

Missouri State University

Putting Together the Puzzle Pieces

How to identify, support, and refer a student of concern

Missouri State's Behavioral Intervention Team

- **Missouri State's Behavioral Intervention Team is here to provide a proactive and supportive resource for the identification, assessment and intervention of problematic behavior that raises concerns within the University Community.**



Missouri State's Behavioral Intervention Team

Team Composition

- Dean of Students (Chair)
- Director of Student Conduct
- Faculty/Academic Appointee
- Associate Director, University Safety
- Director of the Counseling Center
- Associate Director of Residence Life, Housing, and Dining Services
- Associate General Counsel
- Care Consultant
- Supervisor, Police Substation
- Dean of Students Graduate Assistant

BIT: Receiving the Puzzle Pieces



- **The BIT** is designed to receive referrals from faculty, staff, students, and families.
- When you're worried about someone, or have a piece of information, hand your puzzle piece off to the team.
- Make a referral to the team by ***filling out the online referral form.***

What is Being Referred to BIT?

■ **Mental Health Concerns**

- Suicidal ideation/threats
- Substance abuse
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Disoriented thinking/expression
- General
- Eating or body image concerns
- Chronic Stress

■ **Academic Concerns**

- General difficulties
- Excessive class absenteeism
- Classroom disruption

■ **Behavioral Concerns**

- Hygiene
- Disruption
- Threatening words or actions
- Social isolation

■ **Informational**

- Death of family/friend
- Interpersonal conflicts/issues
- Financial problems
- Traumatic event

■ **Medical Concerns**

- Hospitalization
- General – major/minor illness or injury

WHO TO REFER: ACADEMIC RED FLAGS

- 1 A sudden or unexpected change in classroom or research performance**
- 2 Decline in enthusiasm for class (e.g. no longer participating in class discussions)**
- 3 Frequent requests for special provisions (e.g. late papers, extension requests, postponed exams)**
- 4 Disruptive, hardened, or unusual participation in class (e.g. questions off topic, argumentative in discussions)**
- 5 Strange or bizarre writing (e.g. writing is off topic to prompt, writing includes violent imagery, fantasy)**
- 6 Poor focus or attention during class**

WHO TO REFER: EMOTIONAL INDICATORS

- 1 Explosive or impulsive behavior
- 2 Emotions that are extreme for the situation
- 3 Teasing or bullying (receiving or giving)
- 4 Social withdrawal, isolation, loneliness, etc.
- 5 Change in typical personality (more outgoing or more withdrawn than usual)
- 6 Difficulty dealing with an event (e.g. death of loved one)
- 7 Mentions dealing with depression, anxiety, substance use, eating disorder, etc.

- 8 Marked irritability, anger, hostility, etc.
- 9 Talking to or seeing things that aren't there
- 10 Delusional or paranoid speech or actions
- 11 Difficulty connecting to others
- 12 Expressions of hopelessness, worthlessness, etc.
- 13 Talks about themes of suicide, loss of will to live, etc.
- 14 Directly mentions self-harm, suicide, or harm to others

WHO TO REFER: PHYSICAL INDICATORS

1

Chronic fatigue or falling asleep at inappropriate times

2

Marked change in personal hygiene or appearance

3

Noticeable change in energy level

4

Dramatic weight loss or gain

5

Confused, disjointed thoughts, speech, or actions

6

Attends class or work hungover or intoxicated, or frequently appears hungover or intoxicated

7

Signs of self-injury (cuts, burns, etc.)

HOW TO MAKE A REFERRAL

Low-Medium Risk

- If there is not an immediate concern for safety or response, make a referral by:
 - **Preferred method:**
 - **Online Referral Form:**
<https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?MissouriStateUniv>
 - **Emailing the Dean of Students at deanofstudentsoffice@missouristate.edu**
 - **Calling the Dean of Students at 417-836-5527**

High Risk

- If there is a concern for safety (themes of or direct statement of, self-harm, suicide, or harm to others, seems out of touch with reality, displays delusional or aggressive behavior, etc.) **get immediate help** by: **Calling 911 and Campus Safety at 417-836-5509**
- Once you've gotten immediate help, make a referral to the team

HOW TO MAKE A REFERRAL

Information to include:

- Any demographic information known: name, contact information, etc.
- Objective description of actual observed behavior, statement, written communication, etc., that led to your concern.
- Specific examples, including direct quotes of what was said, emails exchanged, assignments submitted, etc., that are relevant to your concern.
- Any information or action steps taken:
 - Have you discussed your concern with the party?
 - Are they aware you are making a referral?

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Incident Reporting Form

If this is an emergency, please contact the police (911) or Public Safety (417) 836-5509

If you are uncomfortable discussing concerns with a University official, the University has made available a third-party anonymous hotline service. Missouri State Ethics Hotline (1-888) 233-8988

Background Information

Your full name:

Your position/title:

Your phone number:

Your email address:

Your physical address:

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A REFERRAL



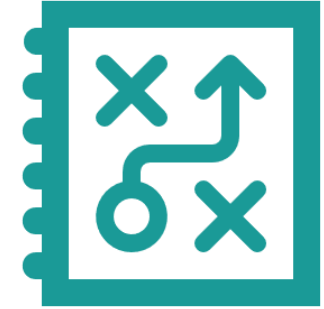
Gather Data

Once the BIT receives the referral, we will begin collecting any additional information to put together the pieces of the puzzle.



Assess Concern

In order to determine how to best intervene and support the student, the BIT reviews the data collected to assess the level of concern, risk, or threat.



Deploy Interventions

Based on the level of concern, risk or threat, the BIT will deploy interventions such as a meeting with the individual, case management services and offering various resources.

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