Student Affairs provides informational brochures as part of a program to enlighten everyone on how to avoid or prevent a sexual assault and also what to do should one occur.

All reports of sexual assault will initiate an internal mechanism for employees and students to resolve the complaint through the college's Procedure for the Resolution of Sexual Harassment Complaints.
The following outside agencies are also available to render assistance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Reporting Agency</td>
<td>911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarkston Police Department</td>
<td>404-292-9465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covington Police Department</td>
<td>770-784-2100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb County Police Department</td>
<td>404-294-2911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newton County Sheriff’s Department</td>
<td>678-625-1400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockdale County Sheriff’s Department</td>
<td>770-278-8000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb Rape Crisis Center</td>
<td>404-377-1428</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conduct Proceedings**

If a report of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking is reported to the College, the below are the procedures that the College will follow as well as a statement of the standard of evidence that will be used during any judicial hearing on campus arising from such a report:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Being Reported</th>
<th>Procedure College Will Follow</th>
<th>Evidentiary Standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Sexual Assault          | 1. Depending on when reported (immediate vs. delayed report), college will provide complainant with access to medical care  
2. College will assess immediate safety needs of complainant  
3. College will assist complainant with contacting local police if complainant requests AND complainant provided with contact | Sexual assault cases are referred to the Title IX Coordinator and are adjudicated by the college’s Sexual Misconduct Board using the *preponderance of the evidence* standard. |
information for local police department

4. College will provide complainant with referrals to on and off campus mental health providers

5. College will assess need to implement interim or long-term protective measures, such as, change in class schedule, “No Contact” directive between both parties

6. College will provide a “No trespass” (PNG) directive to accused party if deemed appropriate

7. College will provide written instructions on how to apply for Protective Order

8. College will provide a copy of the Sexual Misconduct Policy to complainant and inform the complainant regarding timeframes for inquiry, investigation and resolution

9. College will inform the complainant of the outcome of the investigation, whether or not the accused will be administratively charged and what the outcome of the hearing is

10. College will enforce the anti-retaliation policy and
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stalking</th>
<th>1. College will assess immediate safety needs of complainant</th>
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<td></td>
<td>2. College will assist complainant with contacting local police if complainant requests AND complainant provided with contact information for local police department</td>
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<td>3. College will provide written instructions on how to apply for Protective Order</td>
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<td>4. College will provide written information to complainant on how to preserve evidence</td>
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<td>5. College will assess need to implement interim or long-term protective measures to protect the complainant, if appropriate</td>
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<td>6. College will provide a “No trespass” (PNG) directive to accused party if deemed appropriate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stalking cases are referred to the Chief Conduct Officer and adjudicated using the clear and convincing evidentiary standard. If the stalking is sexually based, it may fall under the college’s Sexual Misconduct Policy and if so, would be referred to the Title IX Coordinator and adjudicated under the college’s Sexual Misconduct Board using the preponderance of the evidence standard.</td>
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<th>Dating Violence</th>
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**Domestic Violence**

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<th>Adjudication of Violations</th>
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| Whether or not criminal charges are filed, the College or a person may file a complaint under the Student Code of Conduct or Sexual Harassment/Discrimination policy alleging that a student or employee violated College policy. For employee complaints: [https://www.gptc.edu/compliance-notices/equal-opportunity/](https://www.gptc.edu/compliance-notices/equal-opportunity/). Reports of all domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking made to GPTC Police will automatically be referred to the Title IX Coordinator for investigation regardless of if the complainant choses to pursue criminal charges.  

The College’s student disciplinary process will include a prompt, fair, and impartial investigation and resolution process. Investigators and hearing board members are trained annually on the issues related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and taught how to conduct an investigation and hearing process that protects the safety of the victim and promotes accountability. The policy provides that:

- The accuser and the accused each have the opportunity to attend a hearing before a properly trained hearing board;
- The accuser and the accused student each have the opportunity to be advised by a personal advisor of their choice, at their expense, at any stage of the process and to be accompanied by that advisor at any meeting or hearing. An advisor may only consult and advise his or her advisee, but not speak for the advisee at any meeting or hearing;
- A student conduct decision is based on the preponderance of evidence standard, i.e. “more likely than not to have occurred” standard. In other words, the conduct process asks: “is it more likely than not that the accused student violated the College’s Student Conduct Code?”
- The accuser and the accused will be notified simultaneously in writing of the outcome of any disciplinary proceeding, as well as any changes to those results or disciplinary actions prior to the time that such results become final; and
- The accuser and the accused each have the right to appeal the outcome of the hearing. [https://www.gptc.edu/compliance-notices/equal-opportunity/](https://www.gptc.edu/compliance-notices/equal-opportunity/)
Information on the appeals process is located on the college web page and Students will be notified simultaneously in writing of the final outcome after the appeal is resolved.

A person alleging sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking may also utilize the complaint and investigatory procedures set forth in the College’s policy against Sexual Harassment in order to remedy any hostile environment.

All conduct proceedings against students, however, will be resolved through: https://www.gptc.edu/compliance-notices/equal-opportunity/

When a complainant does not consent to the disclosure of his or her name or other identifiable information to the alleged perpetrator, the College’s ability to respond to the complaint may be limited.

