

# TITLE IX EXPLAINED IN 5 STEPS



## 1

### WHAT IS TITLE IX?

*Title IX is the federal anti-discrimination law that protects students from discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, gender identity, or gender expression. Sexual assault, sexual harassment, unwelcome sexual advances, and domestic or dating violence are all categorized as gender-based misconduct.*

## 2

### WHO ADDRESSES TITLE IX QUESTIONS?

*The WGTC Title IX (Equity) Coordinator is the Dean of Students, who works with students, faculty, and staff to ensure that all members of the WGTC community are aware of their Title IX rights.*

*The Dean of Students may be reached at [melinda.hofius@westgatech.edu](mailto:melinda.hofius@westgatech.edu) if you have questions or would like more information on Title IX.*

## 3

### WHAT IF I THINK I HAVE WITNESSED OR EXPERIENCED A TITLE IX ISSUE?

*If you or another WGTC student have questions, tell a WGTC faculty member, staff member, WGTC Campus Police Officer, or the Dean of Students. Once we are aware of a possible Title IX violation, you will be contacted by the Dean of Students. The Dean of Students may be reached at [melinda.hofius@westgatech.edu](mailto:melinda.hofius@westgatech.edu).*

## 4

### WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

*If you or another WGTC student have experienced sexual assault, sexual harassment or any unwelcome sexual advances, reporting the incident will help connect you with resources and support. Reporting also allows WGTC officials to respond quickly and appropriately to sexual misconduct to prevent it from continuing and/or reoccurring.*

## 5

### THEN WHAT?

*The WGTC Title IX process is different from a criminal process. Once a student files a complaint, an investigation of the allegation begins. WGTC students are entitled to have an advocate with them; the advocate may be a parent, spouse, or friend. The Dean of Students along with the TCSG State Investigator will conduct an unbiased, thorough, and timely investigation.*

### WHY IS TITLE IX IMPORTANT?

*A healthy Title IX culture is the responsibility of every member - students, faculty, and staff - of the WGTC community. Intervention, reporting, and education about consent, appropriate communication, and healthy relationships are essential to keeping our campuses safe, welcoming, and healthy. If you have additional questions or concerns, contact the Dean of Students at [melinda.hofius@westgatech.edu](mailto:melinda.hofius@westgatech.edu)*

#### TITLE IX CONTACTS

**DEAN OF STUDENTS: MELINDA HOFIUS 770.537.5722**  
**VP STUDENT AFFAIRS: DR. TONYA WHITLOCK 678.664.0532**