

**WALLA WALLA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
REGISTERED SEX/KIDNAPPING OFFENDER
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY 7380**

I. POLICY BACKGROUND/PURPOSE

Walla Walla Community College (WWCC) is committed to providing educational opportunities to qualified individuals while maintaining a safe and secure campus environment. To ensure campus safety and effective risk management, WWCC implements preventative measures when registered offenders are admitted as students. This policy outlines protocols, requirements and aims to:

- Promote safety without creating undue anxiety
- Prevent punitive actions or harassment against the offender
- Minimize disruptions to the college environment

II. AUTHORITY

WWCC Board Policy 1370, [RCW 9A.44](#), [RCW 4.24](#), [RCW 28B](#).

III. SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to all WWCC students at the Walla Walla and/or Clarkston campuses.

IV. DEFINITIONS

The following are key terms as it applies to this policy:

- A. *Registered Sex Offender (RSO)* – Registered sex offenders are juveniles or adults who have committed a Class A, Class B, Class C felony or some gross misdemeanors and are required to register for life, fifteen years, and ten years, respectively. Registration laws are covered in [RCW 9A.44.130](#). For the definition of sex offense convictions that require registration see [RCW 9A.44.128](#).
- B. *Enrolled* – A student is considered to be enrolled at the moment they register for any WWCC class.
- C. *Walla Walla Community College (WWCC) Class* – A class, offered through WWCC or any agency with which WWCC has a cooperative agreement. Classes may be taken on or off campus, through any distance learning medium, academic credit for prior learning, and includes classes not taken for credit (e.g., audit, community education).
- D. Risk Level Classifications, (Source: [Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs](#)):
1. *Level I Sex Offender* - Offenders are classified as level I offenders if their risk assessment and other factors indicate they are a low risk to sexually reoffend within the community at large. Level I offenders are not published on the Washington Sex Offender Public Registry.
 2. *Level II Sex Offender* – Offenders are classified as level II offenders if their risk assessment and other factors indicate they are a moderate risk to sexually reoffend within the community at large. Level II offenders are published on the Washington Sex Offender Public Registry.
 3. *Level III Sex Offender* – Offenders are classified as level III offenders if their risk assessment and other factors indicate they are a high risk to sexually reoffend within the community at large. Level III offenders are published on the Washington Sex Offender Public Registry.
- E. *Treatment* – Individual and/or group therapy required of sex offenders by the Department of Corrections (DOC) in the context of community corrections.

- F. *Behavioral Contract* – A signed agreement between the college and a student, or potential student, which states conditions, limitations, requirements and potential consequences for non-compliance. In the case of RSOs currently on supervision, prior to finalizing the Behavioral Contract, the Vice President of Student Services (VPSS) or their designee may consult with DOC Community Corrections Officers, members of the Sex Offense Treatment and Assessment Team, or other relevant stakeholders assigned to the case to determine any special conditions or limitations recommended/required for the RSO.

V. POLICY

A. Disclosure

In general, the College may make appropriate notifications to the College community concerning RSOs whose presence may be reasonably expected on or near the College campus. The extent of public disclosure of relevant and necessary information shall be directly related to the level of risk posed by the offender to the community and the needs of the affected community members for information to enhance their individual and collective safety and protection.

1. Level I Offenders - for student offenders classified as a risk Level I, the VPSS or their designee will disclose the student's registered offender status to personnel who, in the judgment of the VPSS or their designee, for security purposes should be aware of the student's record.
 - a. Offender name and risk level will be kept on file in the following WWCC offices: VPSS and Security.
2. Level II and Level III Offenders - for student offenders classified as a risk Level II or III, the VPSS or their designee will disclose the student's registered offender status to:
 - a. The instructor/faculty member for every course the student enrolls in for the duration of their status as an RSO;
 - b. Any other personnel for security purposes who, in the judgment of the VPSS or their designee, supervises the student or should be aware of the student's record;
 - c. Offender name and risk Level will be kept on file in the following WWCC offices: VPSS and Security.
 - i. Disclosures may include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Verbal or written notification to appropriate WWCC employees, faculty, or students;
 - b) Nonpublic posting of the registered offender's photograph and/or other relevant information included in the public registry;
 - c) Alerting individuals or groups and directing them to the Washington Sex Offender Public Registry;
 - d) Child Care Center and/or other programs for minors at any WWCC campus.
 - ii. The college may publicly post an offender's photograph and other relevant public registry information if after consultation with law enforcement and/or legal counsel it is determined that such disclosure is necessary to address the determined threat level.
 3. For all student offenders who are participating in athletics, WWCC may provide the information received to the Department of Athletics. See [RCW 9A.44.138\(2\)\(a\)-\(b\)](#).

B. RSO Students Seeking to Enroll at WWCC

Students who are registered sex or kidnapping offenders seeking to enroll at WWCC at the Walla Walla or Clarkston campuses must:

1. Notify the local county sheriff of their intent to attend WWCC within ten (10) days of enrollment and/or two (2) weeks prior to the start of classes, whichever comes first.
2. Complete the required steps outlined in Administrative Procedure 7380 located on the [WWCC Policies and Procedures](#) webpage to notify the college of their intent to enroll and determine the appropriate disclosure process.

C. Admission

Per [RCW 28B.160.040](#), WWCC reserves the right to determine whether an applicant’s criminal history is relevant to a specific academic program or campus residency, justifying either a denial of admission or restrictions on campus residency. The evaluation process shall consider factors such as the nature of the criminal history, evidence of rehabilitation or good conduct provided by the applicant, and any other relevant circumstances.

1. The VPSS or their designee may grant regular, conditional, or restricted admission to an applicant with a criminal history.
2. Denial of Admission - Under [RCW 28B.50.090 \(3\)\(b\)](#), the VPSS or their designee may deny admission if they determine that “the student would not be competent to profit from the curriculum offerings of the college, or would, by his or her presence or conduct, create a disruptive atmosphere within the college not consistent with the purposes of the institution.”
3. Conditional or Restricted Admission - Applicants with convictions for sex offenses or kidnapping may be admitted on a conditional basis.
 - a. Conditions or restrictions may include behavior contracts, safety plans, campus access limitations, public notifications, or other safety-related measures as deemed necessary.
4. Non-Compliance - Failure to adhere to admission conditions or restrictions may result in denial or revocation of admission at the discretion of the VPSS or their designee.
5. The VPSS or their designee is the final authority on all admission decisions pertaining to this policy.

VI. IMMUNITIES

A. [RCW 4.24.550](#) provides immunity to WWCC, its officials, and employees:

1. An elected public official, public employee, or public agency as defined in [RCW 4.24.470](#) is immune from civil liability for damages for any discretionary decision to release relevant and necessary information, unless it is shown that the official, employee, or agency acted with gross negligence or in bad faith.
2. The immunity provided under this section applies to the release of relevant information to other employees or officials or to the general public. Except as otherwise provided by statute, nothing in this section shall impose any liability upon a public official, public employee, or public agency for failing to release information as provided in subsection one (1) of this section.
3. Nothing in this section implies that information regarding persons designated in subsection one (1), in this section is confidential except as otherwise provided by statute.
4. Further immunities are prescribed in [RCW 4.24.470](#) Liability of Officials and Members of Governing Body of Public Agency – Definitions, and [RCW 4.24.490](#) Indemnification of State Employees.

Policy Contact: <u>Vice President, Student Services</u>
Approved by (Department/Body): <u>Dr. Chad Hickox, President</u>
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