

COUNSELING

References: *Education Code Sections 72620 and 72621*
Title 5 Section 51018

The counseling services available in the Southwestern Community College District's counseling program include at least the following:

- Academic counseling, in which the student is assisted in assessing, planning, and implementing his or her immediate and long-range academic goals;
- Career counseling, in which the student is assisted in assessing his or her aptitudes, abilities, and interests, and is advised concerning the current and future employment trends;
- Personal counseling, in which the student is assisted with personal, family, or other social concerns, when that assistance is related to the student's education;
- Coordination with the counseling aspects of other services to students which exist on campus, including but not limited to those services provided in programs for students with special needs, skills testing programs, financial assistance programs, and job placement services;
- Prospective student counseling services through Orientation programs and walk-in counseling services.

Confidentiality of Counseling Information: Information of a personal nature disclosed by a student 12 years of age or older in the process of receiving counseling from a counselor is confidential and shall not become part of the student record without the written consent of the person who disclosed the confidential information. However, the information shall be disclosed when permitted by applicable law including, but not limited to, disclosure as necessary to report child abuse or neglect; reporting to the Superintendent/President or other persons when the counselor has reason to believe that disclosure is necessary to avert a clear and present danger to the health, safety, or welfare of the student or other persons living in the District community; reporting information to the Superintendent/President or other persons, as necessary, when the student indicates that a crime involving the likelihood of personal injury or significant or substantial property losses will be, or have been, committed; reporting information to one or more persons specified in a written waiver by the student.

Counseling services will be provided to all newly enrolled students; to all continuing and returning students enrolled in credit or noncredit courses; students on academic or progress probation; and students enrolled in basic skills courses. The District is authorized to mandate counseling as a condition for enrollment for selected groups of students including, but not limited to: Veterans, Financial Aid recipients, students with disabilities, EOPS students, CalWORKs students, students on academic or progress probation, and students readmitted to the College after disqualification or as a result of disciplinary action.