

Christopher Newport University

Policy: Parent/Legal Guardian - Student Health and Safety Notification Policy **Policy Number: 9005**

Executive Oversight: Vice President of Student Affairs/Dean of Students
Contact Office: Office of Student Affairs
Frequency of Review: Biennially
Date of Last Review: September 2018

A. PURPOSE

Christopher Newport University is committed to protecting the health, safety and welfare of the members of our campus community. This policy describes circumstances under which parent(s) or legal guardian(s) will be notified about the health or safety of their student.

B. POLICY STATEMENT

Christopher Newport University will contact a parent or legal guardian of any dependent student when the University learns of information and determines that notification is necessary to protect or safeguard the health or safety of the student or others. This includes, but is not limited to student behavior that presents the following concerns:

- a risk to cause serious physical harm to him/herself and/or others
- a risk to suffer serious harm due to his or her lack of capacity to protect himself or herself from harm
- a demonstrated lack of capacity to provide for his or her basic human needs
- evaluation/hospitalization for a serious illness, to include a life-threatening situation

The University may notify a parent or guardian of a dependent student, or as otherwise permitted by law, for reasons other than those listed above.

When it is determined that notification is necessary, notification will be provided by the Vice President of Student Affairs or designee. However, parent/guardian notification may not be provided if the University determines that such notification may be reasonably likely to cause substantial harm to the student or another person.

In some instances, parents/guardians will be expected to travel to Christopher Newport University to assist in resolving/mitigating challenges, especially mental health issues. The University will not be responsible for decisions regarding the specific health treatment plan of a student. However, the University may outline expectations prior to a student's return to campus which include health related requirements.

Counseling Center and Health Center staff members may disclose confidential information in the case of imminent danger, to the extent that it is necessary to protect the student or others threatened by the student. A treating clinician will inform the Vice President of Student Affairs whenever notification is recommended in these instances.

C. PROCEDURES

Any member of the University community with cause for concern of a student's overall health or safety should contact one of the following. Please note that these resources, with the exception of University Police, may not provide an immediate response.

- University Police: 757-594-7777
- Office of Counseling Services: 757-594-7047
- Office of Student Affairs: 757-594-7160
- Office of Residence Life: 757-594-7527
- Hall Director or Resident Assistant (RA)

Individuals from these offices or community members may bring the concern to the Vice President for Student Affairs or talk directly with a member of the Threat Assessment Team. *See the Campus Violence Prevention Policy 1055.*

The Vice President of Student Affairs shall determine whether notification of a parent/legal guardian is necessary and appropriate. If parent/legal guardian notification is warranted, the Vice President of Student Affairs or the Vice President's designee will then notify the parent/legal guardian.

The general procedure is subject at all times to the authority and direction of the University's VPSA/Dean of Students to approve notification by such other University office or personnel as may be necessary or appropriate under the circumstances.

D. RESOURCES

- [University Police](#): 757-594-7777
- [Office of Counseling Services](#): 757-594-7047
- [Vice President for Student Affairs](#): 757-594-7160
- [Office of Residence Life](#): 757-594-7527
- Hall Director or Resident Assistant (RA)

E. AUTHORITY

Code of Virginia §23.1-1303

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99)

F. APPROVAL AND REVISIONS

Approved By: Board of Visitors, June 20, 2008

Revision 1: Board of Visitors, September 24, 2018

G.NEXT REVIEW DATE: Summer 2020