

<b>Policy Title</b> Counseling Services for Students	<b>Original Adoption Date</b> 1/2/2019	<b>Policy Number</b> SS-790
<b>Responsible College Division/Department</b> Student Success	<b>Responsible College Manager Title</b> Vice President of Student Success	
<b>Policy Statement</b>		
<b>Eligibility requirements for counseling services:</b> Individuals eligible for counseling services at Lakeshore College are students enrolled in credit bearing or extended education (ABE/ELL) classes. A maximum of 6 sessions will be permitted subsequent to graduation or withdrawal. Appropriate referrals to community providers and follow up care will be recommended for students needing continued services.		
Individuals who do not meet the criteria defined above will be referred to services within the community. Minors and/or students who are still in high school will be referred back to their school district’s counseling department, which can better work with parents to access services. Employees will be referred to Lakeshore’s Employee Assistance Program.		
<b>The following categories of counseling services are offered to students:</b> Supportive - Supportive counseling occurs when a student is not formally assessed through an intake, is not formally diagnosed with a mental illness, and has not signed an informed consent for treatment. Students seeking supportive counseling may benefit from brief or frequent interactions with a counselor, as described below. The counselor may use basic counseling skills to help them clarify their goals, problem solve, resolve conflict, make wise decisions, or raise their awareness to general concerns.		
Consultative - Students may request to meet with a counselor for a one-time consultation session. For this session, students are often seeking input on a specific issue, but may not desire individual counseling services. If further consultation is requested, the student is asked to participate in a formal counseling intake process.		
Mental Health – Services that will require multiple session with the counselor are considered to be mental health. At Lakeshore, a treatment relationship will end upon a student’s graduation or termination of enrollment. Additionally, counselors will have the discretion and responsibility to terminate the counseling relationship when it is no longer beneficial to the client, or the client has achieved maximum benefit per the ACA Code of Ethics. Care will be taken to ensure that the therapeutic relationship is not terminated abruptly and transitional sessions will be provided.		
<b>Mental Health Services Provided:</b> <i>Individual Treatment</i> - Individual treatment is offered to students and includes the following issues: depression, anxiety, grief, trauma, relationship issues, test anxiety, and any other areas that are within the expertise of individual clinicians.		
<i>Behavioral Interventions</i> - On a limited basis, clinicians may be involved in assisting students to meet the guidelines of a behavioral plan. Clinicians may be involved in the process of developing the behavior plan; however, the plans may be initiated by the Lakeshore CARE Team based on concerns about the student’s behavior or functioning. If the CARE Team requests feedback from the counselor on the student’s progress, the student will be asked to sign the Statement of Understanding form in lieu of an		

informed consent. This form indicates the student understands that counseling has been mandated by the College, and there will be ongoing reports to the program or department regarding the student's compliance with treatment.

*AODA* - AODA assessments can be provided. However, if it is determined that AODA treatment is needed, students will be referred to community providers who have expertise in AODA treatment. Students will have the right to allow or decline assessment information to be shared with their individual programs based on written consent. Refusal to allow programs access to the results of the AODA assessment may have consequences that are determined by the program.

*Crisis Management* –Lakeshore's CARE Team provides crisis management to enrolled students during office hours Monday through Friday. Night and weekend crises should be referred to 911 or local crisis lines in an emergency.

Staff who perceive imminent danger due to a threatening situation on campus should follow the procedures outlined by Lakeshore's CARE Team. Students who are causing a disruption due to their emotional state or mental health issues can be referred to a counselor for a crisis consultation. The campus will manage the situation according to the needs of the individual until contact can be made with Lakeshore's mental health contracted partner.

*Suicide Prevention* - Lakeshore personnel will address students who verbalize suicidal ideation, gestures or plans, on an emergency basis or other staff equipped to apply established protocol. The goal will be to refer the student to an external agency for treatment or admission for care.

**Mental Health Services Not Provided:**

*Court Ordered Treatment*

*AODA Treatment*

*Employee Counseling*

*Sex Offender Treatment*

*Psychiatric/Medication Assessment and Evaluation* - Lakeshore provides appropriate referrals to community resources for psychiatric treatment.

**Reason for Policy**

Lakeshore Technical College recognizes that students come to college in varying states of mental health and readiness. Lakeshore provides counseling services to support students as they cope with mental health, personal crises and other issues.

**Historical Data, Cross References and Legal Review**

**Review/Revised: 9/9/24**

**Legal Counsel Review and Approval:**

**Board Policy: III.B. People Treatment**

**Definitions**