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# STUDENT SAFETY GUIDE





Dear new student:

Safety is vitally important to every member of the UVA community. As a student, if your safety is compromised, your opportunity to learn and grow is also compromised. Because we value safety, all of us in this community share a sense of responsibility for ourselves and for one another. Please take time to learn about the safety resources that are available to you and how you can improve safety for yourself and for others. Together, we can ensure the safest community possible.

Very truly yours,

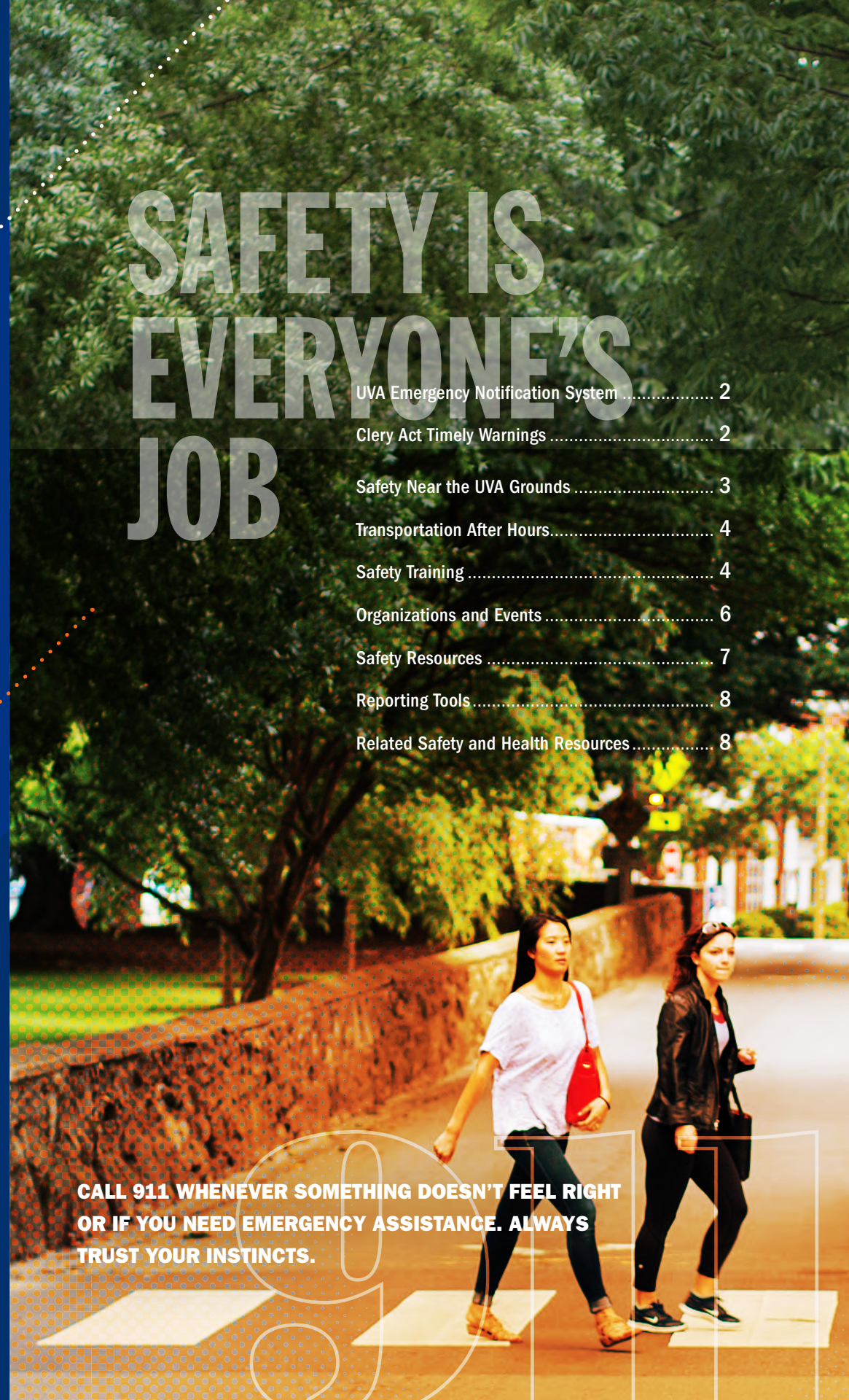


Teresa A. Sullivan  
President

# SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S JOB

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**CALL 911 WHENEVER SOMETHING DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT  
OR IF YOU NEED EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE. ALWAYS  
TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS.**





# UVA Emergency Notification System

In an emergency, the University uses multiple systems to quickly make community members aware of a threat and the steps to take to stay safe.