**Protective Measures and Sanctions**

In all cases, investigations that result in a finding of more likely than not that a violation of the POLICY occurred will lead to the initiation of disciplinary procedures against the accused individual. College sanctions including, probation, suspension or expulsion, may be imposed upon those determined to have violated this policy. The College may implement protective measures following the report of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and/or stalking. For students, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking are violations of the Student Conduct Code. Employees who violate this policy will be subject to discipline, up to and including termination of employment. Sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking are criminal acts which also may subject the perpetrator to criminal and civil penalties under federal and state law.

**Levels of Sanctions & Violations (Students Only)**

**Level I Violations**

*The following are examples of the most common Level I violations and possible outcomes for offenses:*

Informally resolved Indecent Conduct, Improper Disposal of Trash, Violation of Professionalism/personal appearance policy, Violation of Posting Policy, Parking Violation

**Sanctions for Level I violations are:**

Letter of Warning, Counseling, Education Project, Reprimand.
Level II Violations

*The following are examples of the most common Level II violations and possible outcomes for offenses:*

Use/Abuse of Student ID, Indecent Behavior, Disruption, Security Violations, Violation of Tobacco free campus policy, Failure to comply, Solicitation and Sales on Campus, Aiding and Abetting, Falsification of Documentation, Technology Misuse or Abuse, Second “Level I” Violation within a 12-month period, Violation or conviction of local, state, and/or federal law.

**Sanctions for Level II violations are:**

Counseling, Education Project, Special Assignment, Restitution, Restricted Access, Disciplinary Probation, No contact order.

Level III Violations

*The following are examples of the most common Level III violations and possible outcomes for offenses:*

Violation of Drug and Alcohol & Other substances Policy, Harassment, Violence, Electronic Copyright Infringement Policy, Disorderly Conduct, Disorderly Intoxication, Fire Safety - Minor (candles, halogen lamps/bulbs, coil appliances, incenses), Failure to Appear before a Student Conduct Officer or Hearing Board, Furnishing False Identification and/or Information, Gambling Policy, Violations of Weapons policy, Hazing, Illegal Entry/Trespassing, No Contact Order, Intimidation, Second “Level II” Violation within a 12-month period, Sexual Misconduct, Theft, Attempted Theft, Possession of Stolen Property (under $150.00), Third “Level I” Violation within a 12-month period, Violation or conviction of local, state, and/or federal law.

**Sanctions for Level III violations are:**

Education Project, Monetary Fine, Restitution, Restricted Access, Disciplinary Probation, Disciplinary Probation with Restrictions, Alcohol/Drug/Anger Assessment, Suspension.

Level IV Violations

*The following are examples of the most common Level IV violations and possible outcomes for offenses:*

Assault, Concealed Weapons, Drugs-Possession, Use, Sale and Drug Paraphernalia,
Failure to comply with a student conduct administrative or hearing board decision, Failure to comply with College official/law enforcement, Firearms/Firecrackers, Fire Safety (creating false fire alarms, failure to evacuate a structure, tampering with fire equipment), Fourth “Level I” Violation within a 12-month period, Harassment, Malicious Destruction of Property, Second “Level III” Violation within a 12-month period, Sexual Assault and Sexual Violence, Theft, Attempted Theft, Possession of Stolen Property ($150.00 or more), Third “Level II” Violation within a 12-month period, Violations committed while on living unit or disciplinary probation, Violation or conviction of local, state, and/or federal law.

Sanctions for Level IV violations are:

Monetary Fine, Restitution, No Contact Order, Restricted Access, Loss of Privileges, Disciplinary Probation, Disciplinary Probation with Restrictions, Alcohol/Drug/Anger Assessment, Suspension, Dismissal.

Sanctions for Level V violations can include:

The following are examples of the most common Level V violations and possible outcomes for offenses:

Two level IV violations within one-year, any offense or series of offenses that poses a threat to the health, safety, and well-being of a student, to the College, or to the community, a violation or conviction of local, state, and/or federal law can also be considered a Level V violation.

Sanctions for Level V violations can include:

Suspension, Dismissal.

Definitions:

Counseling- The student may be required to attend counseling sessions with a member of the Counseling Staff or referred to a professional off campus.

Educational Project- The student is required to conduct research or a project in an area relevant to the offense

No Contact Order- A No Contact Order may be imposed in instances where it is determined that a student poses a potential threat to another person. The student will be asked to refrain from making contact in person, via phone, cell phone, text message, instant message, communication via friends or other third parties, etc.

Probation- Probation is a sanction permitting a student to remain enrolled under prescribed conditions. The Probation may be imposed for a specified period of time, or through graduation. During the Probation, the student must demonstrate that his/her behavior
conforms to College’s Student Code of Conduct. Student conduct violations are cumulative. Therefore, all subsequent violations of the Student Code of Conduct will be subject to suspension or dismissal.

**Restitution**- The student is required to pay for repair or replacement of damaged or stolen property. The payment required may not exceed the cost of repair or replacement of the damaged or stolen item, but a lesser amount may be specified.

