



Safety and Security at New York University

How safe is the campus?

The University is committed to the safety and well-being of its students, faculty, and staff, and we strive to ensure the safety of the campus community by employing a large, well-trained, 24/7 corps of public safety officers; by making sure the grounds are well lit, well patrolled, and well traveled; by offering education and guidance so that members of the community can effectively contribute to their own safety; and by cultivating and maintaining a close, excellent relationship with the New York City Police department and New York City governmental authorities. New York University is located in one of the safest areas of the New York City, the safest large city in the U.S., and our campus has a reputation for attentiveness to security and – particularly given its geographical size, location, and population size – for a relatively low amount of crime, particularly serious crime. Still, crime does occur on and around our campus, as it does on all college campuses, and we are constantly striving to improve campus security and emphasizing the importance of incorporating safety into one's daily routine.. Campus crime statistics are updated daily and are available 24 hours a day at Public Safety's Central Command Center, which is located in the center of campus at 14 Washington Place. Our annual crime statistics are published every fall and are also available online and at various locations around campus.

Who provides campus security?

The University Public Safety Department is the principal provider of security. The force, which is led by a former three-star chief of the New York City Police Department, includes 330 uniformed NYS state certified Public Safety officers and 20 mid- and senior level supervisors who serve the campus community 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The University Public Safety Department, often working in conjunction with other campus offices, offer crime prevention and security programs, including training in theft prevention, alcohol/drug awareness, sexual assault prevention, and personal defense. Transportation services, emergency phones, a safe haven program, green light buildings and an escort service are also part of campus safety programming.

What about the safety of students living in the residence halls?

At least one uniformed Public Safety Officer is assigned to the entrance of every residence hall on a 24/7 basis to check every person entering the building and maintain a safe environment. The Department works closely with the Residential Education Department, its staff, and NYU's 300+ resident assistants (RA's) and 50 Peer Educators to offer special programs on safety as well as on assault, theft, and rape prevention; those programs begin as students arrive for Welcome Week. The residence halls are equipped with fire and life-safety systems, and fire evacuation drills are conducted five times per year. Students are issued keys at check-in, and every hall has established procedures and guidelines to help ensure the safety of its residents. All secondary hall entrances are locked 24 hours a day. Visitor and guest policies vary from hall to hall, but all hall guests must register.

Does Public Safety collaborate with other NYU offices?

Public Safety works closely with all the members of the Wellness Exchange, particularly the student health center and residential education, to ensure the health and well being of all NYU students. Through the 24/7 Wellness Exchange hotline, students can speak to a counselor regarding a health/mental health matter and the Wellness Exchange frequently involves public safety where it is appropriate to handle situations.

What about getting around campus after dark?

The University's transportation system runs 5 different bus routes from 7am to 12 midnight that covers the main campus and off campus facilities. From 12 midnight to 7am, a free, on call "safe ride program" is available for those students needing transportation from one University facility to another. To use the service students simply call 212 992-VANS and give their pickup and drop-off locations.

What can new students do to enhance their safety at NYU?

NYU is a major international university, with students coming from all over the U.S. and all over the world. Many students come from locations where the custom involves taking few precautions. It is a good idea for all students to make crime prevention a habit by taking responsibility for locking doors when away from their rooms, not leaving valuables unattended, using common sense, and being aware of their surroundings. Public Safety is available to answer any questions about campus crime prevention. The 24 hour command center telephone number is 212 998-2222. There's also more information on the Public Safety website www.nyu.edu/public.safety.

By authority of: Jules A. Martin, Vice President, NYU, Department of Public Safety

Prepared By: Jay Zwicker, CPP Crime Prevention Manager, NYU, Department of Public Safety