In case of an imminent threat, one or more of the following notifications will be used:

## UVA ALERTS

Notifies registered users through text messages and email. Students can register parents and others. Sign up at [www.virginia.edu/uvaalerts](http://www.virginia.edu/uvaalerts).

## SIREN AND PUBLIC ADDRESS BROADCASTS

Outdoor warning system audible throughout many areas of the Grounds.

## UNIVERSITY EMAIL

Notifies everyone with an @virginia.edu account.

## ALERT NOTICES

Appear on UVA home page, [www.virginia.edu](http://www.virginia.edu), and on UVA emergency home page, [www.virginia.edu/emergency](http://www.virginia.edu/emergency).

## DESKTOP NOTIFICATIONS

For all registered users. Students can register at <http://uvaemergency.virginia.edu/alertus-desktop>.

## LCD AND LED SCREEN MESSAGING

In classrooms and public spaces.

## CLERY ACT TIMELY WARNINGS

To provide timely notice to the University community in the event of a crime that may pose a serious or ongoing threat, the University Police Department (UPD) may issue a "timely warning," generally for the following crimes: arson; aggravated assault; criminal homicide; robbery; burglary; rape, fondling, incest, statutory rape; and hate crimes. Timely warnings also may be issued for other Clery Act crimes as deemed necessary. The purpose of a timely warning is to notify the University community of the incident and to provide information that may enable community members to better protect themselves from similar incidents.

UPD will issue a timely warning whenever the following criteria are met: (1) a Clery Act crime is reported, (2) the crime occurred in a Clery reportable location, (3) the perpetrator has not been apprehended, and (4) there is a serious or ongoing threat to the campus community because of this crime.

In certain circumstances, an incident may not meet the criteria of a Clery Act Crime, but may constitute a serious or ongoing threat to the University community. When a timely warning is not required by law, the Chief of Police and/or the Assistant Vice President for Clery Compliance (or designee) may choose to issue a "community alert" via email notifying the campus community of the threat. The content of a community alert may vary depending on the type of incident reported and the location where it occurred.

## SAFETY NEAR THE UVA GROUNDS

### UVA Ambassadors

The University provides Ambassadors who patrol a broad area off Grounds where students live and spend time. Ambassadors are *not* police, and they are *not* armed. They provide "eyes and ears" on the street, helping students and anyone else who needs assistance.

Ambassadors patrol on foot, on bicycle, and in vehicles in densely populated areas, including the Corner (the business area near UVA that students frequent).

On foot, Ambassadors cover an area from University Avenue to Preston Avenue, and from Rugby Road to 14th Street, as well as along Wertland Street. Ambassadors on bikes extend further, patrolling east along West Main Street to Ridge Street, and south on Jefferson Park Avenue to Maury Avenue. For the full territory, see the zone map on the Ambassadors website.

Ambassadors are highly visible – look for their neon shirts – and highly engaged with the community. You should feel free to approach them to ask for a walking escort or for help in calling Safe Ride, a taxi, or an ambulance. Ambassadors also can assist you to get help for someone else.

Ambassadors are **not** a substitute for calling 911.

See <http://ambassadors.uvapolice.virginia.edu>.

### Public Safety Substation

A Public Safety Substation located in the heart of the Corner is staffed by Ambassadors 24/7. The substation increases the presence of University Police and city of Charlottesville Police in the area by providing a location for officers to carry out administrative duties.

Students can use the substation as a place to get non-emergency help on the Corner or as a meeting place to wait for friends or a ride. The substation is **not** a substitute for calling 911.

# SAFETY REMINDERS

## PERSONAL SAFETY

- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Avoid isolated areas.
- Avoid walking alone at night. Use Safe Ride, walk with friends, or take a late-night weekend bus.
- Use the lighted pathway system.
- Tell a friend where you are going and when you will return.
- Do not hesitate to contact police, by calling 911, about a person or situation that does not seem right. You will not have to give your name to police. Even if everything is fine, University Police do not in any way consider this "bothering" them.

## RESIDENCE HALL SAFETY

- Remember: Your RA is a resource for safety concerns.
- Never allow strangers to follow you into the building by "tailgating" when you use your card-key.
- Call 911 if you see someone in the building who seems suspicious.
- Never prop open card-reader doors or leave room doors open.
- Secure doors and windows prior to leaving.