**Suspension**- Students will be removed from the College within 24 hours of notification of the disciplinary action. While a student is suspended, he/she is not to return to the campus, programs, facilities and activities of the college without written permission from the Vice President for Student Affairs or Dean of Students. If a student is suspended from the College, a letter will be sent to the email address and mailing address on file for notification of the suspension. *President’s Approval

**Dismissal/Expulsion**- Dismissal requires that the student completely sever any and all connection with Georgia Piedmont Technical College within 24 hours of notification. *President’s Approval

The Title IX Coordinator will determine whether interim interventions and protective measure should be implemented, and, if so, take steps to implement those protective measures as soon as possible. Examples of interim protective measures include, but are not limited to: an order of no contact, adjustment of course schedules, a leave of absence, or reassignment to a different supervisor or position. These remedies may be applied to one, both, or multiple parties involved. Violations of the Title IX Coordinator’s directives and/or protective measures will constitute related violations that may lead to additional disciplinary action. Protective measures imposed may be temporary pending the results of an investigation or may become permanent as determined by Georgia Piedmont Technical College.

### Possible Sanctions (Employees)

If a violation of the Policy is found, the level of discipline and type or scope of sanctions will depend on the severity and nature of discrimination or harassment, the weight of the evidence, and the need to maintain a safe and respectful environment. Disciplinary sanctions for employees are defined in TCSG’s Positive Discipline Procedure, [https://tcsg.edu/tcsgpolicy/tcsg_policy_manual.pdf](https://tcsg.edu/tcsgpolicy/tcsg_policy_manual.pdf), and may include: formal reminders, decision making leave, or dismissal.

### Appeals (Students)

The student may appeal the decision from the VPSA or his/her designee to the technical college President. Only the student has the right to appeal. A student shall file a written appeal to the technical college President within 5 business days of receiving the response referenced in Formal Grievance Procedure, Item B. above.
A. The appeal will be decided based entirely on documents provided by the student and the administration; therefore the student must ensure that he or she has provided all relevant documents with his appeal.

B. At the sole discretion of the technical college President, grievance appeals at their institution may be held in one of the following two ways:

The technical college President may review the information provided by the student and administration and make the final decision; or, the technical college President may appoint a cross-functional committee, to make the final decision. The decision of either the technical college President or the cross-functional committee shall be made within 10 business days of receipt of the appeal.

C. Whichever process is chosen by the technical college President; the decision of the grievance appeal is final.

**Retaliation against a student for filing a grievance is strictly prohibited.**

**RECORD RETENTION:** Documents relating to formal grievances including investigations, dispositions and the grievance itself shall be held for 5 years after the graduation of the student or the date of the student’s last attendance.

### Appeals (Employees)

Should a technical college employee wish to appeal the recommendation, he/she must submit a written appeal to the president within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of the recommendation. A System Office employee may submit a written appeal to the Commissioner within seven (7) days of receipt of the recommendation. The college president, or Commissioner, as applicable, will evaluate the appeal and determine if the initial decision is appropriate or may direct other action(s) be taken to address the complaint.

The college president, or if applicable, the Commissioner will notify the employee of the decision within ten (10) calendar days of receiving the appeal. Absent extraordinary circumstances, the president’s decision will be final. Should a technical college employee wish to appeal the president's decision he/she must submit a written appeal to the Commissioner within seven (7) calendar days receipt of the president’s decision. The Commissioner may decline to consider the appeal or may affirm, or reverse or modify the decision. The employee will be informed of the decision within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt of the appeal. The Commissioner’s decision will be final and will conclude the processing of the employee’s complaint.

### Assistance for Victims: Rights & Options

Regardless of whether a victim elects to pursue a criminal complaint, the College will assist victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking and will provide each victim with a written explanation of their rights. In Georgia, a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking has the following rights:

http://www.djj.state.ga.us/Victims/PDF/GeorgiaCrimeVictimBillRights.pdf
• The College will assist victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking upon request for incidents occurring off campus and will provide each victim with information on local resources and prevention materials.

• Victims may call the local Rape Crisis Center for assistance and help in filing for a temporary protective order. Any person who obtains an order of protection should provide a copy to Campus Security and the Office of the Title IX Coordinator. Further, Georgia Piedmont Technical College complies with Georgia law in recognizing temporary protective orders (TPO). Any person who obtains a temporary protective order from Georgia or any reciprocal state should provide a copy to Georgia Piedmont Technical College Police Department and the Office of the Title IX Coordinator. A complainant may then meet with Georgia Piedmont Technical College to develop a Safety Action Plan, which is a plan for GPTC Police and the victim to reduce risk of harm while on campus or coming and going from campus. This plan may include, but is not limited to: escorts, special parking arrangements, changing classroom location or allowing a student to complete assignments from home. The College cannot apply for a temporary protective order for a victim. The victim is required to apply directly for these services.

Who is Eligible to Apply for a TPO?

Before an application for a TPO can be made, an act of family violence or stalking must have occurred.

The following parties are eligible to apply:

- Spouses (present or past)
- Parents of the same children
- Parents and children
- Step-parents and step-children
- Foster parents and foster children
- Persons living or formerly living in the same household

How is a TPO Obtained?

