

PURDUE UNIVERSITY FORT WAYNE

TITLE: STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, AND POSTVENTION STANDARD

SECTION I. PURPOSE

Purdue University Fort Wayne (PFW) strives to maintain a safe campus community free from violence directed at oneself or others. PFW is committed to providing prevention, intervention, and postvention services to students. All PFW faculty and staff are required to follow the protocols provided in this Standard.

SECTION II. DEFINITIONS

1. CARE Team means PFW's Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation team, which is charged with behavioral intervention and threat assessment for students.
2. Chancellor means PFW's Chancellor to whom the President of Purdue University has delegated the authority as the Chief Executive Officer of PFW, including the primary responsibility for the administration of university operations, policies, and procedures.
3. Faculty means any PFW employee who holds an instructional position and whose primary appointment is to engage in academic instruction, research, or service.
4. FERPA means the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (*20 USC § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99*).
5. Intervention refers to a direct effort to prevent a person from ending their life through activity or set of activities to decrease risk factors and increase protective factors.
6. Office of Student Conduct & CARE means the office and staff designated with primary responsibility for the administration, safety, welfare, and non-clinical case management of all students
7. Prevention refers to activities implemented before the onset of an adverse health outcome and designed to reduce the potential that the adverse health outcome will take place
8. Postvention refers to activities following a suicide or suicide attempt to help alleviate the survivors' suffering and emotional distress and prevent additional trauma and contagion.
9. Staff means any full-time or part-time PFW employee who is not Faculty as defined in this Standard, excluding student employees of PFW.
10. Student refers a person who is admitted, enrolled, or registered for study at PFW either full-time or part-time, pursuing undergraduate, graduate, professional, and/ or non-degree courses; and is eligible for re-enrollment without re-applying for admission and/ or otherwise has a continuing relationship with PFW.
11. Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management & the Student Experience refers to PFW's chief enrollment management and student affairs officer to whom the Chancellor has delegated primary authority and responsibility for matters described in this Standard.

SECTION III. DISSEMINATION

The chairperson of the CARE Team will distribute information regarding this Standard to all faculty and staff once each academic year.

SECTION IV. PREVENTION

PFW will provide suicide prevention training and resources through existing, standardized training opportunities as well as training and resources that are specifically tailored to the campus community. Prevention training and resources will be reviewed annually and updated as appropriate to respond to changing practices and the campus community needs. Additionally, all materials and pertinent information will be shared on the CARE Team website.

SECTION V. INTERVENTION

A. When any Faculty or Staff member identifies a student that may have suicidal intent, made suicidal statements, written suicidal notes, and/ or exhibited self-harm, such as cutting, or any similar at-risk behaviors, they will notify Emergency Services by calling 911. Faculty and staff should take all reasonable steps not to leave the student alone until help arrives.

B. Faculty and Staff members are not permitted to promise confidentiality or honor a previous promise of confidentiality to the student who might harm themselves. The Faculty or Staff members must explain to the student that information may be shared with others to help them, but there will not be a discussion with others who do not need to know of the incident.

C. If Faculty or Staff suspect that a student may be thinking about suicide, they should:

- a. Get the student help immediately by calling 911
- b. While arranging for help, Faculty and Staff should take all reasonable steps not to leave the student alone until help arrives.
- c. Assistance will arrive on the scene as quickly as possible. They will determine if the student is safe and whether or not the student has access to weapons. If the student needs Emergency Medical Services (“EMS”) because of stated or observable suicide attempt actions, EMS will be notified to respond. Medical treatment of the student is the first priority in these instances.
- d. All concerns must be reported and documented using the [CARE Referral Form](#).

SECTION VI. POSTVENTION

Because all Students, Faculty, and Staff are valued, and the loss of even one impacts the entire campus community, whether due to accident, illness, or the result of self-inflicted injury, it is vital that PFW respond in a consistent manner in all events. The university wants to support all those in the campus community who experience the emotional stress accompanying attempted suicides.

