

IU All Campuses - Crime Prevention Page

Safety Tips When on Campus

- Walk with a friend, whenever possible.
- Stay alert and tuned into your surroundings. Don't be distracted with loud headphones.
- Walk with confidence - show that you're aware and in control. Body language works.
- Trust your instincts. If something or someone makes you uneasy, get out or away.
- Try to avoid jogging or biking alone. If you must: Stick to well-lit, well-traveled areas. No shortcuts through wooded areas, parking lots or alleys.
- Never hitchhike. It's not worth the risk!
- Out late studying? Call a friend or family member. On campus call for an escort. This service is provided at each of the campuses:
 - IU in Bloomington: (812) 855-SAFE(7233). This is available Sunday - Thursday: 8 p.m. to 1:45 a.m., and Friday/Saturday 8 p.m. to 11:45 p.m. While summer classes are in session, our hours are 8 p.m. to 11:45 p.m., 7 days a week.
 - IUPUC in Columbus: (812) 348-SAFE(7233). This is available 5pm-11pm daily.
 - IUPUI in Indianapolis: (317) 274- SAFE(7233) This is a 24/7 service.
 - IU Kokomo: contact IUPD at (765) 455-9363 This is available Monday thru Friday, 8:00am until 10:30pm, Saturday, 8:00am until 5:00pm and on Sunday, 12:00pm until 9:00pm
 - IU Northwest in Gary: Contact IUPD at (219) 980-6501. This is a 24/7 service.
 - IU East in Richmond: Contact IUPD at (765) 973-8429. This is available Monday-Thursday 8:00 am- 9:00 pm. Friday 8:00 am- 5:00 pm. Saturday 8:30 am- 12:30 pm
 - IU South Bend: (574) 520-4239. This is a 24/7 service to vehicles or campus buildings.
 - IU Southeast in New Albany: (812) 941-2400. This is a 24/7 service.

Your Campus - Your Community

- Know your neighbors, whether you live at home or with a roommate. Discuss what is happening in your community and neighborhood. Stay aware of your surroundings.
- Report any crimes witnessed to the police. Call the police if you see others in distress.

A Safe Workplace - It Starts with You

- Lock the building doors behind you when you leave at night, or if your campus has IUPD lock up, call them prior to leaving.

- Know the exact location of the exits in your building.
- Store office keys in a secure place and do not allow unauthorized persons to handle them.
- Your purse and wallet should be kept with you at all times or locked in a drawer or cabinet.
- Engrave all office equipment and personal items with your name or initials and identification numbers and secure them in place if possible.
- Report any non-working lights, doors that do not lock or shut properly to Facilities Management, maintenance, and security.
- Check the identification of any strangers who ask for confidential information or any deliver or repair persons who want to enter an area restricted to employees. Don't be afraid to call for verification or contact your supervisor.
- Always let someone know where you will be.

Parking Lot Sense

- Park in well-lighted, heavy traveled areas if possible. Move your car to a better location at noon or when other employees begin to leave for the day if you had to park further out.
- If you are work late call your campus escort program (See numbers above) or co-worker to walk you to the parking lot.
- If you notice any suspicious people in the parking lot notify the IUPD immediately.
- Don't leave valuable items in plain view inside the car. Leave them at home or in the trunk.
- When you approach your car, have your key ready and check the floor and back seat before you get in.

When to Call the Police

Don't hesitate to call 911 or your campus police phone number whenever you see or hear something suspicious. If you wish to remain anonymous, you may do so. When calling the police, be prepared to help them help you. Be ready to identify the nature of the incident, the location, time, persons or property involved, and anything unusual or distinctive about the incident or persons involved.

A. Suspicious Persons

B. Other Unusual Situations

C. Solicitation

D. Medical Emergencies

E. If You Sense A Threat

- Assess the situation, then take action.

- Move away from the potential threat. Cross the street head towards a well-lit public place and call the police immediately.
- If you believe a threatened join any group of people nearby or help you yell, scream, or make a commotion in any way you can to get their attention.
- Emergency Strobe phones are there for your use.
- If you see someone else in trouble call the police immediately.

If You are a Victim - What do I do?

- Stay calm, try not to panic or show any signs of anger or confusion. If you are confronted by an armed robber, cooperate. Don't risk physical harm. Call the IUPD as soon as possible. A good description will be vital to police. Important things to look for are height and weight, race, sex, age, color of hair and haircut, complexion, facial hair (beard, moustache, sideburns), color of eyes and eyeglasses, scars or other unusual marks, tattoos, speech including accent or lisp, clothing, jewelry, weapon, vehicle color and make, license and direction of escape.
- Contact your local victim services agency, mental health center, or student services. They can assist you in coping with the trauma that any victimization causes. Please visit <https://protect.iu.edu/police/savevawa/resources> for a list of resources.

Wherever You Live

- Keep police and emergency numbers near your telephone.
- Lock all doors and windows whenever you leave. Take your keys with you, even if you leave for only a short time.
- Do not attach your address or room number to your key chain.
- Do not lend your keys to service people or anyone you do not know and trust.
- Always identify visitors by asking for identification before you let them in.
- If a stranger asks to use your telephone, do not open your door. Call emergency assistance for him/her.

Using Public Transportation

- Wait for the bus at well-lit stops when possible and be alert of your surroundings.
- Let the driver and other riders know if anyone on the bus harasses you or makes you feel uncomfortable.
- Notice who else gets off at your stop. If you feel you are being followed, try to draw attention to yourself by walking in the middle of the street, yelling, getting to a public area, etc.

When Driving

- Drive on well-traveled streets and never pick up hitchhikers.
- If you are deliberately forced to stop your vehicle, lock the doors, roll up the windows and sound the horn for help.
- If you are being followed or harassed by someone in another vehicle, do not drive home, drive to a well-lit public place or the police/fire department if possible. If you are followed as you turn into your driveway at night, stay in your car with the doors locked until you identify the occupants of the other car. Sound your horn to get help.
- If your car breaks down, raise the hood, and then stay inside with doors locked. If someone stops to help, do not open your window or door or accept a ride. Ask them to call for help.
- If you see a parked vehicle requiring assistance, do not stop. Go to a telephone and call for aid for them.

Telephone Safety

- Do not give out personal information over the phone. For example, if a caller gets a wrong number, do not offer information about yourself, your address or your telephone number.
- It is a good practice to indicate that you are not alone when speaking to someone on the phone or in person, e.g. "we are busy now."
- Give thought as to how you are listed in the telephone directory and on your mailbox. Some women use two initials and a last name only.
- Hang up if the caller does not say anything, on the first obscene word, or if the caller does not provide identification to your satisfaction. Do not slam down the receiver and therefore admit that the call bothers you. Just hang up as you would normally.
- If calls continue, do not hesitate to notify the police. Keep a log of when the call was received, exactly what was said by both parties, a description of the voice (young, old, hoarse, accent, etc.) or any background noise.

Holiday Break Safety Tips

- Lock all windows and doors at your residence and unplug any electronics.
- If you must leave a vehicle, leave it in a well-lit, regularly frequented area, and lock all doors and roll up windows.
- Have a friend that is staying in town check on your residence for any unusual activity.
- Do not broadcast or post on social media sites that you are leaving or for how long you will be gone.