The first step in obtaining a TPO is the application process. A representative (advocate) will assist you with the required paperwork. The advocate is located at the county courthouses in DeKalb, Newton and Rockdale counties in the Office of the District Attorney. The advocate will provide the required paperwork for parties seeking temporary protective orders. Additional duties of the advocate include entering information into the state computer system and screening cases before bringing said matters before the presiding judge.

If there is a finding by the judge that there is probable cause to believe that an act of family violence has occurred in the past and may occur in the future, the Court may order such relief as is deemed appropriate.
Sheriff’s Office, a hearing will be held within 30 days. Both parties will have the opportunity to be present at the hearing. An assisting Superior Court Judge will determine by a preponderance of the evidence if it is warranted to continue the protective order for a period of up to 12 months.

- A complainant may then meet with the Vice President for Student Affairs and GPTC Police to develop a Safety Action Plan, which is a plan for GPTC Police and the victim to reduce risk of harm while on campus or coming and going from campus.
- This plan may include, but is not limited to: escorts, special parking arrangements, changing classroom location or allowing a student to complete assignments from home, etc.

To the extent of the victim’s cooperation and consent, College offices, including Academic Affairs, Student Services, Title IX and GPTC Police will work cooperatively to ensure that the complainant’s health, physical safety, work and academic status are protected, pending the outcome of a formal College investigation of the complaint. For example, if reasonably available, a complainant may be offered changes to academic or working situations in addition to counseling, health services and assistance in notifying local law enforcement. The Title IX Coordinator and DeKalb Rape Crisis Center serve as the student’s point of contact for services. Additionally, personal identifiable information about the victim will be treated as confidential and only shared with persons with a specific need to know who are investigating/adjudicating the complaint or delivering resources or support services to the complainant. The College does not publish the name of crime victims nor house identifiable information regarding victims in the campus Daily Crime Log or online. Victims may request that directory information on file be removed from public sources by request by filing the appropriate form with Student Affairs.

Resources for victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault & Stalking

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<tr>
<th>On-Campus Resources</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title IX Coordinator</td>
<td>Sadie Washington</td>
<td>404-297-9522 x 1210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Affairs</td>
<td>Candice Buckley</td>
<td>404-297-9522 x 1111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Security/Police</td>
<td>Chief Christopher Hughes</td>
<td>404-297-9522 x 1569</td>
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<tr>
<th>Off-Campus Resources</th>
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<td>Local Police, Fire, EMS</td>
<td></td>
<td>911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb Rape Crisis Center</td>
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<td>404-377-1428</td>
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Other resources available to persons who report being the victim of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, include:

- United Way 211
- Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault 404-815-5261
- Rape Response 770-503-7273
- Georgia Crisis & Access Line 800-715-4225
- Crisis Text Line text “GA” to 741-741
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800-723-TALK

**Employee Assistance Program (EAP)**
ESPYR provide counseling to employees and their families in the areas of: Marital, Adolescence, Family, Grief, Stress, Alcohol and Drugs, Emotional, Financial, Legal or any personal trouble (1-866-734-5890).

**Student Assistance Program (SAP)**
Currently enrolled students receive a Community Resource Booklet with contact information for free resources such as the Georgia Crisis Hotline and Domestic Violence assistance. This booklet and list of free resources can be obtained from the Office of Student Affairs, Room 103, Building A, DeKalb Campus. This information is also emailed to students upon request by emailing the Dean of Student Affairs at buckleyc@gptc.edu.

**Higher Education Opportunity Act 2008 (HEOA)**
GPTC upon written request will disclose to the alleged victim of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense, the report on the results of any disciplinary proceeding conducted by the institution against a student who is the alleged perpetrator of such crime or offense. If the alleged victim is deceased as a result of such crime or offense, the next of kin of such victim shall be treated as the alleged victim for purposes of this paragraph.

**Daily Crime Logs**
Consistent with the Clery Act requirements, the GPTC Police Department prepares a daily crime log of all criminal offenses reported on its campuses. It is maintained by the GPTC Police Department and is available to the public in Building A Room 168 DeKalb campus; Building B Room 123; Newton Campus; and, Room 101 South DeKalb Campus. Information in the log includes the nature of the crime, date and time of the incident, general location of the crime and disposition of the complaint, if known. Individuals can also request a daily crime
log by emailing the Chief of Police at Hughesc@gptc.edu.

GPTC’s crime log covers the most recent 60-day period and is open for public inspection during normal business hours. Crime log information dating back more than 60 days will be made available for inspection within two business days of a written request.

**Drug Free School and Workplace Policy**

This policy has been developed in concert with the federal Drug Free Schools and Communities Act which was enacted to ensure that any institution of higher education that receives funds under any federal program has adopted and implemented a program to prevent the use of illicit drugs and abuse of alcohol by students. It also incorporates the statutory mandates required under the state Drug-Free Postsecondary Education Act of 1990 (O.C.G.A. § 20-1-20 et seq.)

Georgia Piedmont Technical College believes that illegal drugs and abuse of alcohol have no place in the college environment. The unauthorized manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance or alcohol is strictly prohibited in all facilities of the college, in all places where employees/students work/attend, including all state-owned vehicles, and as any part of the college’s activities. As a condition of employment/enrollment, all employees/students shall abide by this prohibition and notify the college of any criminal drug or alcohol use. Violation of such prohibition shall result in action against the employee/student, which shall include action up to and including termination/expulsion, and/or satisfactory participation in an approved drug or alcohol abuse assistance or rehabilitation program. Participation in such a program shall not be paid for by the college, but may be covered by a(n) employee’s/student's health insurance policy.

