



## **Parental Notification of Tax-Dependent Students in Instances of Psychological Emergency**

**Responsible Executive:** Vice President for Student Affairs  
**Responsible Office:** Office of the President  
**Related Policy:** 24.002: Assisting Emotionally Distressed Students  
**Approved-On Date:** July 14, 2008 University Counsel  
July 15, 2008 Executive Cabinet  
August 29, 2008 Board of Visitors  
**Effective Date:** September 1, 2008  
**Revision Date:**

### **Policy Statement**

§ 23-9.2:3 (C) of the Code of Virginia requires that all governing boards of each public institution of higher education establish policies and procedures requiring under certain circumstances the notification of the parent of a dependent student when such student receives mental health treatment at the institution's student health or counseling center.

Code of Virginia § 23-9.2:3 (C) requires a parent of dependent student to be notified when there exists a substantial likelihood that, as a result of mental illness the student will, in the near future, (i) cause serious physical harm to himself or others as evidenced by recent behavior or any other relevant information or (ii) suffer serious harm due to his lack of capacity to protect himself from harm or to provide for his basic human needs.

Code of Virginia § 23-9.2:3 (C) allows that such notification may be withheld if the student's treating physician or treating clinical psychologist has made a part of the student's record a written statement that in the exercise of his professional judgment, the notification would be reasonably likely to cause substantial harm to student or another person.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to establish policies and procedures necessary to comply with § 23-9.2:3 (C) of the Code of Virginia.

### **Procedures**

1. The University's counseling center and student health center shall notify promptly the Vice President for Student Affairs or his/her designee whenever a student is treated by them who meets the criteria for parental notification under this legislation.

2. The Vice President for Student Affairs or his/her designee will be responsible for reviewing and ensuring compliance with the requirements of this policy and shall determine whether or not to approve parental notification.
3. The Vice President for Student Affairs, and or his/her designee or other University offices or personnel selected by the Vice President for Student Affairs shall be primarily responsible for contacting the parent of any such dependent student as required by state law, and documenting such notification as appropriate under the circumstances.