

SOU Equity Grievance: SAAM

Southern Oregon University (SOU) takes its response to sexual violence (and other related misconduct) seriously. The Equity Grievance Office and other campus partners work together with the ultimate goal of reducing incidents of sexual and other violence, preventing its recurrence and when it is reported, remedying its effect through support, resources and accountability.

As part of these prevention and awareness efforts, SOU joins the nation in observing 25 Years of Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) in April. Recognizing SAAM allows us to not only engage in important national recognition, but also in providing essential tools for supporters, allies, and survivors impacted by sexual violence.

This year, Equity Grievance and the Dean of Student Offices partner to raise awareness by engaging in prevention education through the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC), which sponsors SAAM programs and initiatives. We have a number of initiatives to begin March 29 through April 30 to align with SAAM's theme of "25 Years Stronger: Looking Back, Moving Forward."

SOU kicked off web-based programming on Monday, March 29, and included an April 7 Day of Action, where campus allies and survivors were asked to engage in different ways. We are also sharing weekly topics during April based on NSVRC SAAM. Denim Day, held annually on the last Wednesday in April, is another national initiative that we will highlight on Wednesday, April 29.

Those who choose to recognize April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) are encouraged to use the Zoom and/or Teams virtual backgrounds during meetings – as often as they would like, or throughout the month. The golden background is here

(<https://sou.edu/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/SAAM-2026-Zoom-Backgrounds-Golden-with-Teal-Ribbon.jpg>) and a teal background is here (<https://sou.edu/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/SAAM-2026-Zoom-Backgrounds-Teal.jpg>).

We invite you to join us this April and beyond to learn how to support survivors of sex and gender-based violence, understand the history of sexual violence, and continue creating a culture of support, respect, and care at SOU.

Learn additional information about these programs and learn how you can get involved here:

<https://sou.edu/equity-grievance/#saam>. If you have questions about sexual assault awareness programming, or need assistance, please contact Sarah Olejniczak, or email equitygrievance@sou.edu.

Equity Grievance and Dean of Students partner for SAAM

Scan to Learn More



or visit Equity Grievance
sou.edu/equity-grievance/#saam



Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April 2026
#SAAM #25YearsStronger

NATIONAL

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH (SAAM)

SOU recognizes sexual assault awareness and prevention, by providing weekly topics March 29 through April 30.

- **Week 1: March 29 – April 4**
 - History of SAAM
- **Week 2: April 6 – April 11**
 - A Focus on Survivors
- **Week 3: April 13 – April 18**
 - From Awareness to Action: Prevention
- **Week 4: April 20 – April 25**
 - What's Next? Future Planning
- **Week 5: April 27 – April 30**
 - A Call to Action



Sponsored by Equity Grievance and Dean of Student Offices
Programs are part of the National Sexual Violence Resource Center
Sexual Assault Awareness Month Education and Prevention Initiatives.