All violations of the above policy shall be reported to the college president, or his/her designee, who shall report the violation to the appropriate police authority. Action shall be taken in all cases of chargeable offense under the provisions of the applicable state law or comparable federal law; however, a conviction of the charged offense shall not be necessary to take action against the employee/student for a violation of the policy. The employee/student against whom such action is taken shall be entitled to due process through the rules and regulations of Georgia Piedmont Technical College.

All employees/students shall notify the college president in writing of any criminal drug or alcohol statute conviction for a violation occurring in any facility or on the property of the college, or in any college activity, no longer then (5) days after such conviction.

**Drug and Alcohol Abuse Education Programs**

**Employee Assistance Program (EAP)**

ESPYR provide counseling to employees and their families in the areas of: Marital, Adolescence, Family, Grief, Stress, Alcohol and Drugs, Emotional, Financial, Legal or
any personal trouble (1-866-734-5890).

**Alcohol Edu for College** — an interactive online program designed to reduce the negative consequences of alcohol amongst students. This program is sponsored by EverFi.

**Haven Training**
The primary prevention and awareness course for all incoming students and new employees is Haven for Faculty and Staff. Georgia Piedmont Technical College has partnered with EverFi, whose mission is to help students address critical life skills such as alcohol abuse prevention, sexual assault prevention, and financial literacy in higher education institutions across the country. Each year over 1,500,000 students and employees complete these courses.

As part of our comprehensive prevention program, Georgia Piedmont Technical College expects all credit students (new and continuing) and employees to complete HAVENPlus training. This online education will empower faculty & staff as well as students to make well-informed decisions about issues that affect your years at Georgia Piedmont Technical College and beyond.

Each campus has collateral and brochures on how to access the HAVEN Training as well as information regarding Sexual Assault Violence. There are several offices on campus that provide training programs that promote the awareness of rape, and other sex offenses. At least one program per semester is offered and advertised through the Office of Student Activities, as well as through email blast. For Faculty and Staff, this information is included in the onboarding process.

Note: Employees/students may seek drug or alcohol counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation from appropriate facilities or agencies. Additionally, employees may seek help through the State Employees Assistance Program. Employees may contact the College’s Human Resources Office.

**Policy Prohibiting Deadly Weapons and Dangerous Instruments or Devices**

This Policy applies to the possession or use of any prohibited weapon, dangerous instrument or device and to any prohibited conduct (see Violence-Free College Policy) on any property owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by the College or in any place where College students or employees are engaged in College-related activity or College-sponsored activity ("College Property"). This Policy also applies to any College employee or student (including persons participating in any activity sponsored by the College) and to visitors to the College (collectively the "College Community").

Georgia Piedmont Technical College is committed to providing all employees, students, volunteers, visitors, vendors and contractors a safe and secure workplace and/or academic setting. The possession, carrying, or transportation of a firearm, weapon, or explosive compound/material in or on college buildings or property shall be governed.
by Georgia State Law. All individuals are expected to comply with the related laws. Failure to follow laws pertaining to weapons is considered a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Relevant Georgia Law to be aware of and compliant with include but may not be limited to:

**Campus Carry Law**  
O.C.G.A.§ 16-11-127.1

Any violation of a federal, state, or local law or ordinance pertaining to the possession, use, attempt or threat to use a deadly weapon, dangerous instrument, or device, committed on College property, shall constitute a violation of this Policy. Copies of Georgia and local law may be obtained from the GPTC Police Department.

Georgia law defines dangerous instrument as: "any instrument, article or substance which, under the circumstances in which it is used, attempted to be used or threatened to be used, is readily capable of causing death or serious physical injury, or any disabling chemical spray . . . "Chemical spray" includes: mace, tear gas, pepper spray or any other mixture containing quantities thereof, or any other aerosol spray or any liquid, gaseous or solid substance capable of producing temporary physical discomfort, disability or injury through being vaporized or otherwise dispersed in the air, or any canister, container or device designed or intended to carry, store, or disperse such aerosol spray or such as gas or solid.

Georgia law defines a deadly weapon as: a firearm (any weapon from which a shot, projectile, or other object may be discharged by force of combustion, explosive, gas and/or mechanical means, whether operable or inoperable, loaded or unloaded but does not include a BB gun (which is considered a "device" under this Policy) a knife of any sort (other than an ordinary pocket knife, i.e., a folding knife have a blade not more than 2 inches in length, carried in a closed position), switchblade knife, billyclub, blackjack, bludgeon, metal knuckles, slingshot, razor, bicycle chain or ice pick or any dangerous instrument as defined above, which is used, or attempted to be used, to cause death or serious physical injury. In addition to dangerous instruments and deadly weapons, members of the College Community while on college property are prohibited from possessing, using, attempting or threatening to use any of the following or similar devices: BB guns, pellet guns, paint ball guns, decorative or functional swords, machetes, air rifles, martial arts devices such as throwing stars, garrotes, fireworks, explosives or substances possessed and/or prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation, chemical or biological agents possessed and/or used with the purpose of causing death, serious bodily injury or property damage or otherwise in violation of federal, state, or local law or ordinance.

