April 10, 2020

Campus Safety Study

S.B. 80, Campus Safety Amendments, requires the State Board of Regents to study and make recommendations for providing public safety services on college and university campuses. The study and any recommendations are due on or before the November 2021 Education Interim Legislative Committee meeting. The Office of the Commissioner will work closely with board leadership and legislative sponsors to establish a primary committee representing institutions, law enforcement, and advocacy organizations as the principals of the study, chaired by a Regent. The committee will rely on additional practitioners, institution leaders, and subject matter experts to inform the study.

Scope of Study

- Policies and practices for hiring, supervision, and firing of campus law enforcement officers.
- Training of campus law enforcement in responding to incidents of sexual violence or other crimes reported by or involving a student, including training related to lethality or similar assessments.
- How campus law enforcement and local law enforcement respond to reports of incidents of sexual violence or other crimes reported by or involving a student, including supportive measures for victims and disciplinary actions for perpetrators.
- Training provided to faculty, staff, students, and student organizations on campus safety and prevention of sexual violence.
- Roles, responsibilities, jurisdiction, and authority of local law enforcement and campus law enforcement.
- How an institution and local law enforcement coordinate to respond to on-campus and off-campus incidents requiring public safety services.
- Any issues that may affect the timeliness of a response to an on-campus or off-campus incident reported by or involving a student.
- Infrastructure, staffing, and equipment considerations that impact the effectiveness of campus law enforcement or local law enforcement responses to an on-campus or off-campus incident reported by or involving a student.
- The benefits and disadvantages of an institution employing campus law enforcement compared to local law enforcement providing public safety services on an institution campus.
- An institution’s compliance with federal and state crime statistic reporting requirements.
- How an institution informs faculty, staff, and students about a crime or emergency on campus.
• National best practices for providing public safety services on institution campuses, including differences in best practices based on the size, infrastructure, location, and other relevant characteristics of a college or university.

External Partners (Tentative)
  • Utah Department of Health
  • Utah Office for Victims of Crime
  • Utah Council on Victims of Crime
    local law, districts or special service districts that provide 911 and emergency dispatch service
  • Utah Domestic Violence Coalition
  • Utah Coalition Against Sexual Violence

Commissioner’s Recommendation
This is an information item; no action is required.