

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Law Enforcement

The police are here to keep you safe, but there are some important cultural differences to be aware of when dealing with law enforcement in the U.S. to ensure that your interactions go smoothly.

LSU Police Department

The LSU Police Department provides law enforcement for the LSU campus. Contact them when you experience an incident on campus:
225-578-3231

Baton Rouge Police Department

The Baton Rouge Police Department provides law enforcement for the city of Baton Rouge. Contact them for incidents in Baton Rouge, off campus:
225-389-3000

East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office

The EBR sheriff's office provides law enforcement for East Baton Rouge parish. They handle incidents outside of Baton Rouge city, but within EBR parish:
225-389-5000

In an emergency, call 911, and the operator will direct you to the correct law enforcement division.

GENERAL PRACTICES TO FOLLOW WITH THE POLICE

- *Always listen carefully to an officer's instructions, providing them with the information & documentation they request.*
- *Do not do anything they did not ask you to do. For example, do not get out of your car when being pulled over unless they ask you to.*
- *Answer all of their questions truthfully.*
- *If you do not understand, ask them politely to repeat & speak more slowly if needed. Translators are not provided unless you are arrested, and even then having a translator present is dependent on availability.*

DOCUMENTS TO CARRY AT ALL TIMES

- *Identity Document: Could be a passport, driver's license, or Louisiana State ID.*
- *Copy of your I-94 Form.*
- *If you're leaving the Baton Rouge area:*
 - *Original passport.*
 - *Copy of your I-20 or DS-2019.*

LAW ENFORCEMENT & DRIVING

Best Practices & What to Expect

- Familiarize yourself with U.S. traffic laws and obey all traffic signs.
- Emergency vehicles typically flash red and/or blue lights. If you see an emergency vehicle behind you, pull off of the road into a safe area.
- Carry the following documents while driving:
 - Louisiana driver's license
 - Your car's registration information
 - Proof of your auto insurance policy
 - A copy of your I-94 form

WHAT DO I DO IF I'M PULLED OVER WHILE DRIVING?

- Stay in your car. Any passengers should stay in the car as well.
- As the officer approaches, keep your hands visible on the steering wheel. The officer may advise the driver to step out of the vehicle.
- The officer will let you know why they pulled you over and ask for your Driver's License, car registration, and auto insurance.
- It's important to tell the officer that you are going to reach for your documents. Let the officer know clearly when you plan to move; then do so slowly.
- The officer will take your documents back to their car to run through their system. Remain in your car during this time.

What do I do if I get in a car accident?

Pull to the side of the road, put on your hazard lights, and stay in your vehicle if it is safe to do so. Then, call the police to get help & file a report. After the police arrive, give your insurance information to the other driver, and ask for theirs

FILING A POLICE REPORT

When to file a report

- SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING
- You get into a car accident
- Something is stolen from you
- You witness or are a victim of a crime
- Someone tries to harm you
- Someone destroys your property

Write down your case number

Always ask for the case number of the report you have filed. This way you can call to follow up for updates on your case. The Officer will provide a case card with the case #, Officer's name, and LSU Police Department's Phone number.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I GET ARRESTED?

If you have been arrested or have had any interaction with the police, inform ISS immediately.

ACCORDING TO THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION, YOU SHOULD DO THE FOLLOWING IF YOU ARE ARRESTED:

- Say you wish to remain silent, and ask for a lawyer immediately.
- Don't give any explanations or excuses. Don't say anything, sign anything, or make any decisions without a lawyer.
- If you have been arrested by police, you have the right to make a local phone call. The police cannot listen if you call a lawyer.
- If you have been detained by ICE, you have the right to contact your consulate or have an officer inform the consulate of your detention.
- Keep a copy of your immigration documents with someone you trust.
- Ask your lawyer about the effects of a criminal conviction or plea on your immigration status. Do not discuss your immigration status with anyone but your lawyer.
- While you are in jail, an immigration agent may visit you. Do not answer questions or sign anything before talking to a lawyer.
- Read all papers fully. If you do not understand or cannot read the papers, tell the officer you need an interpreter.

How will an arrest affect my legal status?

ISS is required to report any disciplinary action that occurs as a result of a student being convicted of a crime. The reporting alone won't automatically terminate your status; however, the information will go to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents, who will decide whether additional action is warranted. If your arrest results in jail time preventing your ability to stay enrolled at LSU, this could result in a loss of status.

How will an arrest affect my visa?

An arrest may result in your current US visa stamp being cancelled, preventing your re-entry into the US after traveling abroad. Depending on the severity of the crime, a conviction may make it difficult or impossible to get a visa to enter the US in the future. Never give a false answer to any question during the visa process. Be sure to answer "yes" if you're asked whether you have been arrested.

DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE SUPPORT

LSU Policy

LSU's Title IX policy outlines the procedures for addressing and resolving allegations of Sexual Misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, retaliation, etc.).

TALK TO SOMEONE

To help ensure a safe and supportive campus environment, LSU has enforced obligatory reporting by Responsible Employees of sexual misconduct on campus, meaning that if you tell them about an incident of power-based violence, they are mandated to report that incident to the Office of Title IX. There are, however, many ways to seek confidential support from employees and resources who are not mandated reporters.

CONFIDENTIAL RESOURCES

*Important note: If you are under the age of 18, these resources are mandated to report any incidents of child abuse.

LSU Lighthouse Program

The Lighthouse Program provides free and confidential interpersonal violence prevention, support, and advocacy to the LSU campus community. The program assists student-survivors of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, stalking, and harassment.

Confidential Supporters

Confidential Supporters are selected staff and faculty around campus who can help you find resources and are not required to report anything you disclose.

LSU Student Health Center

Counseling services are strictly confidential; clinic staff do not report sexual violence incidents to administration. If you have experienced sexual violence, you are encouraged to see a medical professional to have a forensic exam.

Resources outside of LSU

- [STAR \(Sexual Trauma Awareness and Response\)](#)
- [Woman's Hospital](#)
- [IRIS Domestic Violence Center](#)
- [Baton Rouge Police Department](#)
- [LaFASA \(Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault\)](#)

Non-confidential LSU Resources

- [Office of Civil Rights and Title IX](#): Here you will find support, information on the reporting process, information on safety or protective measures, and direction and information for resources on and around campus to aid in your recovery.
- [Student Advocacy & Accountability](#)
- [LSU Police](#)