

<p style="text-align: center;">COUNSELING SERVICES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Niagara University</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">POLICIES & PROCEDURES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Scope of Service</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Review History</p> <p>Data Initiated: June 2012</p> <p>Last Revision:</p> <p>Date(s) Reviewed/Revised:</p>
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Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the scope of practice within which the Office of Counseling Services will operate.

Rationale:

A written policy regarding scope of service is necessary to more clearly define the breadth of service Counseling Services can provide. Due to the number of counselors in training that provide services in the office, scant full-time, licensed staff and the lack of daily psychiatric services, it is impossible for the office of Counseling Services to meet the needs of our more challenging clinical presentations.

Policy:

The Office of Counseling Services is committed to providing comprehensive, quality mental health services to students who may be dealing with everyday life stressors, as well as more difficult problems or circumstances. In addition, Counseling Services is dedicated to providing confidential mental health counseling to help students work through and overcome those obstacles that may be hindering their ability to reach their full potential so that they may achieve greater personal, academic, and professional success. To that end, Niagara University Counseling Services provides individual, group and couples counseling to Niagara University students. In addition, Counseling Services provides workshops and training opportunities to students, staff, faculty and administration.

Our scope of service is broad and does not discriminate against any person, based on sex, sexual orientation, race, color, creed, national origin, age, marital status, Vietnam Era or disabled veteran status, disability, predisposing genetic characteristic, domestic violence victim status or other category protected by law. In regard to providing counseling services ordered by a court of law, in anticipation of an order by a court of law or in response to a legal action, however, Niagara University Counseling Services is unable to provide such services for these instances. Participation in legal proceedings, in these instances is beyond Counseling Services' scope of service.

In addition, Counseling Services may not provide long term treatment to those students suffering from chronic, severe and persistent mental health disorders (ie: certain eating disorders, certain mood disorders, certain psychotic disorders, and/or certain personality disorders, among others). For these cases, Counseling Services can play a supportive role, such as providing brief interventions until a primary mental health is obtained, crisis services in emergency situations, and/or supportive “check-in” appointments.

Should a student find him/herself in a situation where court ordered counseling is needed, counseling services staff are able to meet with a student to provide appropriate referrals to assist the student in meeting his/her court ordered or anticipated court ordered requirements.

Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to Monica Romeo, LMHC, Director, Counseling Services (p:716.286.8536; LL Seton Hall, Niagara University, NY 14109).