

Confidentiality Statement (Informed Consent)

VGCC Counseling Services carefully adheres to the professional standards of ethics as provided by the American Counseling Association model. We may consult with counselors within our department, or as part of professional supervision, in an effort to provide the best possible care to our students. We can not tell anyone else, inside or outside of VGCC, that a student is receiving counseling services, nor can we discuss the context of the services unless the student signs a specific release authorizing us to do so. Sometimes, a faculty or staff member who has made the referral will call us to follow up on a referral they have made. Please understand that we can not reveal that the student has made an appointment, without his or her consent.

The only time we can release counseling information without a student's consent is if:

- a counselor believes the student presents an imminent danger to himself or others
- the life or safety of an identifiable third party is endangered
- a child or vulnerable adult is being abused, neglected, or exploited
- required by court proceedings

In all other cases, counseling sessions will remain confidential. Our counselors can answer any questions you may have about confidentiality.