

Counseling Services

Counseling services provided by Austin Community College are designed to identify and address challenges that may impact our students' abilities to successfully achieve their career and educational goals. These services are not designed to take the place of more intense or comprehensive counseling and psychological services that are provided in the community at large.

Counseling services may include, but are not limited to:

1. Educational Development
2. Skill Development
3. Problem Solving
4. Support and Assistance
5. Academic Accommodations
6. Advocacy
7. Life Management Skills
8. Screening Questionnaires
9. Educational/Personality Assessments
10. In-House referrals
11. Community Referrals
12. Crisis Intervention
13. Cultural Sensitivity
14. Academic Advising

Counseling services to not include:

1. Psychological Testing
2. Psychotherapy
3. Diagnosis or Treatment of Mental Emotional Disorders
4. Management of Medication(s) Prescribed by Medical Professionals for Treatment of Mental/Emotional Disorders
5. Ongoing Family or Relationship Counseling

Confidentiality: Student records are protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The student records are available only to school officials who have a legitimate educational interest and parents who can prove that their child is legally their dependent as defined by the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. Section 152. Information shared will only be available to college personnel with a legitimate educational interest. This may include professional staff and counselors in Student Services, academic advisors, and faculty.

These educational records are kept confidential according to FERPA and may not be released or revealed, unless required by law, without the expressed written permission of the student. Limits of confidentiality occur when a counselor or staff member:

- Is told or has reason to believe that a student is in imminent danger of harming him/herself personally, another person, or a structure.
- Is told or has reason to believe that anyone has abused or is going to abuse a child, a person with a disability, or a dependent/elderly adult.
- Is mandated by a court order or lawfully subpoena to reveal confidential information regarding a student.