

PSYCHOLOGICAL CRISES/SUBSTANCE ABUSE

A PSYCHOLOGICAL CRISIS exists when an individual is threatening harm to themselves or others, or is out of touch with reality.

The crisis may be manifested as

- paranoia,
- hallucinations,
- uncontrollable behavior or
- complete withdrawal.

STUDENTS – experiencing a severe psychological crisis should go to the nearest hospital emergency room or contact Florida Atlantic University’s Counseling Center which provides individual and group counseling to currently enrolled FAU students. Its professionally trained staff seeks to assist students with social, emotional, and academic concerns in a sensitive, caring, and confidential manner.

Counseling Center Telephone Numbers

Boca Raton Campus (561) 297-3540	Broward Campuses (954) 236-1210	John D. MacArthur Campus (561) 799-8621
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(More information is available at their website www.fau.edu/student/counsel/).

FACULTY/STAFF - experiencing an psychological crisis should go to the nearest hospital emergency room or call their family physician. Employees can also contact the University's Employee Assistance Program (EAP) at 561-297-3074 or 3057 for confidential guidance to appropriate counseling.

The following organizations also provide assistance to students, faculty and staff:

- Broward County – Henderson Mental Health Center (954) 463-0911
- Palm Beach County – South County Mental Health Center (561) 495-0522
- Martin County Mental Health Center (561) 286-1126
- St. Lucie County New Horizons of the Treasure Coast (561) 468-5600
- Centerline Hotline – (561) 930-1234 (A free, confidential crisis intervention and information referral service).

PROCEDURES

- Should you come into contact with someone experiencing a psychological crisis, do not attempt to handle the potentially dangerous situation alone.
- Notify the University Police or local police (911). All suicide attempts should be immediately reported to the police.
- The safety of the person in crisis and those around him/her should be of first concern. University Police will work closely with campus counseling professionals and when necessary, exercise authority granted by the Florida Mental Health Act (F.S.S. 394), also known as the “Baker Act.”

UNIVERSITY SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

FAU is committed to providing a safe and orderly environment for all members of the campus community. To accomplish this goal the University advises all members that it is unlawful to manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess and/or use illegal drugs on university property. Any violation of this policy and/or state and federal laws regarding drugs may result in prosecution and/or campus disciplinary action.

The use of alcoholic beverages by members of the University community is at all times subject to state laws and the University Alcohol Policy and guidelines. It is unlawful for any person to sell, give, serve or permit to be served alcoholic beverages to any person under 21 years of age.

Housing also provides specific guidelines regarding the use of alcohol in all resident areas.