

# University of Cincinnati



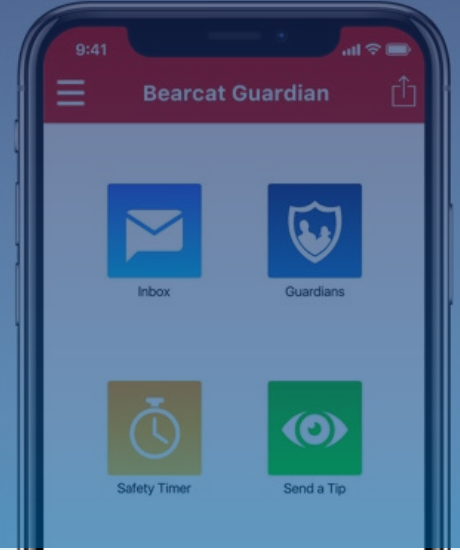
**The University of Cincinnati’s Department of Public Safety has invested in a range of initiatives to protect students, faculty, staff and visitors.** The department consists of three branches — police, fire safety and security — that protects more than 45,000 students and 15,000 employees across the university’s urban and regional campuses. While it works with the Cincinnati Police Department and other community members to prevent crime and offer safety services and resources, public safety officials at the University of Cincinnati (UC) sought ways to increase their visibility and transparency with its campus community.

The Department of Public Safety deployed Rave Guardian, a personal safety app that connects campus safety officials with

students and staff, as well as to each other. The campus community uses Rave Guardian, which it renamed to Bearcat Guardian for the university’s mascot, to either directly contact UC Police or call 9-1-1 to quickly begin emergency procedures. The app also features various functions, such as the ability for users to discreetly submit two-way tips to report suspicious behavior or issues.

Students can use Safety Timer, which is a virtual escort to keep them safe and connected to UC public safety officials or others. They can program their Safety Timer to set a time and destination when they leave a location, and the app confirms when they arrive safely. Students can select roommates, friends and safety officials as “guardians” to receive status and location updates when a Safety Timer event occurs.

# Download the **Bearcat Guardian App** to stay connected and safe



Meanwhile, public safety officials use Rave Alert, which allows them to send mass notifications to update the campus community when there is an imminent threat to life or property, such as weather emergencies and school closures.

The UC provides free day and evening transportation for students, staff and faculty through NightRide. The on-demand transportation service operates 11 vans daily from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m.



UC Police also use social media, including Twitter ([@UCPublicSafety](https://twitter.com/UCPublicSafety)), to reach the campus community. Its Twitter account has more than 4,200 followers and features safety information, such as contact information for NightRide and Campus Watch, UC's walking escort program. It also shows UC Police in more personal settings, such as volunteering or playing basketball. One of the students' favorite updates is the happenings of Dozer, a yellow Labrador who is part of UC's K-9 unit.