## PEDESTRIAN AND BIKING SAFETY

- Use caution when crossing the street, especially in the dark. Cross only in designated areas, and do not let music or a cell phone conversation distract you.
- At crosswalks with Rapid Flashing Beacons, remember to push the button to activate the lights.
- Likewise, use caution when bicycling. Wear a helmet and reflective clothing, and follow all rules of the road, whether you are a biker or motorist.
- Register your bike with UPD at [www.virginia.edu/uvapolice/registration.html](http://www.virginia.edu/uvapolice/registration.html).



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## TRANSPORTATION AFTER HOURS

### Late Night Bus Service

The University Transit Service normally operates until 12:30 a.m., but on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights when school is in session, bus service is extended until 2:30 a.m. These late night buses run approximately every 20 minutes along the Northline and U-Loop outer routes.

**Use Transloc, a bus tracking app, for live service predictions at <http://uva.transloc.com>.**

### Safe Ride

Safe Ride is an on-demand van shuttle service intended to provide UVA students with safe transportation in lieu of walking alone when UTS buses are not in service.

Safe Ride operates within a specific service area to maximize van availability and minimize wait times. Rides may be requested via Transloc OnDemand (an online or mobile app that requires registration) or by calling **434.242.1122**. Ride requests will be grouped with nearby pick-up and drop-off points.

**See [www.virginia.edu/parking/saferide](http://www.virginia.edu/parking/saferide).**

### HOURS DURING FALL AND SPRING SEMESTERS:

- Overnight Sunday through Wednesday: 12:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m.
- Overnight Thursday through Saturday: 2 a.m. to 7:30 a.m.

### HOURS DURING SUMMER AND ACADEMIC BREAKS:

- Hours vary. See the Safe Ride website at [www.virginia.edu/parking/saferide](http://www.virginia.edu/parking/saferide)
- Safe Ride does not operate on certain holidays. Check the [service schedule](#).

### Charge-a-Ride (with Yellow Cab)

Students who find themselves in uncomfortable situations with no reliable or safe means of local transportation and no money for cab fare can call Yellow Cab Charge-a-Ride at 434.295.4131.

**Using your valid UVA ID card**, you can charge the ride to UVA and be billed via the Student Information System—no questions asked.

**For more information, see <http://odos.virginia.edu/areas-services#ride>.**

### UBike

UVA's bike-sharing program, UBIke, provides access to bicycles across 21 conveniently located UBIke hubs on Grounds. The bikes can be taken from one hub and returned to another, allowing students to cover a lot of ground in a short amount of time. UBIke requires purchase of a subscription online.

**For more information and to download the app, go to <http://ubike.virginia.edu>.**

## SAFETY TRAINING

### R.A.D. Self-Defense Training

UVA police officers lead classes in self-defense for students. R.A.D. (Rape Aggression Defense) instruction is designed for female students and covers escape, physical attack, personal awareness, risk avoidance, community assistance, and procedures for prosecution. Self-defense training also is available for male students.

**For more information, contact UPD Officer Rexrode at [br7u@virginia.edu](mailto:br7u@virginia.edu).**

### Fire Safety Training

UVA's Office of Environmental Health and Safety provides comprehensive fire and life safety programs, serving as a model for other colleges and universities.

**See [www.ehs.virginia.edu](http://www.ehs.virginia.edu).**

**Fire Drills.** UVA fire professionals conduct drills in all residence halls to ensure that students understand how to evacuate and where to assemble. By state code, four drills are required per year. The first drill is conducted within the first 10 days of classes, and at least one drill is conducted at night.

**Mandatory Residence Hall Fire Inspections.** The State Fire Marshal's Office is required to conduct inspections of UVA residence halls. About 25 percent of all rooms are randomly selected for inspection. Notices are written for violations.

**Courtesy Inspections for Residence Halls.** UVA fire safety inspectors are available to educate and assist students in residence halls in correcting fire safety issues and violations upon request. This service is educational and informative; no violations are issued during these voluntary inspections.

**Safety Presentations.** University fire professionals are available to review evacuation procedures, fire prevention information and tips, fire protection systems, testing of smoke alarms, and other safety topics. Available to small groups upon request.

**To request services, contact [fire-safety@virginia.edu](mailto:fire-safety@virginia.edu).**

### Green Dot

Green Dot is an evidence-informed bystander intervention program designed to prevent power-based personal violence (sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking) by increasing positive bystander behaviors. Green Dot trainings, offered to students, faculty, and staff, provide participants with the skills to know how and when to safely intervene in a concerning situation. In addition to skill-building, the Green Dot program is a community mobilization strategy that gives people the framework and support they need to maintain a culture in which violence is not tolerated and everyone is expected to do their part to create a safe environment. Students are invited to learn more and get involved in Green Dot.

