

COLUMBUS STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

SUICIDE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Effective September 22, 2016

Policy 3-47

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(A) PURPOSE

Columbus State Community College is committed to providing education, prevention, emotional support, intervention and postvention to all students, faculty, staff and managers at a high risk for suicide and for those impacted by suicide with the goal of reducing suicides and other self-destructive behaviors.

(B) DEFINITIONS

As used in this policy or protocols incorporated therein, the following terms are defined and will be adhered to as follows:

At-risk Individual: Characterized by a high level of risk for suicide and/or a low level of protection against suicide risk factors.

Intervention: An activity or set of activities designed to decrease risk factors or increase protective factors related to suicidal behaviors.

Postvention: Activities following a suicide to help alleviate the suffering and emotional distress of the survivors and prevent additional trauma and contagion.

Prevention: Activities implemented with intent to reduce the risk of self-inflicted harm with intent to complete suicide.

Safe Messaging: Media or personal communications about suicide or related issues that do not increase the risk of suicidal behavior in vulnerable people and that may increase help-seeking behavior and support for suicide prevention efforts.

Suicide: Death caused by self-directed injurious behavior with an intent to die as a result of the behavior.

Suicide Loss Survivor: A person who has lost a family member, friend, classmate or colleague to suicide.

(C) The following suicide prevention and response resources are available to Columbus State students, faculty and staff:

(1) For immediate crisis intervention access:

For immediate help in a crisis situation – dial 911

National Suicide Prevention Hotline – 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

Columbus Suicide Hotline - 614-221-5445

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Netcare Access (Franklin County) – Crisis Services – 614-276-CARE (2273)
or 1-888-276-CARE (2273)

Additional resources can be found on the College’s Suicide Prevention
webpage found at: <http://www.csc.edu/services/suicide-prevention/>.

- (2) For mental health program access:

Columbus State Counseling Services 614-287-2818, Nestor Hall Room 010
(for currently enrolled students)

Matrix Psychological Services 614-475-9500, matrixpsych.com (for full-
time employees)

Additional resources can be found on the College’s Suicide Prevention
webpage found at: <http://www.csc.edu/services/suicide-prevention/>.

- (3) The College recognizes that critical touch points in suicide prevention exist; therefore, it offers ongoing suicide prevention information and campaigns, which include regular distribution of informational flyers and posters throughout both campuses and the Regional Learning Centers. Educational and campaign materials also are made available at New Student Orientation, New Hire Orientation and outreach programming events. These multimedia materials include crisis hotline information, suicide warning signs and information about available resources.
- (4) The College has student communication plans in place which consist of educational and outreach suicide prevention activities each semester at both campuses and at the Regional Learning Centers. These plans include, but are not limited to, regular suicide prevention tabling events at mental health and wellness fairs and semester programming and outreach.
- (5) The College has postvention strategic plans that foster effective communication with students, faculty, staff and parents after a loss of a person to suicide.