

Sex Offender Policy

BOT Approved: May 21, 2019; March 15, 2022
October 2021 update approved by Board March 15, 2022.

PURPOSE:

At Garrett College, safety and security on campus is of paramount importance. The College will make every effort to ensure the safety and security of the campus community and its visitors.

POLICY:

Garrett College requires registered sex offenders (RSOs) to self-disclose their status and receive approval from the College prior to registering for courses (credit and/or non-credit) or participating in programs.

The College has an open-door admissions practice. However, the College has the right to deny (or revoke) admissions to those persons whom the College considers to be a potential danger to the safety, security, and educational environment of the College. Such persons shall be afforded due process as required by law.

With regard to hiring, the College will not hire any registered sex offender.

PROCEDURES:

In accordance with the Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act, the Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act, and the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, colleges and universities are required to provide information on how to access the sex offender registry. The Maryland sex offender registry provides information on registered sex offenders enrolled or employed at all Maryland institutions of higher education. This information may be accessed via the internet at www.dpscs.state.md.us/sorSearch.

Prior to enrolling in any course or participating in any program at Garrett College, RSOs are required to register at the College's Campus Security office. Disclosure of information provided to Campus Security will be provided to the Chief Student Affairs Officer (CSAO) or designee. The CSAO, or designee, will decide to deny, revoke, or institute conditions of admission or attendance at the college, based upon the individual's specific situation. **Additional campus notifications will be initiated as deemed necessary.** Failure to register with the Campus Security office may result in disciplinary action proceedings, as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct, up to and including expulsion.

The College will not hire a registered sex offender; therefore, sex offenders should not apply for vacant positions or the work-study program. Employment candidates are subject to a background check, which includes criminal convictions. A sex offense conviction will make the applicant not eligible for employment or an employment interview. Failure of an employee to report a sex offense conviction during the application process or during his or her term of employment will result in immediate job termination.