



Taking Action Against Sexual Misconduct

Our position is clear—every human being has the right to practice yoga free from abuse, harassment, and manipulation. Acts of sexual harassment, assault, or criminal activity of any kind, by any Registered Yoga School or Teacher, are unethical and illegal. Yoga Alliance will not tolerate these acts within our membership.

While Yoga Alliance does not have the same authority or resources to investigate or stop criminal activity as law enforcement agencies, we do recognize our responsibility to educate, inform, and take action.

Therefore, our Sexual Misconduct Policy provides **clear and defined guidelines and procedures**, an **investigatory function**, and **due process** for all involved.



You Are Not Alone

In the event of any incident, we encourage you to utilize the resources below.

RAINN (Rape Abuse & Incest National Network)

Call 800-656-HOPE (4673) or visit online.rainn.org to chat anonymously with a trained support specialist who can also connect you to local resources. The hotline is free and available 24/7 in English and Spanish.

Your Local Law Enforcement Agency

- Report any criminal activity to your local law enforcement, which serves as a strong deterrent, holds people accountable, and offers Yoga Alliance with essential information that can help inform and strengthen its processes and decisions

#MeToo Yoga Peer-to-Peer Facebook Support Group

A private Facebook support group for survivors of sexual misconduct in yoga

- To access this group, log into your Facebook account and search #MeTooYoga
- Please be sure to read the community guidelines prior to joining in order to protect the safety and privacy of all members



Yoga Alliance's Sexual Misconduct Policy

We have a clear process for reporting, investigating, and ensuring due process, including:

Step 1. Filing a Grievance

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▶ If you have personally experienced an incident of sexual misconduct, you may file a grievance at accountability@yogaalliance.org; we will need certain information, such as:

- Your full name, email address, and telephone number;
- The full name of the Registered Yoga School (RYS), Registered Yoga Teacher (RYT), and/or Continuing Education Provider (YACEP) who performed the alleged conduct;
- A description of the alleged conduct;
- The date(s) and location(s) of the alleged conduct (and, if necessary, a request for an exception to the two-year time limit for filing a grievance); and
- The name(s) and contact information of any witness(es).

02



Step 2. Investigating a Grievance

▶ We take all filed grievances seriously. If we determine that an allegation is credible, we will issue a Notice of Investigation to the RYS, RYT, and/or YACEP, describing the allegation and providing them the opportunity to participate in an interview and/or to provide information in writing.

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Step 3. During the Investigation

▶ We may suspend the credential(s) while the investigation takes place.

04

Step 4. Taking Action After the Investigation

▶ If the evidence found during the investigation is credible, and there was a violation of the Sexual Misconduct Policy, we will take appropriate action, ranging from required education to lifetime revocation of Yoga Alliance membership and credential(s). All decisions are final.

For more information on Yoga Alliance's Sexual Misconduct Policy, visit www.yogaalliance.org

