



Return to Campus following Mental Health or Medical Evaluation/ Hospitalization

Returning to campus following a mental health or medical evaluation or hospitalization off-campus is contingent upon the mental health/medical condition being sufficiently resolved or managed successfully. While off-campus, students are expected to seek necessary or appropriate medical attention and to document the steps taken and progress made toward resolving or managing the mental health/medical condition. Students returning to campus will be required to provide written documentation that verifies they are ready to return to a rigorous academic environment and describe treatment and/or discharge plans signed by the medical clinician who provided services to the student.

Decisions about returning to campus are made by the Dean of Students. At any time, the Dean of Students may contact parents/family of the student and any appropriate University officials about the student's status. If a student withdraws or takes a leave of absence from the University of St. Francis, the student must comply with these requirements before resuming enrollment.

Mental Health Evaluation or Hospitalization

Any student who harms or threatens to harm self or another will be referred immediately to an off-campus mental health facility for assessment. Transportation to a local hospital will be made via ambulance at the student's expense. Prior to returning to campus, the student must be assessed off campus by a mental health professional and deemed safe to return to campus. The cost for evaluation and consultation will be at the student's expense. It is the student's responsibility to facilitate communication between the off-campus mental health professional(s) and the University of St. Francis Director of Counseling. The student will need to sign a release of information authorization form requesting the off-campus provider share information with the University of St. Francis Counseling Center.

Illinois State Police Clear and Present Danger Reporting

1. Purpose

Pursuant to the Firearm Concealed Carry Act, 430 ILCS 66/105, and the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code, 405 ILCS 5/6-103.3 it is the duty of the chief administrative officer of a university, or his or her designee, to report to the Department of State Police any person determined to be a clear and present danger to himself, herself, or to others with 24 hours of such determination. It is the University of St. Francis's policy to comply with those requirements.

2. Definitions

A. For purposes of this Policy, a person is deemed to pose "clear and present danger" if:

- He or she communicates a serious threat of physical violence against a reasonably identifiable victim as determined by a physician, clinical psychologist, or qualified examiner;
- He or she poses a clear and imminent risk of serious physical injury to himself, herself, or another person as determined by a physician, clinical psychologist, or qualified examiner; or
- He or she demonstrates threatening physical or verbal behavior, such as violent, suicidal, or assaultive threats, actions, or other behaviors, as determined by a physician, clinical psychologist, qualified examiner, the chief administrative officer of the University of St. Francis, or his or her designee.

B. The terms “Physician, Psychiatrist, Clinical Psychologist, Clinical Social Worker, and Qualified Examiner shall be defined as stated in the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code, 405 ILCS 5/1 *et seq.*

C. For purposes of this Policy, the University’s Chief Administrative Officer is the Dean of Students.

3. Reporting

A. the Dean of Student’s designee for reporting to the Illinois State Police pursuant to this Policy is the Director of Campus Safety, Security and Transportation and or his or her designee.

B. For purposes of reporting to the Illinois State Police pursuant to this Policy and Illinois law, the Dean of Students, or his or her designee, shall make the final determination, in consultation with qualified health care professionals when appropriate (see Sections 2(A)(i) and 2(A)(ii)), as to whether the student’s conduct or behavior constitutes a “clear and present danger” as defined above. In the event, the determination is in the affirmative, the Dean of Students, or his or her designee, shall report the conduct or behavior to the Illinois State Police in conformance with the reporting protocols and using its approved forms if any.

C. No provision of this Policy shall be construed to in any way alter the duty of a physician, clinical psychologist, or qualified examiner to report to the Illinois Department of Human Services any person that in the professional judgment of the physician, clinical psychologist, or qualified examiner poses a clear and present danger as defined by the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code.

DISMISSAL FROM THE UNIVERSITY

The university reserves the right to dismiss any student for failure to meet the Academic Standards of the University (Academic Dismissal) and/or for any violation of Institutional Rules of Conduct (Disciplinary Dismissal). For further information regarding dismissal, please consult the Dean of Students.

Except as otherwise required by law, the University also reserves the right to dismiss a student with a disability or medical condition if the student poses a direct threat to her/himself or others, or if the

student cannot perform the essential requirements of the program, even with reasonable accommodations.

Please consult the Dean of Students, other sections of this Catalog, and Student Handbook for additional information on the grounds for dismissal and the process by which dismissal decisions are made.

Threats or Harm to Self or Others

This policy is to be read in accordance with the University of St. Francis Policy on Threats or Harm to Self or Others.