Any person who is 18 years of age or older or currently enrolled in classes on the campus in question and carrying, possessing, or having under such person's control an electroshock
weapon while in or on any building or real property owned by or leased to such public technical school, vocational school, college or university or other public institution of postsecondary education; provided, however, that, if such person makes use of such electroshock weapon, such use shall be in defense of self or others. The exemption under this paragraph shall apply only to such person in regard to such electroshock weapon. As used in this paragraph, the term "electroshock weapon" means any commercially available device that is powered by electrical charging units and designed exclusively to be capable of incapacitating a person by electrical charge, including, but not limited to, a stun gun or Taser as defined in subsection (a) of Code Section 16-11-106.

This Policy is not intended to prohibit the possession or use of instruments or devices authorized for the pursuit of the mission of the College. Questions regarding the authorization of such instruments or devices should be directed to the President.

*Chemical sprays kept about the person for personal protection are not prohibited unless used offensively in a malicious or reckless manner.

**Reporting Procedures**

Members of the College Community who encounter an armed or otherwise dangerous person should notify law enforcement 911 authorities first and then the GPTC Police Department as soon as possible.

O.C.G.A.§ 20-2-1184. Reporting of students committing prohibited acts (a) Any teacher or other person employed at any public or private elementary or secondary school or any dean or public safety officer employed by a college or university who has reasonable cause to believe that a student at that school has committed any act upon school property or at any school function, which act is prohibited by any of the following:

- O.C.G.A.§ 16-5-21, relating to aggravated assault if a firearm is involved;
- O.C.G.A.§ 16-5-24, relating to aggravated battery;
- Chapter 6 of Title 16, relating to sexual offenses;
- O.C.G.A.§ 16-11-127, relating to carrying a weapon or long gun in an unauthorized location;
- O.C.G.A.§ 16-11-127.1, relating to carrying weapons at school functions or on school property or within school safety zones;
- O.C.G.A.§ 16-11-132, relating to the illegal possession of a handgun by a person under 18 years of age; or
- O.C.G.A.§ 16-13-30, relating to possession and other activities regarding marijuana and controlled substances, shall immediately report the act and the name of the student to the principal or president of that school or the principal's or president's designee.

(b) The principal or designee who receives a report made pursuant to subsection (a) of this Code section who has reasonable cause to believe that the report is valid shall make an oral
Any person participating in the making of a report or causing a report to be made as authorized or required pursuant to this Code section or participating in any judicial proceeding or any other proceeding resulting therefrom shall in so doing be immune from any civil or criminal liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed, providing such participation pursuant to this Code section is made in good faith.(d) Any person required to make a report pursuant to this Code section who knowingly and willfully fails to do so shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Enforcement Procedures
Possession or use of any prohibited weapon, dangerous instrument, or device will not be tolerated in the College environment. Any College employee or student who is determined to have committed an act prohibited by this Policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or expulsion depending on the severity of the violation and will be reported to law enforcement authorities. Action shall be taken in all cases of a chargeable offense under the provisions of the applicable state law or comparable federal law; however, a conviction of the charged offense shall not be necessary to take action against the employee/student for a violation of this Policy. The employee/student against whom such action is taken shall be entitled to the benefits of the procedures identified in the College Personnel Policy or Student Handbook. Persons not subject to the College Personnel Policy or Student Code of Conduct who are suspected of violating or determined to have violated this Policy will be directed to leave the premises and may be reported to law enforcement authorities for criminal prosecution, as appropriate. Other legal remedies may also be invoked.

Exception Procedures
A member of any law enforcement agency present on college property who is in compliance with any applicable departmental Policy pertaining to the possession of a weapon is excluded from the prohibitions contained in this Policy.

Any member of the College Community who believes he or she has good cause to be excluded from the terms of this Policy may direct a request for an exception to the College President. Exceptions may be granted in the sole discretion of the College President. If an exception is granted, such exception will be identified in writing and include the terms, conditions, and duration of the exception. A copy of the document authorizing an exception to this Policy will be sent to the GPTC Police Department and to any other College official deemed appropriate under the circumstances at least 24 hours in advance of the effective date of the exception.
Violence-Free College Policy

No type of violence will be tolerated on College property or in any place where College students or employees are engaged in College-related activity or in connection with any College-sponsored activity. College employees, students (including persons participating in any activity sponsored by the College) and visitors to the college are directed not to engage in threatening or violent conduct or activities.

The conduct described below constitutes actions that are expressly prohibited on College property or in connection with College-sponsored activities. The list of prohibited activities is designed to provide examples and is not exclusive of other conduct that may constitute a violation of this Policy:

- Causing or threatening to cause physical injury to another person
- Making threatening, abusive or harassing remarks
- Disorderly, aggressive or hostile behavior that creates a reasonable fear in another of injury or subjects another person to emotional distress; such conduct may include shouting, throwing or pushing objects, punching walls or slamming doors
- Intentionally causing damage to College property or to the property of an employee, student or visitor to the College while on College property or in connection with a College-sponsored activity
- Possession of a weapon or dangerous instrument or engaging in any other conduct in violation of the College Policy Prohibiting the Possession of Deadly Weapons, Dangerous Instruments or Devices
- Committing violent or hostile acts motivated by, or related to, race, age, color, national origin, sexual orientation, sex, disability, marital status, sexual harassment or domestic relationships.