**See <http://notonourgrounds.virginia.edu/greendot>.**

## SAFETY REMINDERS

### ALCOHOL AND PERSONAL SAFETY

- If you choose to drink, the following tips can reduce your risk:
- **Pace and space.** Sip your drink instead of chugging, alternate with water or soda, and have no more than one drink per hour.
- **Eat before and while drinking.** Alcohol is absorbed into the bloodstream more slowly when there is food, especially protein, in your stomach
- **Avoid mixing alcohol with other drugs.** Some prescription and over-the-counter drugs (for example, antihistamines and sedatives) can increase alcohol's effects, even to the point of overdose. Caffeine and other stimulants can trick you into feeling less impaired.
- **Use caution when sick or tired.** When you are sleep-deprived or ill, alcohol enters the blood stream more quickly.
- **Be aware of your environment.** Alcohol can cause greater impairment when drinking different beverages or in new locations that are not typical for you.
- **Avoid "punches" and other drinks you did not make yourself.** They often include high concentration alcohol masked by a sweet taste.
- **Stay in a group** in which at least one person does not drink that night.
- **Nearly all UVA students (90 percent)** believe it is their responsibility to intervene when they notice a problem situation.
- **Never leave a drunken friend alone.** A person's Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) may continue to rise after passing out or stopping drinking. Use **PUBS** as a guide to the symptoms of alcohol overdose:
  - **P**uking while passed out.
  - **U**nresponsive to stimulation (pinch or shaking).
  - **B**reathing (slow, shallow, or no breathing).
  - **S**kin (blue, cold, or clammy).
- If you see even one sign of alcohol overdose, call 911.
- If you are unsure, call the Poison Center at 800.222.1222 for confidential, expert advice.

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## ORGANIZATIONS AND EVENTS

### Student Council Safety and Wellness Committee

Student Council's Safety and Wellness Committee serves as the primary advocate for student safety at UVA. The committee seeks to create an environment in which safety- and wellness-related organizations can collaborate on initiatives and work to educate the student body on available resources. Contact Taylor Overton (tco4ca@virginia.edu) and Logan Brich (lab8cu@virginia.edu), the committee co-chairs, with any questions or concerns.

### UVA Security and General Safety Committee

The Security and General Safety Committee receives suggestions and recommendations for improvement of safety conditions in various University facilities and reports its findings to the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. The committee encourages the practice of safety procedures in everyday routines and recommends training programs for the University community.

**Contact the Office of Safety and Emergency Preparedness at 434.982.0565.**

**Night Tours.** The committee conducts annual fall and spring night tours to assess safety conditions across Grounds in darkness.

**Students are encouraged to submit suggested locations for night tours to [osep@virginia.edu](mailto:osep@virginia.edu).**

**Pedestrian Crosswalks.** The University is continuously improving pedestrian crosswalks and has recently installed a crosswalk warning system called Rapid Flashing Beacons (RFBs). RFBs allow the University to put more lights in more locations across the Grounds. The main key to using the RFB: Pedestrians must **push the button** to activate the lights.

# 911



# SAFETY

## SAFETY RESOURCES

### Automated External Defibrillators

The University maintains the most robust public access defibrillation program among all colleges in the United States, providing more than 260 Automated External Defibrillators in its academic and administrative buildings, intramural-recreational sports locations, and athletic facilities.

**Specific locations and other information are available at [www.virginia.edu/emergency/aed](http://www.virginia.edu/emergency/aed).**

### Emergency Phones

More than 480 emergency phones are located throughout Grounds and nearby areas where students live and congregate. The phones include blue-light phones (the most common model) and other phones that are located along frequently traveled pathways, in parking lots, garages, and in some buildings.

To use the phone, simply push the button or pick up the phone (depending on the model) to be immediately connected to University Police. (Off-Grounds phones near the Corner connect to the 911 dispatcher.) If for any reason you cannot remain at a phone, you should push the buttons on the phones that you pass; police will respond to that area.

## SAFETY REMINDERS

### SUMMONING HELP

- Call 911 from any phone, including your cell phone. You will be connected to a regional dispatcher who will send help based on your location.
- If on Grounds, just push a button on a blue-light telephone. You automatically will be connected to University Police.

