

LGBTQ+ Students

- Frequently Asked Questions -

LGBTQ+ Campus Life:

Does Trinity College have an office designated to support the LGBTQ Community?

The Queer Resource Center (QRC) is the center for LGBTQ+ life and student services on campus and is part of the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. The QRC is overseen by Crystal Nieves, Director of LGBTQ+ Life, and is located at 114 Crescent St. You can reach us by emailing QRC@trincoll.edu.

Does Trinity have an LGBTQ+ & ally student organization?

Encouraging Respect of Sexualities (EROS), is a student run organization whose mission includes being a supportive safe space for queer folks on campus. Furthermore, the QRC forms part of the support system available on campus for LGBTQ+ students and hosts many identity-based support and discussion spaces. You can find more information about EROS [here](#). If you are interested you can also start up other LGBTQ+ related groups, clubs, or discussion spaces.

Do you have to identify as LGBTQ+ in order to attend events at or sponsored by the QRC/EROS?

Unless a specific event is listed as a support space for those with a specific shared identity, events are generally open to everyone, regardless of sexual orientation and/or gender identity.

Does Trinity have a bias-incident and hate-crime reporting system which includes LGBTQ+ concerns?

Yes, if a student has experienced or witnessed bias-incident on campus, they can report it one of two ways. The first is to any staff member that they trust on campus. That staff member can assist them through the process. If a student would like to report it on their own they can call campus safety or submit a report that can be found [here](#). These reports can also be filed anonymously.

Is there training available on LGBTQ+ issues for faculty/staff?

The Queer Resource Center offers campus LGBTQ+ Foundations & Allyship Training & Safe Zone education on topics of LGBTQ+ inclusion for faculty and staff. These education initiatives help Trinity employees become more aware LGBTQ+ community needs and experiences and prepares them to better support LGBTQ+ students. For more information about our campus Safe Zone members and information about our training and education initiatives please visit the QRC website!

Are there gender inclusive restrooms on campus?

Several buildings on Trinity's campus offer gender inclusive restrooms. On our campus these restrooms are labeled "All-Gender Restrooms". While most of these locations are private single-stall restrooms, there is also a large multi-stall All-Gender Restroom located on the main level of Mather Hall. The list and locations of campus All-Gender Restrooms can be found [here](#) or on the [campus interactive map](#). These restrooms may be used by anyone regardless of their sex or gender identity.

Chosen Name, Pronouns, and Personal Information:

Is there a way to use my chosen name on campus records?

Students can add a chosen first name to their campus record for use in locations that do not explicitly require a legal name. For example, students can add their chosen name for use on class rosters, advising transcripts, campus e-mail and directory, Bantam ID card, Moodle, Bantam Link, Zoom, and MS Teams.

**** Before adding a chosen name to the Trinity information system it is important to review and acknowledge the following information about use of a chosen name on campus.*

1. There are many places where a legal name is required for use on campus. This includes many external and business-related purposes such as hiring, payroll, taxes, health insurance, financial aid, etc. Your legal name will remain your primary name in our records for these purposes.

2. Students who have a chosen name on their Bantam ID card are waiving their ability to use this ID for identity verification purposes, such as with law enforcement, hiring paperwork and I-9 verification, voter check-in, and in some cases even for mail package pick up. It is important that all students using a chosen name on their Bantam ID card also carry a legal form of identification for when needed.
3. Use of a chosen name on campus can impact the outcome or duration of time it takes to complete a background check. It is important to disclose your chosen name/s in your initial paper work as an alias to prevent barriers to the success of your background check.
4. There is some inherent risk of your chosen name being communicated to your home or parents from the College. If this name is not known at your home, or to your families, it can present an outing risk to students. The College will endeavor to minimize this risk, but some possibility of miscommunications is always present. It is important that students consider this when using a chosen name on campus or updating their campus email address, ID, or directory with a chosen name. We are working on additional ways to reduce and prevent this risk.

Students can add a chosen name to their record in the [PeopleSoft/ TC Online self-service](#) feature for student information. Once logged into TC online, click “self-service”, “campus personal information”, and lastly “profile”.

In this location students can add a chosen name to the “preferred name” data field in the student information system. They can also *add their personal pronouns* to their campus record for use on course rosters and advising profiles. Students are also welcome to *add their gender identity and/or sexual orientation* here to be counted for demographic information. When updates are complete be sure to hit save to add the changes to your record. A student does not need to add a chosen name to add their pronouns, gender identity, or sexual orientation information. All students are encouraged to add their pronouns to the system.