Procedures

I. Reporting Procedures

A. Immediate Threat Procedures

Members of the College Community who encounter an armed or otherwise dangerous person should not challenge or attempt to disarm the individual. In such an event, a person confronted by such an individual should proceed as follows:

- If possible, remove yourself from danger otherwise, remain calm
- Maintain eye contact
- Talk to the individual
- Cooperate as much as feasible
- Notify law enforcement authorities first and then the GPTC Police Department as soon as possible.

B. Potentially Dangerous Threat Procedures
Any potentially dangerous situation of which a member of the College Community becomes aware should immediately be reported to a GPTC Police Department. All reported incidents will be investigated. In compliance with the Georgia Piedmont Technical College Crisis Emergency Manual, College officials will actively intervene at any indication of a possibly hostile or violent situation.

While it is not expected that members of the College Community be skilled at identifying potentially dangerous persons, it is expected that, through the exercise of good judgment, persons observing behavior that could signal a potentially dangerous situation or evidence a potentially violent person will report such an observation to the GPTC Police Department.

In addition to the conduct identified in this Policy as prohibited conduct, potentially dangerous behavior or warning signs of a potentially violent person may include:

- Discussion of weapons or bringing weapons onto College property or property used for College-sponsored activities
- Displaying overt signs of extreme stress, resentment, hostility, paranoia or anger; Intimidating, belligerent, harassing, bullying or threatening conduct;
- Sudden or significant deterioration in performance; displaying irrational or disproportionately inappropriate behavior

All members of the College Community are responsible for notifying the GPTC Police Department of any threats, witnessed or received. Even if no actual threat has been made, members of the College Community should report any conduct witnessed which, in the exercise of reasonable judgment, appears threatening or violent, when the behavior is connected to or may be carried out in the College environment.

C. Domestic Violence Procedures

Domestic violence is a serious threat to affected individuals and the place where such individuals work or are engaged in other activities. Members of the College Community who obtain a protective or restraining order that lists College or College-related property as an area to be protected by such order are asked to provide the relevant GPTC Police Department with a copy of the order.

II. Enforcement Procedures

Threats, threatening conduct, or any acts of aggression or violence will not be tolerated in the College environment. Any College employee or student who is determined to have committed an act prohibited by this Policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or expulsion and may be reported to law enforcement authorities.

Disciplinary action shall be taken in cases of chargeable offenses under the provisions of applicable state law or comparable federal law; however, a conviction of the charged offense
shall not be necessary to take action against the employee/student for violation of this Policy. The employee/student against whom such action is taken shall be entitled to the benefits of the procedures identified in the College Personnel Policy or Student Code of Conduct/College Policy for Student Rights & Student Responsibilities. Persons not subject to the College Personnel Policy or Student Code of Conduct/College Policy for Student Rights and Student Responsibilities who violate this Policy will be directed to leave the premises and may be reported to law enforcement authorities for criminal prosecution. Other legal remedies may also be invoked.

“The institution will, upon written request, disclose to the alleged victim of any crime of violence (as that term is defined in Section 16 of title 18, United States Code), or a non-forcible sex offense, the report on the results of any disciplinary proceeding conducted by such institution against a student who is the alleged perpetrator of such crime or offense with respect to such crime or offense. If the alleged victim of such crime or offense is deceased as a result of such crime or offense, the next of kin of such victim shall be treated as the alleged victim for purposes of this paragraph.”

**Georgia Piedmont Technical College Annual Disclosure of Crime Statistics**

GTCPD prepares this report to comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act. The report is available and can be located on our web site at: [www.gptc.edu](http://www.gptc.edu). This report is prepared in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies surrounding our main, satellite campuses, and learning centers. Campus crime, arrest and referral statistics include those reported to the GPTC Police, designated campus officials (including but not limited to directors, deans, department heads, student affairs, and advisors to students/student organizations), and local law enforcement agencies.

Georgia Piedmont Technical College includes in its crime statistics all crimes occurring on or within its Clery Geography that are reported to a campus security authority for purposes of Clery Act Reporting. GPTC does not require initiating an investigation or disclosing personally identifying information about the victim in compliance with the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

Each year, an e-mail notification will be sent to all enrolled students that will provide the website address to access this report. Faculty and Staff will receive a similar notification. Copies of the report may also be obtained from the Office of the Chief of Police located in Building A of the DeKalb Campus.

