

The Ohio State University at Mansfield CONSULTATION AND ASSESSMENT TEAM

The Consultation and Assessment Team (CAT) is an informal consultation team that reports to the Chief Student Life and Enrollment Services Officer. Permanent members include Chief Student Life and Enrollment Services Officer, Contract Psychologist or designee from New Directions Student Assistance Program (SAP), Coordinator for Disability Services, Housing Director (if student lives on campus), and Public Safety Officer. Other members, including the same colleagues, as noted above, from NC State College, may be invited as necessary and appropriate, including when such colleagues have legitimate educational interests or when their participation is necessary to protect health and safety in connection with an emergency. If additional consultation services are required, the CAT from the Columbus Campus will be consulted. Their members include: the Director of Counseling and Consultation Services (Chair), OSU Police designee, Director of Student Conduct, ADA Coordinator's Office designee, and Office of Legal Affairs designee as legal counsel.

Consultation meetings are held at the request of Mansfield faculty, staff, or students who are concerned about a student's behavior that may be dangerous to self or others or is extremely disruptive. Meetings consist of the core members, legal counsel (when necessary), and the faculty, staff, and/or students impacted by the behavior.

CHARGE

- Assess situations involving students who pose a potential risk of harm to self, others, or property in the university community or involving substantial disruption of university activities.
- Consult with faculty, staff, and students impacted by the student's behavior.
- Coordinate the university's response to violent, threatening, or significantly disruptive students.
- Make recommendations to the Chief Student Life and Enrollment Services Officer and/or Vice President for Student Life in Columbus on an appropriate course of action with regard to a student who poses a potential risk consistent with university rules and policies.

OUTCOMES

The team will develop and recommend a coordinated plan of action to manage the situation that accounts for the community safety, individual student rights, and preservation of the learning, living, and working environment. CAT considerations include assessment of the potential for violence, strategies to contain disruption, resource availability and referral for the perceived core problem, accommodation that may be required by law, and setting appropriate behavioral boundaries within the existing policies and procedures.

If appropriate and as deemed necessary, the team may recommend enactment of one of the following Faculty rules:

- 3335-23-20 Interim Suspension
- 3335-23-21 Administrative Disenrollment

- 3335-9-08 Enrollment Denial for Medical Reasons
 - 3335-23-01to22 Code of Student Conduct (Charges and hearing on prohibited conduct)
 - 3335-8-33 Disenrollment from a Course
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Communication links will be established to keep relevant parties informed of unfolding events and resolutions. A team member will be designated to follow each case to resolution.

CONTACTS

Faculty and staff may contact the person below who seems the most appropriate for the situation. That person may resolve the situation with an individual consultation within the scope of their unit or they may suggest a Case Consultation and Assessment Team Meeting.

Tessa Bianchi, M.A., P.C.C.	419-529-9941 tbianchi@ashland.edu
Blake Wagner, Ph.D., Contract Psychologist	419-529-9941 or 419-571-1678 (emergency #)
Jeff Hoffer, Public Safety Supervisor	419-755-4210 or 4346 hoffer.30@osu.edu
Michelle McGregor, Coordinator, Disability Services	419-755-4304 mcmgregor.40@osu.edu
Donna L. Hight, Ph.D., Chief Student Life and En.Serv. Officer	419-755-4034 hight.6@osu.edu

The Ohio State University-Mansfield
Student Life

Donna L. Hight, Ph.D., Chief Student Life and Enrollment Services Officer

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Additional Resources:

ADA and Section 504 (Summary Statement)

OCR policy holds that nothing in Section 504 prevents educational institutions from addressing the dangers posed by an individual who represents a “direct threat” to the health and safety of self or others, even if such an individual is a person with a disability, as that individual may no longer be qualified for a particular educational program or activity. However, recipients must take steps to ensure that disciplinary and other adverse actions against **persons posing a direct threat** are not a pretext or excuse for discrimination.

To rise to the level of a **direct threat, there must be a high probability of substantial harm** and not just a slightly increased, speculative, or remote risk. In a direct threat situation, a college needs to make an individualized and objective assessment of the student’s ability to safely participate in the college’s program, based on a reasonable medical judgment relying on the most current medical knowledge or the best available objective evidence. The assessment must determine: the nature, duration, and severity of the risk; the probability that the potentially threatening injury will actually occur; and whether reasonable modifications of policies, practices, or procedures will sufficiently mitigate the risk. Due process requires a college to adhere to procedures to ensure that students with disabilities are not subject to adverse action on the basis of unfounded fear, prejudice, or stereotypes. A nondiscriminatory belief will be based on a student’s observed conduct, actions, and statements, not merely knowledge or belief that the student is an individual with a disability. In exceptional circumstances, such as situations where safety is of immediate concern, a college may take interim steps pending a final decision regarding adverse action against a student as long as minimal due process (such as notice and an initial opportunity to address the evidence) is provided in the interim and full due process (including a hearing and the right to appeal) is offered later.

Adapted from The Ohio State University at Columbus, Office of Student Life, 5/07