If desired, once a chosen name is added to your profile you can also update your Bantam ID Card by reaching out to the [ID Office](#) for a new card. You may update a photo and pick up a corrected card at no cost for replacement. You may contact the [ITS help desk](#) to help you update your email address if desired as well as your, directory info, Moodle, and MS Teams display names. You can manually update your Zoom and Bantam Link profiles on your own.

For information about changing your legal name on CT and/or Federal documents please visit the CT TransEquality.orgs ID Document Center and Guide [here](#).

LGBTQ+ Inclusive Health Care:

Are campus health care professionals knowledgeable about the health needs of LGBTQ+ individuals?

The health center staff at Trinity College are Hartford Healthcare Employees and are trained regularly on how to best support our LGBTQ+ individuals. Providers at the health center can provide referrals for Hormone Replacement Therapy Specialists and can also provide injection support for students on campus. Several off-campus resources are also available for our students seeking mental health, physical health, or transition services. For these referrals please contact the QRC.

Are Transitional health services covered by the Trinity Student Health Insurance Plan?

Trinity’s student insurance plan covers healthcare related to gender identity such as hormone replacement therapy, select gender-affirming procedures, and trans inclusive counseling services. You can call your insurance company or check your portal documents for specific co-pay and coverage information. Students with particular privacy needs around their health care communications can reach out to the QRC for support in setting/resetting their EOBs to meet their privacy needs. To learn about transitional health providers in the area, including Endocrinologists, please contact the QRC.

The Trinity College Counseling Center has clinicians who can provide gender affirming therapy and letters of support for gender affirming procedures and can also provide specialist referrals for endocrinologist if needed.

Does Trinity have support groups for LGBTQ+ people?

At this time Trinity does not offer clinical LGBTQ+ peer-support groups on campus. We can however help connect students with on-campus one-on-one counseling services, and/or off-campus one-on-one Trans/ LGBTQ+ affirming

or off-campus Trans/ LGBTQ+ group counseling services in the nearby community. On-campus identity-based peer/discussion groups are offered through the QRC, these can provide community building opportunities as well as informal peer-peer support.

Does Trinity distribute condoms and LGBTQ inclusive safer sex information?

Yes! Inclusive safer sex items including standard internal condoms, F/C condoms, dental dams and lubricants are available on campus. Some spaces where they can be found are the Health Center, the Queer Resource Center, and the Women and Gender Resource Action Center (WGRAC). There are also printed materials available that discuss STDs/STIs & how to effectively and safely use condoms/dams. The college also offers freely available menstrual hygiene products in all 1st floor Women's Restrooms and All-gender Restrooms.

Does the health center offer LGBTQ+ inclusive STD/STI Testing?

Yes, on-campus STD/STI testing is available at the campus health center. Labs are sent out to *Quest Diagnostics* for processing and billing. Also available to all Trinity Students is the nearby Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective located on Broad St. right behind the Trinity hockey rink. This community health center specializes in LGBTQ+ inclusive care for sexual health and wellness, dental health, and other general health needs for the LGBTQ+ community in Hartford. Not far from campus on New Britain Ave. the Planned Parenthood West Hartford Location is also available for STI/STD testing clinics.

LGBTQ+ / Gender Inclusive Housing Options:

Are there Gender Inclusive Housing options for trans and nonbinary students at Trinity?

Yes, Trinity College offers Gender Inclusive Housing options for both First Year and Returning Students.

Returning students (upperclassmen) choose their housing location and their roommates annually through the housing lottery and room selection process. Returning students may choose to live with any roommate regardless of sex or gender identity in gender inclusive housing options. Gender Inclusive housing options are available in most upper-class housing residence halls except for a select few that are single-sex. Gender Inclusive housing options include apartment style or suite style living with their own internal private bathrooms, and in more traditional dormitory locations with single & double style rooms and access to multi-stall all-gender bathrooms.

First year students are assigned campus housing and roommates by the Bantam Network staff. To aid in housing and roommate placement all first-year students should submit their housing questionnaire as early as possible. This questionnaire contains an opportunity to select gender inclusive housing options within the first-year housing communities. These include access to gender inclusive bathrooms. Only those who actively select into this type of housing will be placed in these units. All other students will be assigned rooms and bathrooms by their sex on record.

Please contact the [Bantam Residential Network](#) with any questions regarding gender inclusive housing options.

Do Residential Life staff and RAs undergo training on LGBTQ+ issues?

Resident Assistants and staff are trained annually to help with understanding and responding to LGBTQ+ students' needs and concerns on campus.