This report contains crime statistics that have been compiled for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018. The statistics are gathered from January 1 to December 31, each year. Crime statistics for “public property” on each table have been collected from the same listed sources below. The statistics reported have been compiled from data collected from 6 reporting sources:

1) Campus Security Authorities (CSAs)
2) GPTC Police Department
3) DeKalb County Police Department
4) Clarkston Police Department
5) Newton County Sheriff’s Office
6) Rockdale County Sheriff’s Office

**Preparation and Distribution of Annual Report**
The Chief of Police prepares the annual report and statistics. Correspondence is sent to the head of each law enforcement agency with primary response jurisdiction for crime analysis and statistics on college property, adjoining public property and off campus locations. Each year, an e-mail notification is sent to all enrolled students that provides the web site to access this report. Faculty and staff receive a similar notification on the college email service. Copies of the report may also be obtained at the GPTC Police Office, which is in A-166 on the DeKalb Campus.

**DEFINITIONS OF REPORTABLE CRIMES UNDER THE CLERY ACT**

**Murder/Manslaughter:** The willful killing of one human being by another.

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

**Sex Offenses:** Any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly and/or against that person’s will; or not forcibly or against the person’s will where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

**Rape:** The carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly and/or against the person’s will; or not forcibly or against the person’s will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity (or because of his/her youth). The offense includes the rape of males and females.

**Sodomy:** Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, forcibly and/or against that person’s will; or not forcibly and/or against the person’s will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

**Fondling:** The touching of the private parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, forcibly and/or against that person’s will or, not forcibly and/or against the person’s will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

**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.

**Robbery:** 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.

**Aggravated Assault:** An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of
inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. Usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

**Burglary:** An unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft.

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

**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, etc.

**Hate Crimes:** includes all of the crimes listed as reportable by Clery crimes that manifest evidence that a victim was chosen based on one of the categories of bias listed below, plus the following crimes. Hate crimes are defined as criminal offenses that manifest evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator’s bias against the victim.

**Larceny / Theft:** The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. Includes pocket picking, purse snatching, shoplifting, theft from building, theft from motor vehicle, theft of motor vehicle parts or accessories, and all other larceny.

**Vandalism:** To willfully or maliciously destroy, injure, or deface any public or private property, real or personal, without the consent of the owner or person having custody or control by cutting, tearing, breaking, marking, painting, drawing, covering with filth, or any other such means as may be specified by local law.

**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.

**Categories of Bias:**

**Race** – A performed negative attitude toward a group of persons who possess common physical characteristics genetically transmitted by descent and heredity which distinguish them as a distinct division of humankind.

**Gender** – A performed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of persons based on their actual or perceived gender, e.g. male or female.
Religion – A performed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of persons who share the same religious beliefs regarding the origin and purpose of the universe and the existence or nonexistence of a supreme being.

Sexual Orientation – A performed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of persons based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation.

Ethnicity – A performed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of people whose members identify with each other, through a common heritage, often consisting of a common language, common culture (often including a shared religion) and/or ideology that stresses common ancestry.

National Origin – A performed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of people based on their actual or perceived country of birth.

Disability – A performed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of persons based on their physical or mental impairments, whether such disability is temporary or permanent, congenital or acquired by heredity, accident, injury, advanced age or illness.

Gender Identity – A performed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of persons based on their actual or perceived gender identity, e.g., bias against transgender or nonconforming individuals.

Definitions in the Clery Act as defined by the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

Dating Violence: Means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a reporting party’s statement and a consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

Domestic Violence: A felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed:
- By a current or former spouse of the victim;
- By a person with whom the victim shares a child in common;
- By a person cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse;
- By a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred;
- By any person against an adult or youth who is protected from that person’s act under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred.

Stalking: Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to
- Fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or
- Suffer substantial emotional distress
OTHER CLERY ACT REPORTABLE OFFENSES

Liquor Law Violations: the violation of state or local laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, or use of alcoholic beverages, not including driving under the influence and drunkenness.

Drug Abuse Violations: The violation of laws prohibiting the production, distribution, and/or use of certain controlled substances and the equipment or devices utilized in the preparation and/or use. The unlawful cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, use, possession, transportation, or the importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance. Arrests for violations of state and local laws, specifically those relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing, and making of narcotic drugs.

Weapon Law Violations: the violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, concealment, or use of firearms, cutting instruments, explosives, incendiary devices, or deadly weapons.

HATE CRIMES
In the years of 2016, 2017, and 2018, there were no reportable occurrences of Hate Crimes in any of the areas of Clery Geography on any Georgia Piedmont Technical College Campus of the following criminal offenses: Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter and Negligent Manslaughter, Rape, Fondling, Incest, Statutory Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Motor Vehicle Theft, Arson, Simple Assault, Larceny-Theft, Intimidation, and Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence and Stalking. This also includes all categories of prejudice: Race, Religion, Sexual Orientation, Gender, Gender Identity, Disability, Ethnicity, and National Origin.

UNFOUNDED CLERY CRIME REPORTS
In the years of 2016, 2017, and 2018, there were no unfounded Clery Crimes reports in any of the areas of Clery Geography on any Georgia Piedmont Technical College Campus.

ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY REPORT
Georgia Piedmont Technical College does not have residential housing, therefore this section does not apply.
# GPTC Campus Crime Statistics 2016, 2017, 2018

## Georgia Piedmont Technical College DeKalb Campus

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### Campus Crime Statistics
Georgia Piedmont Technical College South DeKalb Campus

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## Georgia Piedmont Technical College Regional Transportation Training Center

### On-Campus Criminal Offenses

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