



Informed Consent & Agreement for Personal Counseling

- ❖ As a currently enrolled credit student at Allan Hancock College, you are eligible to receive a range of health services at the Student Health Center, including up to 10 personal counseling sessions. The extent of services that you will receive will be determined following an initial assessment and a thorough discussion with the counselor.
- ❖ Personal counseling may provide significant benefits but it may also pose risks. Counseling may elicit uncomfortable thoughts and feelings or may lead to the recall of troubling memories. This is a normal part of the process and you have the right to decide whether to continue exploring them if you find it too uncomfortable.
- ❖ Student Health Services has a range of health professionals, including licensed counselors and interns. All professionals in training are supervised by licensed professionals.
- ❖ Student Health Services provides only short term therapy. If it is indicated that you may need other care that is not in our scope of practice then your counselor will make a referral for you with another outside provider.
- ❖ If you are participating in a group or couples type counseling it is your responsibility to hold any and all information discussed within the counseling setting confidential.
- ❖ Student Health Services only provides services during hours of operation. There are no after hours or emergency services available and Student Health Services is not open during winter break, spring break, summer break, and has limited hours during summer and winter sessions. If you are experiencing an emergency when Student Health Services is not open it is your responsibility to contact an alternate provider or call 911.
- ❖ If you are referred to an outside provider for counseling or continued care it is your responsibility to ensure that follow-up appointments are obtained.

CONFIDENTIALITY

All information shared with the counselor is confidential and no information will be released without your written consent. But there are a few exceptions:

- A. If, based on threats that you have made, your counselor has reason to believe that you are potentially dangerous to yourself or to another person in your family or outside of your family, the counselor is required by law to notify the appropriate agency.
- B. If, based on information you have given, your counselor has reason to believe that a child under the age of 18 or an elder 65 years of age or older or a physically or mentally dependent adult age 18 through 64 is being abused by you, or by any other person, the

counselor is required by law to report both verbally and in writing to Child Welfare Services (CWS) or to Adult Protective Services (APS).

- C. When a valid court order is issued for records, the counselor and Student Health Services are bound by law to comply with such requests.
- D. If government agencies under the Patriot Act of 2002 request access to records, the counselor and Student Health Services are bound by law to comply with such requests.
- E. On January 1, 2016, the Gun Violence Restraining law went into effect. Section 8105 of the Welfare and Institutions Code states: A licensed psychotherapist, including trainees who are practicing under the license of a psychotherapist, shall report to a local law enforcement agency within 24 hours in a manner prescribed by the Department of Justices, the identity of a person subject to the prohibition specified by subdivision (b) of Section 8100. Welfare and Institutions Code Section 8100 states:

(b)(1) A person shall not have in his or her possession or under his or her custody or control, or purchase or receive, or attempts to purchase or receive, any firearms whatsoever or any other deadly weapon for a period of five (5) years if, on or after January 1, 2004, he or she communicates to a licensed psychotherapist, or any trainee who is practicing under the license of a psychotherapist, as defined in subdivisions (a) to (e), inclusive, of Section 1010 of the Evidence Code, a serious threat of physical violence against a reasonably identifiable victim or victims.

*The undersigned agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Allan Hancock Joint Community College District, its officers, employees and agents, individually and collectively, from any and all injuries, losses or damage, including damage to District property which may result from or arise in any way out of the negligence of the undersigned.

Student Signature

Date

Print Student Name

Signature of Counselor

Date