



SCC Counselor Disclosure Agreement

This statement introduces you to SCC counselors: their credentials and training, the type of services provided, the counseling approaches utilized, and your rights.

Counselors' Qualifications: The counselors at Seattle Central College are faculty members holding master's and/or doctorates in Counseling. Beyond their four-year bachelors' degrees, they have completed accredited graduate programs in Counseling or a related field. Counselors are also credentialed or licensed by the Washington State Department of Health.

Counselors' Approach to Helping: Central's Counselors provide SCC students with counseling that features mutual discussion and problem solving. In your first meeting you can expect a counselor to listen and help you explore your concerns. You can discuss with the counselor possible ways to reach your goals. At the end of your counseling appointment, you may decide to make another appointment to continue working together. The theoretical orientations of SCC counselors vary but all counselors are mindful of considering developmental, multi-cultural and diversity aspects within their individual orientations. Counselors tailor their techniques to best fit the student's concerns.

Course of Counseling: Counseling is voluntary. You decide whether you want to talk to a counselor. The frequency of appointments, methods and duration of services are determined by each student's need. Counseling services available at Seattle Central emphasize brief and short-term counseling and crisis intervention and referral. SCC counselors do not diagnose mental disorders. You and your counselor will decide if you will work with a counselor at SCC or be referred to a community resource. You can decide to end counseling at any point. Central's Counselors see students when classes are in session during the academic quarter. Counselors are not available during the period between academic quarters.

Fees: There are no fees for counseling services, nor can services be extended outside the college setting on a private practice basis.

Counseling Modalities: SCC counselors offer in-person (on campus in BE 3166) and virtual (via Zoom) counseling to increase student access to services.

Considerations for Virtual Counseling: Students accessing counseling services virtually via zoom must attest that they are in Washington during counseling appointments based on Washington State law. The laws of confidentiality described below apply to virtual counseling. Therefore, students accessing counseling services virtually will need to attest that they are alone in a private, secure place while receiving services. If virtual counseling services are interrupted by technical difficulties, students should remain logged into zoom while the counselor attempts to reconnect. If technical difficulties persist, the counselor will send the student an email to reschedule the appointment.

Student Records/Confidentiality: Any counseling records are secured in the counselor's office. You have a right to see and request a copy of that record. You may also ask your counselor to correct your records. Counselors at SCC sometimes provide one another with case consultation and supervision. Beyond such consultation your counselor cannot disclose any information you have shared unless: a) you give written consent; b) the information concerns contemplation or commission of certain crimes or possible harmful acts toward self or others; c) records are subpoenaed in a court of law; or d) there is possible abuse or neglect of a child, elder, or vulnerable person.

Client Statement of Understanding: I am aware counseling appointments are protected health information (PHI) and SCC counseling makes every effort to limit visibility of counseling appointments to only necessary parties. By signing this document, I indicate my understanding that the college is not liable for any breaches related to this personal health data.

I understand there are risks and consequences from virtual counseling. This includes, but is not limited to, the possibility, despite reasonable efforts on the part of Seattle Central College counselor, that technical failures could disrupt or distort the transmission of my personal information; unauthorized persons could interrupt the transmission of my personal information; and/or unauthorized persons could access the electronic storage of my personal information. In the event of a technical failure, I will have a contingency plan in place with my counselor for a back-up mode of communication to close our counseling appointment and discuss next steps.

By signing this document, I acknowledge that I understand and agree that emergencies and crises are inappropriate for virtual counseling services.

If I am in crisis or in an emergency, I should immediately call 911, the National Suicide Hotline at 988, or Crisis Connections at 1-866-427-4747 or proceed to the nearest hospital emergency room for help. I understand that emergency situations may include, but not limited to: if I have thoughts about hurting or killing either another person, or myself; if I hallucinate; if I am in a life threatening or emergency situation of any kind, having uncontrollable emotional reactions; or if I am dysfunctional due to abusing drugs or alcohol.

I acknowledge I have been told that if I feel suicidal, I am to call 911 or other local suicide hotlines.

If you feel your privacy rights have been violated, you have a right to make an inquiry or lodge a complaint with the NSC Executive Dean of Student Services 206 934-3669 or with the WA Dept. of Health [statehttps://www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/FileComplaintAboutProviderorFacility/HealthProfessionsComplaintProcess](https://www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/FileComplaintAboutProviderorFacility/HealthProfessionsComplaintProcess)

I have read and understand this disclosure statement. I understand it will be kept in a confidential file.

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Student's name printed: _____

Student ctcLink ID Number: _____

Counselor signature: _____ Date _____

Seattle Central College does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity, color, age, national origin, religion, marital status, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran or disabled veteran status, political affiliation or belief, citizenship/status as a lawfully admitted immigrant, or disability.

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