Any conduct which is found to violate either policy will have the effect of preventing a student from living in the University's residential facilities or participating in University academic programs, athletics, and/or extra-curricular activities, until cleared to do so by the Dean of Students, pursuant to the clearance procedure described in the Threats or Harm to Self or Others Policy. In addition, a student who engages in disruptive or threatening behavior, as described in either policy, may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

THREATS OR HARM TO SELF OR OTHERS

1. General Information.

The university of St. Francis is concerned about the well-being of all students. Any behavior, including non-privileged verbal statements, that tends to demonstrate an intent or desire of a student to inflict harm upon himself, herself, or another is considered a serious matter. Such behavior demonstrates that the student's well-being may be in jeopardy and interferes with the educational efforts of other students and with the University of St. Francis mission to educate all students. (Note: See also Student Code of Conduct).

2. Policy Statement.

(a) Threat or harm to self. Any student who (a) states an intent or desire to harm himself or herself, or (b) attempts to harm himself or herself, or (c) harms himself or herself, shall not live in university residential facilities or participate in university academic programs, athletics, and/or extra-curricular activities until cleared to do so by the Dean for Students in accordance with the clearance procedure set forth below. This prohibition is not disciplinary in nature, and the fact that such a prohibition has been imposed will not be entered in the student's educational records. However, if the student engages in disruptive or threatening behavior (which may include, but is not limited to, the behavior that caused processing under this policy) or fails to comply with the terms of the clearance procedure, the student may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

(b) Threat or harm to others. Any student who (a) states an intent or desire to harm another, or (b) attempts to harm another, or (c) harms another, shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct, and may be subject to the clearance procedures set forth below in the sole discretion of the University administration.

3. Incident Reporting.

If a student, faculty or staff member observes a student (a) stating an intent or desire to harm himself, herself or another, or (b) attempting to harm himself, herself or another, or (c) in the process of harming himself, herself or another, the person observing such behavior should immediately report what was observed to Campus Safety, Security and Transportation or another University administrator.

If the person subject to harm or threats of harm is in need of medical attention or police assistance, 911 should be notified immediately, and then Campus Safety, Security and Transportation (on-campus phone extension 3200).

Any University administrator that receives a report under this policy should immediately notify the Dean of Students. The Dean of Students will consider whether it is appropriate to advise parents, the next of kin, law enforcement, and/or other medical professionals.

4. Clearance Procedure.

(a) Notice. The Dean of Students, or any University official with responsibilities in Residence Education or academics, shall notify each student who has been observed (a) stating an intent or desire to harm himself or herself, (b) attempting to harm himself or herself, or (c) in the process of harming himself or herself that he/she will not be permitted to continue to live in the University's residential facilities or to participate in academic programs, athletics, and/or extra-curricular activities until such student receives approval from the Dean of Students in accordance with this clearance procedure. Any student that violates the prohibition against living in the University's residential facilities or participating in academic programs, athletics, and/or extra-curricular activities after receiving proper notice shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

(b) Evaluation by a qualified mental health professional. Before the Dean of Students may clear a student to live in the University's residential facilities or participate in the University's academic programs, athletics, and/or extra-curricular activities, the student must have an assessment conducted by a qualified mental health professional not affiliated with University of St. Francis. The mental health professional may be either a psychologist or a psychiatrist. The student may choose the mental health professional. If the mental health professional determines the student should be evaluated further by an additional mental health professional, the student must obtain such evaluation before the Dean of Students and University counseling center staff may consider whether the student will be allowed to resume living in the University's residential facilities and participate in the University's academic programs, athletics, and/or extra-curricular activities. Cost, if any, for evaluation(s) and treatment will be the responsibility of the student.

(c) Communication of results of the evaluation to the Dean for Students. The student must arrange for the mental health professional(s) who evaluated the student to contact the Dean of Students. Because the student's contact with the professional(s) is confidential, the student will be requested to sign the appropriate release form permitting each mental health professional to disclose the evaluation to the Dean of Students and the University Counseling Center staff.

The mental health professional will be asked to provide his/her opinion about (1) the student's readiness to resume living in the University's residential facilities and participation in the University's academic programs, athletics, and/or extra-curricular activities; (2) recommendations about conditions the University should impose on the student's participation that is in the student's best interest; and (3) whether he or she determined the student should be evaluated further by an additional mental health professional. The opinions of the mental health professional may be communicated orally at first for expedience but must be followed in writing.