### HOME/APARTMENT SAFETY

- Keep doors and windows locked.
- Use outdoor lighting.
- Trim shrubs and trees to prevent the possibility of prowlers hiding in dense, darkened areas.
- If you see any of the following, immediately call 911: a prowler; someone peeping into a residence; an individual who seems out of place and is watching, photographing, or filming an area; or any other behavior that under the circumstances seems odd or suspicious.
- Work with your neighbors and fellow community members to ensure a safe environment.

### MAKE SAFETY A ROUTINE

- Be familiar with all available safety resources, and use them.
- Make safety part of planning your day or an event. When you go out, especially to socialize, follow the plan you've created with your friends for getting there and getting back safely. Check in with your friends throughout the evening, and make sure everyone leaves together.
- Be an active bystander — within your own comfort level. When your "gut" tells you things aren't right, do what you can — comfortably and safely — to confront the situation.
- Learn about the Green Dot initiative at UVA and all the ways you can help prevent power-based violence.

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## REPORTING TOOLS

### Just Report It

Civility and respect are cornerstones of the community of trust at the University of Virginia. Any student who believes he or she has been the target of bias may file a complaint through the “Just Report It” incident reporting system. The website provides complete details, including UVA’s definition of “bias complaint,” what to expect in response from the University when such a complaint is received, how to preserve evidence, and what resources and support are available. Complaints can be filed online, over the telephone, or in person. See [www.virginia.edu/justreportit](http://www.virginia.edu/justreportit).

### Report a Safety Hazard

Anyone can make the University aware of a safety concern (such as cracked steps or a malfunctioning emergency phone or AED) via this online tool at [www.virginia.edu/emergency/safety](http://www.virginia.edu/emergency/safety).

### Report a Barrier

This online tool, administered by the ADA Coordinator in the University’s Office for Equal Opportunity and Civil Rights (EOCR), facilitates the reporting of barriers that would prevent individuals with disabilities (including students, faculty, staff, and visitors) from equally accessing and participating in University programs, services, or activities.

See <http://reportabARRIER.virginia.edu>.

### TipSoft

This confidential platform allows members of the community to supply information or tips to the University Police. You can submit tips through UPD’s website at [www.virginia.edu/uvapolice](http://www.virginia.edu/uvapolice) or use the TipSubmit app.

**For an emergency, or to report a crime or an act or threat of violence in progress, call 911 immediately.**

### Safety Apps

For help in an emergency, dial 911 on any phone or press the word “emergency” on the locked screen of a mobile phone.

As technology advances, the University continues to evaluate safety applications. Students are free to choose the app that works best for them, especially since apps change frequently. “Circle of 6” is a free app for iPhone and Android that quickly connects you with six friends of your choice. This offers you the advantage of choosing local friends who can help you when you may need it.

## RELATED SAFETY AND HEALTH RESOURCES

### Counseling and Psychological Services

CAPS, an outpatient clinic located in Student Health, offers clinical services, suicide prevention programming, and other educational outreach. Clinical services include psychological and psychiatric assessment; referral and care management; individual, couples, and group psychotherapy; psychiatric medication services; in-person emergency services; and after-hours on-call crisis consultation.

See <http://www.virginia.edu/studenthealth/caps.html>.

To reach CAPS, call 434.243.5150 during business hours. For emergencies after 5 p.m. and on weekends, call 911 or 434.297.4261.

### Sexual Violence Support

UVA takes gender-based violence seriously and provides support and information to survivors, friends and families of survivors, and the University community. Through presentations, training, and ongoing programming, students will receive information about this issue during Summer Orientation and throughout the academic year. The University’s comprehensive Title IX website provides information on resources and reporting options.

See <http://eocr.virginia.edu/title-ix>.

### Gordie Center for Substance Abuse Prevention

Student Health’s Gordie Center for Substance Abuse Prevention coordinates University-wide alcohol and other drug abuse prevention strategies and support for students in recovery.

See <http://gordiecenter.studenthealth.virginia.edu>.

# IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

## EMERGENCY – 911

(All telephone numbers are Area Code 434)

### Building Issues

924.1777

### Charge-A-Ride (with Yellow Cab)

295.4131

### Hazing Hotline

243.4293

**Inclement Weather** (recording) 924.7669  
or 243.7669

**Office of the Dean of Students** 924.7133

### Safe Ride

242.1122

### Sexual Assault Resource Agency

977.7273

### Student Health

924.5362

### Title IX Office

297.7988

### UVA Police

non-emergency only  
924.7166

[virginia.edu/emergency](http://virginia.edu/emergency)

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

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[uvaparents.virginia.edu](http://uvaparents.virginia.edu)  
434.924.1310  
800.688.9882