



## STUDENT FEES ADVISORY COMMITTEE FY25 ADDITIONAL ONE TIME REQUEST (B)

The WGRC is seeking a FY25 Additional One Time Request in the amount of \$7,000 for installation of panic buttons.

Installing panic buttons in the WGRC suite would significantly enhance the level of safety for our students, visitors, and WGRC staff, particularly given the sensitive and emotionally charged work we do with individuals impacted by sexual misconduct. This added safety measure would provide peace of mind and a sense of security to our team, allowing them to focus on delivering high-quality support and resources to those in need. For students accessing our services, especially those navigating trauma or crisis situations, knowing that the environment is equipped with these protective measures fosters a sense of trust and security, elements that are critical for their well-being and healing from trauma.

By creating a safer space within the WGRC, we directly support the university's strategic goal to increase retention of First Time in College (FTIC) students. A secure environment enables students to access support services without fear, reducing barriers to seeking help and encouraging their persistence and success at UH. Furthermore, these safety enhancements align with our efforts to increase student engagement by ensuring that all students feel welcome and protected while participating in our programs and services, whether they are based on the main campus, UH Sugar Land, or UH Katy. As we continue to expand our reach and services, these safety measures will be crucial in building a trusted reputation that encourages support-seeking, fosters deeper student involvement and builds support for the Division of Student Affairs.

By funding safety measures like panic buttons in the WGRC, we demonstrate our commitment to creating a secure and supportive environment for everyone and reinforce our dedication to trauma-informed care. Ultimately, ensuring the safety and well-being of those who seek our services fosters a culture of care that empowers students to thrive both personally and academically.

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Project: Panic buttons

Investment: \$7,420 (Asking amount plus 6% admin fee)

Itemized breakdown estimate: UIT estimated cost for installation of 5 panic buttons (1 in each of 4 offices plus 1 at the front desk)