(d) Student interview with the Dean of Students. After the student has been evaluated by a mental health professional, the student must schedule an interview with the Dean of Students and Director of Counseling Center. Interviews may be scheduled anytime between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The purpose of the interview is to determine if the student will be allowed to resume living in the University's residential facilities and participate in the University's academic programs, athletics, and/or extra-curricular activities. Because the student's contact with any mental health professional such as a psychologist or psychiatrist on staff at the University counseling center is confidential, the student will be requested to sign a release form permitting the mental health professional to disclose the results of the interview to the Dean for Students.

(e) Approval from the Dean of Students. Based upon the interview with the student and the results of the evaluation by the mental health professional(s), the Dean of Students, with advisement from the Director of Counseling Center, will make a decision about the student's fitness to resume living in the University's residential facilities and participating in the University's academic programs, athletics, and/or extra-curricular activities.

If the Dean of Students determines that the student is able to resume living in the University's residential facilities and participate in the University's academic programs, athletics, and/or extra-curricular activities, the student will be given a letter clearing him/her to return to the residential facilities and to participate in classes, athletics, and/or extra-curricular activities. The student must present the letter to the Residence Education staff or any faculty member or coach who requests the letter as proof that the clearance process has been completed.

If it is determined that the student is not fit to return, the Dean of Students will assist the student, upon the student's request, in making arrangements to meet the residential and academic needs of the student until approval is obtained. Costs, if any, for arrangements to meet the residential and academic needs of the student will be the responsibility of the student.

(f) Unavailability of the Dean of Students. In the event that the Dean of Students is unavailable to perform any task pursuant to this policy, the Director of Residence Education shall act or if unavailable the Director of Counseling Center shall act.

5. False Reports.

Any person who intentionally or recklessly makes a false report under this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct (applicable to all students), the

Faculty Handbook (applicable to all faculty members), or the Employee Manual (applicable to all other University employees).

SANCTIONS

The administration shall determine in its sole discretion the appropriate sanctions for student misconduct. Possible sanctions for student misconduct include:

1. Warning (oral or written)

2. Probation

3. Restitution

4. Project

5. Loss of Privilege

6. Suspension

7. Removal from Class or Activity - The student may immediately be removed from any class or activity upon causing or threatening to cause emotional or physical harm to others and may be subject to the clearance procedures set forth in the Policy on Threats or Harm to Self or Others.

8. Expulsion

9. Legal Action - The University may contact the appropriate legal authorities and may pursue legal action (civil and/or criminal) against the student.

The Dean of Students or a designee may invoke an immediate suspension whenever there is evidence that the student's presence on campus, at an off-campus educational site or at a university-sponsored activity presents a threat of harm to herself/himself or others or a disruption of university activities. In the case of immediate suspension, an administrative hearing will be convened as soon as possible after the suspension.

Physical Evaluation or Medical Hospitalization

Treatment or evaluation for a serious physical injury or condition that prevents a student from returning to an academically rigorous campus environment will be referred immediately to an off-campus specialist or hospital. Transportation will be made via ambulance to a local hospital. Cost, if any, for evaluation(s)/treatment and/or ambulance transportation will be the responsibility of the student. The Dean of Students should be immediately notified. The Dean of Students will consider whether it is appropriate to advise parents, the next of kin, law enforcement, and/or other medical professionals.

Serious injury, illness, or condition may include the following but is not limited to:

- Prolonged hospitalization (longer than one week)

- Unstable chronic illness
- Contagious infection that has potential to affect the larger community; i.e. measles, tuberculosis

Depending on the physical illness or injury and prior to returning to campus, the University requires the student to be assessed off campus by a health professional and deemed able to return to campus. It is the student's responsibility to facilitate communication between the off-campus health professional(s) and the University Wellness Center. The student will need to sign a release of information authorization form requesting the off-campus provider share information with the University of St. Francis Wellness Center.

The University of St. Francis Wellness Center will review the outside health assessment coupled with an in-person session with the student to provide a recommendation to the Director of Counseling and Wellness Center and Dean of Students about the student's readiness to return to campus.

Decision about Student's Return to Campus

The Dean of Students will consider the recommendation from the Counseling Center and or the Wellness Center prior to making a final decision regarding the student's return to campus. The University of St. Francis reserves the right to request an opinion from another health care provider to determine the student's fitness to return to campus. The Dean of Students will communicate the decision to the student.

A student may appeal any denial of return to campus by submitting a written statement regarding the grounds for appeal to the Provost for the University of St. Francis within five (5) business days of the decision by the Dean of Students. The decision by the Provost shall be final.