



Behavioral Health Informed Consent

Please take time to read, understand the form and initial each section. This informed consent document is intended to give you general information about Student Health Services (SHS) Behavioral Health. If you have any questions about signing this document please ask and our staff will answer your questions.

Behavioral Health Services

_____ Behavioral Health offered at Student Health Services is a collaboration between psychology and medical professionals creating a holistic team approach in the treatment of SHS patients. The purpose of the Behavioral Health professional is to offer acute care interventions to those students who might be experiencing a personal or academic crisis; suicidal or homicidal thoughts; need transitional support services and/or referrals to helpful resources within the University or community.

Confidentiality

_____ It is important for you to understand that specific counseling notes related to your behavioral health services are kept confidential. However, information about your attendance, dates of attendance, diagnosis and continuity of care plan will be shared with your medical provider. No other personnel or outside parties are allowed access to your counseling notes.

Exceptions to Confidentiality

_____ Counseling information will be confidential except as governed by law as reflected in the following:

- When you have given expressed consent/authorization to release information
- When a court of law orders the release of information
- When there is reason to believe that a child or mentally disabled person or an elderly person is in danger of or is being physically, emotionally, or sexually abused
- When there is the risk of imminent harm to yourself or others (suicide, homicide, child abuse, etc.)
- When we are required by law to report incidences of sexual misconduct on the part of other mental health therapists
- When qualified personnel request records for certain kinds of program audits or evaluations
- When a COVID-19 test result is confirmed positive

When you are under 18, and it is legally required that your parents or guardians have access to your records and that they may also authorize their release to other parties

Consultation with Other Professionals and Records

_____ I understand that SHS Medical providers and SHS Behavioral Health providers use a collaborative approach and work closely together; therefore, your mental health records will be accessible to SHS providers. This sharing of information is done for my safety and to facilitate the continuity of my care. Upon request, you may review your behavioral health records through an arranged appointment with your provider or another member of the Student Health Services staff. Appropriate fees will be charged for making copies of client records when applicable.



Eligibility and Purpose of Services

_____ Clients must be currently enrolled students and have paid the student health fee to receive behavioral health services. A medical staff member must refer you to Behavioral Health Services. The primary purpose of Behavioral Health services is to provide brief, focused interventions to assist you in resolving immediate concerns. Interventions are focused on crisis stabilization; completing an assessment for any student who presents as an imminent danger to self or others, or who is unable to care for themselves; or as adjunct support for medical staff who need additional information to refine their treatment plan.

Fees

_____ I understand that fees are charged for some Behavioral Health Services, including some acute care appointments. Scheduled or follow-up appointment charges are below:

- Behavioral Health Initial Assessment \$20.00
- Behavioral Health Follow-up \$20.00
- Behavioral Health Counseling (30 minutes) \$20.00
- Behavioral Health Counseling (45 minutes) \$25.00
- Behavioral Health Counseling (60 minutes) \$30.00
- Crisis appointment following visit with medical provider No Charge
- Crisis appointment without visit with medical provider \$20.00

Payment for my visit is expected at the time of service. Unpaid health center charges or charges posted after my visit will be transferred to my student bursar account. I understand that there may be a delay in the posting of incurred SHS charges from the SHS clinical management system to my TAMU student bursar account.

If I have health insurance, SHS can file a claim to my health insurance company/carrier except for Medicaid, CHIPS, and other Medicaid Products. I am responsible for all co-pays, deductibles, co-insurance and non-covered services. All balances after insurance will be collected as above.

Access to Service

_____ Behavioral Health services are available during normal business hours throughout the year when the University is open. Students who do not have an established Behavioral Health Services relationship must contact their SHS physician for a referral.

Students in crisis should contact Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at (979) 845-4427. Students may also call HelpLine at (979) 845-2700 (V/TTY) after 4:00 PM on weekdays and 24 hours a day most weekends when the University is open. Visit <http://caps.tamu.edu> for more information about crisis services.

If it is after hours and you are in imminent crisis, please call 911 or one of the following numbers:

- Call Mental Health and Mental Retardation, (979) 822-6467, <http://www.mhmrbv.org/>
- Go to the Emergency Room at CHI St. Joseph’s Health, <http://stjoseph.stlukeshealth.org>
- Go to the Emergency Room at Caprock Emergency, <http://caprockhealthsystem.com>



Release of Information

_____ If for some reason there is a need to obtain or share information in your file with someone outside Student Health Services, you will first be consulted and asked to sign a form authorizing release of the information. You can revoke your permission at any time by written notice of cancellation. Information may be shared without your consent in some emergency cases (for more information see Exceptions to Confidentiality).

Email

_____ Behavioral Health Services seeks at all times to maintain and respect the confidentiality of each client. With this in mind, we wish to remind you that email is not a secure form of communication. Because confidentiality cannot be assured, the use of email is discouraged. When necessary, email may be used for scheduling appointments but should not be used for any type of acute care or clinical follow-up purposes. E-mail is not appropriate for emergency or time-critical situations. The preferred method to contact Student Health Services is via telephone at (979) 458-8310. If it is after hours and you are in imminent crisis, **dial 911** or one of the numbers listed above.

I certify that I have read, understand and agree to abide by the information terms and conditions contained in this Informed Consent document. I have had the opportunity to discuss any questions about the information contained in this form or any other aspect of Behavioral Health Services. I understand fees associated with services and I hereby give my consent to the Behavioral Health professional to evaluate and provide assessment services and/or refer me to others as needed.

Patient Name	TAMU UIN	Date
--------------	----------	------

Witness	Date
---------	------