

Student Optional Disclosure of Private Mental Health Information Policy

In accordance with the Student Optional Disclosure of Private Mental Health Act ([IGP 59.1](#)), Illinois Central College will provide students with the option to authorize in writing that a designated person, defined as a parent, guardian, or adult over the age of 18, be contacted by a psychologist, counselor, or other qualified examiner employed by Illinois Central College during a mental health emergency.

This Act states that an institution of higher learning may disclose mental health information if a physician, clinical psychologist, or qualified examiner, makes a determination that the student poses a clear danger to himself, herself or others to protect the student or other person against a clear, imminent risk of serious physical or mental injury or disease or death being inflicted upon the person or by the student on himself, herself, or others. The physician, clinical psychologist, or qualified examiner shall, as soon as practicable, but in no more than 24 hours after making the determination under this section, attempt to contact the designated person and notify the designated person that the physician, clinical psychologist, or qualified examiner has made a determination that the student poses a clear, imminent danger to himself, herself, or others.

Students will be provided a link to the [online authorization form](#). Students will be given the option to rescind their authorization at any time and may also change their designated person at any time through accessing the online form. Students who want to make changes to their authorization must revisit the website and fill out the form again with the updated information. Illinois Central College will reserve the right under certain circumstances as allowed by and/or required by law to contact parents or the proper authorities in the event of an emergency that will protect the student's life or the lives of others.

The authorization form will be stored in Maxient, a secure record keeping system. It will be password protected and only accessible by an Illinois Central College psychologist, counselor, or other qualified examiner. Any contact with a designated person regarding a student's mental health emergency will also be documented in Maxient and will be accessible by Illinois Central College psychologists, counselors, or other qualified examiners.