

PERSONAL DISTRESS

Policy:

Pearl River Community College recognizes that certain behaviors are signs of personal distress. These may include but are not limited to references or attempts to commit suicide, eating disorders, and substance abuse. The College is committed to helping students experiencing personal distress by providing support and/or referral through the use of appropriate resources.

Procedure:

Any student who demonstrates such behaviors while enrolled at Pearl River Community College will be required to meet with a member of the Student Services staff and may be required to immediately undergo a psychological or medical assessment and evaluation by qualified personnel. The diagnosis and results of the evaluation(s) will be considered by the Dean of Student Services or his/her designee in determining if, or under what conditions, the student may continue at Pearl River Community College. If it is determined that the student poses a threat to him/herself, he/she may be suspended from the College. The basis for this decision will be out of concern for the safety and welfare of the individual student, as determined in the sole discretion of the Dean of Student Services or his/her designee. As a result, the College may require that the student actively engage in counseling and/or other treatment programs as a condition of enrollment. In such cases, College personnel would request to have access to the treatment providers to understand the student's condition and to determine if progress is being made.