

Stanford | Student Affairs

STUDENT SAFETY FAQS

November 8, 2019

Recent cases

Can you quickly summarize the recent cases?

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) has received six reports from campus security authorities of possible druggings on campus since the start of fall quarter. In two of these cases, the victims said they were also sexually assaulted. In addition, DPS recently learned of a seventh case involving a Stanford student at a San Jose bar. [You can read all the alerts here.](#)

The alerts mention a Campus Security Authority (CSA). What's that?

CSA is a term defined by the Clery Act, a federal law that requires the university to send alerts and publish an annual safety report including crime data. In addition to police officers and security officers, CSAs include individuals with significant responsibility for student and campus activities, such as resident assistants, resident fellows, advisors to student clubs, and athletic coaches. The CSAs who reported the possible druggings to DPS are residential staff including resident assistants, peer health educators, and residence deans. [You can read the latest annual safety report here.](#)

What is Stanford doing about these cases?

We are providing support to those directly impacted. Residential Education is supporting student residential staff and resident fellows, who are in turn working with student communities. DPS is notifying the community by sending alerts and participating in preventative messaging efforts. In order to investigate these matters, DPS needs the cooperation and participation of the community.

What is Stanford doing about sexual assault?

According to a recent study, 38.5 percent of undergraduate women who have attended Stanford for four years or more report having experienced some form of nonconsensual sexual contact by physical force, the inability to consent, coercion or without voluntary agreement. Despite many efforts at Stanford over the years, it is evident that much more needs to be done. [This message](#) outlines the university's next steps.

“Date rape” drugs**Where can I get detailed information?**

This [email message](#) to all students and [this website](#).

What is a date rape drug?

It's a general term for drugs misused to facilitate sexual assault. GHB, Ketamine and Rohypnol are common ones.

What do date rape drugs look like?

They come in pill, capsule or liquid form.

How are date rape drugs used?

They're usually mixed into drinks. Generally, you can't detect them, although some do alter the taste of a liquid.

How do people get date rape drugs?

They're purchased, legally or illegally, in this country and abroad.

How to stay safe

How can I keep myself safe?

Don't accept a drink that's open or mixed outside your presence. Don't leave your drink unattended. Go to events with trusted friends and agree to look out for each other's well-being.

How can party planners keep partygoers safe?

Have a single point of beverage service so you can monitor all beverages.

What does it feel like if I've been drugged?

Some drugs are depressants, so you'll feel very intoxicated very quickly. Ketamine can cause hallucinations and heart palpitations.

What to do if you've been drugged

What should I do if I've been drugged?

Seek medical treatment as soon as possible and disclose to your health care provider that you may have ingested a predatory drug without your consent. Ideally, involve law enforcement as soon as possible, file a crime report, and provide a blood or urine sample to the police for testing.

Who can help me?

If you or someone else needs immediate and potentially life-threatening emergency medical care, call 911. On campus, Stanford DPS will document an incident and, if the victim provides information or wants the matter to be pursued, the police will conduct an investigation. You can also contact the on-call residence dean 24-7 at (650) 504-8022.

How can I get tested?

The best way to determine if you have been drugged is to contact law enforcement and provide a blood or urine sample as soon as possible and no later than 12 hours after ingestion. The crime lab will only test samples when a victim is willing to have the matter investigated for criminal prosecution. Some emergency departments have the capacity to order a toxicology screen that can test for predatory drugs; however, unless it is necessary for treatment, a doctor might not order this test and/or health insurance coverage might not pay for the test if it is not medically necessary.

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