A. Response for Suicide Attempts by Students

Issues of confidentiality are secondary during a health and safety emergency. A suicide attempt constitutes a health and safety emergency (*e.g., bleeding from self-injury, confusion, or coma from drug overdose*).

If the attempt occurs on campus and is discovered by PFW Student Housing staff, staff should notify:

- a. Emergency Services by calling 911 and
- b. The On-Call Student Housing Professional Staff

If the attempt occurs off campus and is discovered by any employee or affiliated person of PFW, they should notify:

- c. Emergency Services by calling 911 and
- d. Office of Student Conduct & CARE

Emergency medical personnel will transport the student to the hospital.

- a. In some cases, to ensure the student's safety or that of other Campus community members, the police officer may be required to take the student into custody and direct the person's transport to the hospital for evaluation. These circumstances include violence, serious injury, or conduct likely to result in immediate serious harm to the student or others.
- b. If the student is not experiencing a medical emergency but is experiencing emotional crises, the university police officer will conduct an evaluation, and emergency personnel may provide transportation.

When appropriate, the Office of Student Conduct & CARE, Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management and the Student Experience, the Director of Student Housing, and the PFW Police Department will contact the emergency contact of the student who attempted suicide and support will be given as needed. The Office of the Dean of Students and Student Housing (if applicable) will coordinate after-care support as needed.

If the student is hospitalized, the Office of Student Conduct & CARE and Student Housing (if applicable) will do the following:

- a. Gather as much information as possible, including the current condition of the student and the precipitating event that led to hospitalization, whether anyone such as friends or family is currently with the student, whether family, friends, Faculty or anyone else has been notified of the hospitalization, and how the student was transported to the hospital.
- b. Gather available information from available resources and online databases to get a complete picture of the student's status.
- c. Discuss academic options with the student. If the student decides that it is in their best interest to leave PFW, assist the student with navigating the withdrawal process.
- d. Notify IU-Fort Wayne administration if the student is registered as a IU-Fort Wayne student.

The Office of Student Conduct & CARE will report all relevant information regarding the attempt to the CARE Team and document the case in Maxient.

If the student decides to remain at PFW, the student will be encouraged to be engaged in counseling and other supportive interventions or treatments available. Additional support is provided and discussed at the CARE Team meetings.

If appropriate, the Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Management and the Student Experience will contact the Office of the Chancellor, or other offices, as appropriate so that further support can be provided.

Any member of the Campus community involved in the intervention of the suicide attempt may call the Office of Student Conduct & CARE or the University Police Department to consult about how to best help the individual following the attempt or for additional resources.

B. Response for Completed Suicide by Students

Please refer to the Student Death Policy.

SECTION VII. STUDENT CONFIDENTIALITY CONCERNS

University faculty and staff members who respond to crises must remain aware that students have a right to privacy and that, in some instances, they may not wish to have information shared with others. FERPA protects student education records from disclosure to unauthorized persons. Once observations become written (electronically or on paper), they become subject to FERPA, unless these records are written by and remain in the custody of the University Police Department or other law enforcement agencies.

SECTION VIII. HISTORY AND REVIEW

A. Version

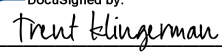
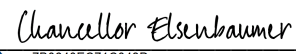
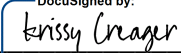
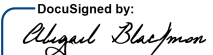
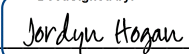
This is the first version of this Standard.

B. Periodic Review

This Standard is effective December 1, 2021. This Standard shall be reviewed on or before January 1, 2026.

Authorization

Reviewed by:

<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>38FDC3A0D76344C</small>	11/19/2021
Office of General Counsel	DATE
<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>7B0640EC71C043D...</small>	11/19/2021
Chancellor	DATE
<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>F624578850E640E</small>	11/19/2021
Vice Chancellor for EMSE	DATE
<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>A3C12E2EABC648F</small>	11/19/2021
Student Conduct & CARE Staff Member	DATE
<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>E70C171504AB405...</small>	11/19/2021
Student Housing Staff Member	DATE