

Washington University in St. Louis values human dignity and strives to foster an environment in which all community members are respected and able to take part in academic, co-curricular and social activities.

Following these values, Bias Report and Support System (BRSS) is a system supported by the CDI at WashU, in which individuals or groups can submit information to the university about specific instances of bias they have experienced or witnessed involving students within our campus community.

Submissions to the BRSS are informal and are not considered formal complaints. If someone wishes to file a formal complaint of discrimination or harassment, they should submit them to the [Office of Institutional Equity](#).

The BRSS team also facilitates referrals to campus resources for additional support. If you would like to report a bias incident that does not involve a student, please contact [Human Resources](#).

[View/download the BRSS Summative Incident Data Reports, Spring 2014-AY 2024](#) →

If you are concerned about your immediate health and safety or that of someone else, **do not complete the online form**. Please call 911 or WashU Police at [314-935-5555](tel:314-935-5555)

The BRSS team

Supports students who have witnessed or been the target of bias-related incidents.

Refers community members to appropriate university and local resources, and educates reporters on what to expect from each resource.

Informs the university community about the frequency and nature of bias incidents through annual summary reports to assess trends in the campus community climate and areas that may be addressed by the university to promote a welcoming living, learning, and working environment.

The BRSS coordinator also meets with the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs to discuss the campus community's climate.

Bias incidents

A bias incident is any discriminatory or hurtful act that appears to be or is perceived by the victim to be motivated by:

Ethnicity

Age

Religion

National origin

Sex

Disability

Gender identity or expression

Sexual orientation

Veteran status

Socioeconomic status

To be considered an incident

The act is not required to be a crime under any federal, state or local statutes, nor does it have to violate university policy

Filing a report

If you have witnessed an incident of hate, bias and/or discrimination involving a student, you have several options for filing a report:

1. Report online

Complete the [BRSS form](#). **Please note: after you click on the link, make sure to click on the option Bias Report and Support System (BRSS).** Once the online form has been completed, the BRSS coordinator will receive an email notification and assign your report to a BRSS team member.

2. Report by phone

Call the BRSS at [314-935-7535](tel:314-935-7535) during business hours of 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. After-hours calls will be returned during the next business day.

3. Report in person

Provide an in-person report during a meeting with the BRSS coordinator or a BRSS team member. [Schedule a meeting via email](#).

Reporting anonymously

If, for any reason, you do not want to provide identifying information when you file a report, you have the option to fill out the [BRSS form](#) anonymously online by selecting the “For Information Only” option. Please note that a brief description of the incident will be included in the quarterly summary report.

Non-anonymous BRSS reports on the Washington University School of Medicine (WUSM) campus are sent to the assistant provost who assists WUSM students in navigating their programs and connects them with the relevant policies and contacts within those programs.

After your report is filed

If you select the “For Support and Referral” option, a BRSS team member will contact you to schedule an in-person meeting. During this meeting, the team member will:

Listen and support you as you provide details of the incident

Identify campus and community resources to help you understand your options

Walk you through what to expect should you choose to utilize referrals

After your in-person meeting, you will receive an email from your team member to make sure the BRSS has answered your questions and provided appropriate referrals.

Confidentiality

The university will strive to protect, to the greatest extent possible, the confidentiality of persons reporting to the BRSS and of those involved in the reported incident. Because the university may have an obligation to address certain reported incidents, however, the university cannot guarantee complete confidentiality where it would conflict with the university’s obligation to investigate meaningfully or, where warranted, take corrective action. Even when some disclosure of the university’s information or sources is necessary, it will be limited to the extent possible.

You might also visit

You might also visit...

DISABILITY RESOURCES

Official resource for students on the Danforth Campus with disabilities or suspected disabilities

Visit Disability Resources →

WASHU CARES

Connecting to mental, medical, financial and academic resources with supportive case management

Visit WashU Cares →

More Student Affairs departments →

Center for Diversity & Inclusion

Office hours

Monday-Friday: 9:00 a.m.-5 p.m.

Office locations:

CDI North: Women's Building, suite 102

CDI South: Danforth University Center (DUC), suite 150

Mailing address

MSC 1082-414-2555

1 Brookings Drive | St. Louis, MO 63130

[Bias Report & Support System](#)

[Looking for workshops?](#)

[Meet our staff](#)

[Student Affairs Dictionary](#)

[Emergency Support](#)

In a serious or life-threatening situation, you should call upon the emergency support team and ambulance services immediately.

On campus

Call WashU Police: [314-935-5555](tel:314-935-5555)

Off campus

Call: 911

[Visit WashU Police](#)