

Protocol for Student Suicide Attempt(s) and Reentry

These guidelines are intended to assist faculty, staff, and administrators with addressing student suicidal behaviors. Although the University strives to respond in a consistent manner, the specificity of each event will sometime warrant adjustment to this protocol to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of the campus community is always priority. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this document, please contact the Student Health & Counseling Center.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CLEAR SIGNS OF DISTRESS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suicidal thoughts, attempts, or gestures (self-injury in which there is no intent to die but to give an appearance of a suicide attempt) • Recent abuse of alcohol and /or drugs • Unprovoked anger or hostility • Verbalizations of hopelessness or wanting to die 	<p><u>AFTER HOURS</u> AAMU DPS X5555 (or 911) and Residential Director (RD) if in residence hall</p> <p><u>BUSINESS HOURS</u> Call Student Health and Counseling 256-372-5800/5601</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>POSSIBLE SIGNS OF DISTRESS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sleeping too much or not enough • Social isolation/withdrawal • Significant change in behavior/mood • Unusually low self-esteem 	<p><u>BUSINESS HOURS</u> Call Student Health Center Counseling 256-372-5800/5601</p>

If the student is not experiencing an immediate mental/medical health emergency but is experiencing emotional crises as determined by a counselor from **Student Health and Counseling Services**, it is recommended that the community mental health officer is notified to make the determination if hospitalization is warranted.

Suicidal Gestures

If a student makes suicidal threats or gestures, the following steps should occur:

- a. **DPS** should be notified immediately. Upon arriving DPS will notify **Health & Counseling Services** to determine if a counselor needs to appear on scene.
- b. If it is determined that the student has made a suicide attempt and poses an immediate threat to the health, safety, & well-being of themselves or others the student will be transported to the nearest hospital via HEMSI.
- c. **DPS** will then file a conduct report after collaborating with **Health & Counseling Services** to begin the process of implementing an emergency no-trespass.
- d. Once the conduct report is received by **The Office of Judicial Affairs**, a representative from that office will make contact with the parents of the student in question.

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Hospitalization (voluntary/involuntary)

If a student is transported to the hospital rather voluntary or involuntary, the following steps should occur:

- a. A counselor from **Student Health and Counseling Services** will gather information concerning the status of the student to assist **DPS** in developing an incident report.
- b. Once all the pertinent information has been compiled and student has been transported to hospital, the **Associate Vice President of Student Affairs** will enact an emergency no trespass and contact the family of the student.
- c. A **Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT)** meeting will be held within 24-hours to discuss the details concerning the incident, including an updated status report on the student (if available), actions taken by all persons involved and a plan of action will be established.

Discharge and Reentry Protocol:

After the student has been emergency no trespassed from campus and wishes to return to campus, the following steps should occur:

- a. **Health & Counseling Services** should be notified about when the student plans on returning to campus and their current status.
- b. Student will be required to submit a medical clearance form to be completed by the **treating licensed medical provider**.
- c. A release of information is to be signed by the student for relevant medical records for review by **Health & Counseling Services**.
- d. **Health & Counseling Services** will notify the **Office of Judicial Affairs** once medical clearance form is received and make any recommendations related to health, safety, and well-being of student in question.