

can arise from an unwarranted focus on sexual topics or sexually suggestive statements in the classroom. An environment may be hostile if unwelcome sexual behavior is directed specifically at an individual or if the individual merely witnesses unlawful harassment in his or her immediate surroundings.

#### Implementation

This policy assigns ultimate responsibility for implementing the sexual harassment policy to the District Equal Employment Opportunity Officer. He/she shall also be responsible for insuring that other policies and procedures developed related to sexual harassment support this policy.

#### Retaliation

It is unlawful to retaliate against an employee or student who makes a complaint of sexual harassment, who communicates with or contacts District compliance officer(s) or regulatory agencies, or who is a potential witness or participates in any manner in a sexual harassment investigation, hearing, or proceeding.

## Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (SaVE) Act

The Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (SaVE) Act was signed into law in 2013, as part of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Reauthorization. This law mandates increased transparency on campus about incidents of sexual violence, guarantees victims enhanced rights, sets standards for disciplinary proceedings, and requires campus-wide prevention education programs. The Campus SaVE Act amends the [Clery Act](#), which addresses campus sexual assault policies within the Higher Education Act of 1965.

For comprehensive information regarding sexual assault prevention and reporting, as well as campus and community resources, please refer to the Violence Prevention & Advocacy web page at [www.mccd.edu/safety](http://www.mccd.edu/safety), or search "Sexual Assault Help" on the MC website.

## Statement of Informed Consent

Research, including assessment and evaluation of the teaching and learning process, will be conducted at Merced College in established or commonly accepted educational settings and will involve normal educational practices.

Information gathered relating to student knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors will be kept anonymous and/or confidential, and participation shall expose students to no or minimal risk of harm. By enrolling and attending Merced College courses, students have volunteered as subjects, have been fully informed, and have given their consent to participate in education-based research. Students will be fully informed should the research parameters change. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 ([FERPA](#)) is a federal law regulating the privacy of student records and the obligations of the institution, primarily in the areas of release of the records and the access provided to those records. Students are protected under both [FERPA](#) law and the Human Subjects Review process.

#### References:

Merced College Board Policy 5040  
Merced College Administrative Procedure 5040, 5045  
Education Code Sections 76200, 76222, 76232  
Title 5, Section 54600, 54630, 54616  
[Family - Educational - Rights and Privacy Act \(FERPA\)](#)  
[HHS - Office for Human Research Protections](#)

## Student Right-to-Know Disclosure

**Completion Rate: 15.70%**

**Transfer Rate: 10.01%**

**(From 2010 COHORT Data)**

In compliance with the Student-Right-to-Know and Campus Security Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-542), it is the policy of our college district to make available its completion and transfer rates to all current and prospective students. Beginning in Fall 2010, a cohort of all certificate-, degree-, and transfer-seeking first-time, full-time students were tracked over a three-year period. Their completion and transfer rates are listed above. These rates do not represent the success rates of the entire student population at the College nor do they account for student outcomes occurring after this three-year tracking period.

Based upon the cohort defined above, a Completer is a student who attained a certificate or degree or became 'transfer prepared' during a three-year period, from Fall 2010 to Spring 2013. Students who have completed 60 transferable units with a GPA of 2.0 or better are considered 'transfer- prepared'. Students who transferred to another post-secondary institution, prior to attaining a degree, certificate, or becoming 'transfer-prepared' during a five-semester period, from Spring 2011 to Spring 2013, are transfer students.

More information about Student Right-To-Know Rates and how they should be interpreted can be found at the California Community Colleges "Student Right-To-Know Information Clearinghouse Website" located at <http://srtk.cccco.edu/index.asp>

## Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Section 504 is also known as the "Access Law." It provides program and physical access for students with disabilities. The law states that: "No otherwise qualified individual in the United States...shall, solely by reason of disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." When providing aid, benefit or service, public entities must provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to participate that are as effective as the opportunities provided to others.

MCCD 504 Coordinator Phone: (209) 384-6192

Address: Merced College; 3600 M Street; Merced, CA 95348

The procedures for filing a complaint may be obtained from persons listed above.