

WEAPONS ON CAMPUS

Indicators that a Person has a Weapon Concealed

Source: Keenan & Associates

Training staff to be able to identify indicators that a person may be armed is an useful skill that can help potential eliminate weapon related violence. Below are a few common signs that could indicate that a weapon is present:

- A weapon violator will touch or adjust a weapon that is concealed on their bodies. This could be a gentle touch, rub or bump of the weapon that maybe unnoticeable; on some occasions it could be as distinct as grabbing the weapon.
- Weapon violators may have an irregular gait due to a rifle or shotgun down their pants. They could have weapons hidden in their boots making it uncomfortable to walk.
- Look for a coat or jacket hanging lower on one side where a weapon could be located, the weight of a weapon could cause it swing while the person is walking, some instances the person who is concealing a weapon might try to pin the weapon down while walking to keep it from moving.
- Look for outlines or bulge of weapons that could be carried in a pocket, backpack, purse or etc.
- Look for some portion of a weapon being visible. Sometimes a hidden weapon under a jacket will have a portion of it protruding from the jacket.

These visual cues and being aware of the emotional state of the student could help control a dangerous situation from turning deadly.