

Undergraduate Student Handbook

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Behavioral Intervention Team

Saint Mary's College of California

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Behavioral Intervention Team

The Saint Mary's College **Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT)** assists in addressing situations where students are displaying behaviors that are threatening, or concerning in nature that potentially impede their own or others' ability to function successfully or safely. The BIT is responsible for assessing reports of troubling behavior and initiating interventions for risk mitigation that are in the best interest of the College and the individual. We are committed to providing an environment where individuals are free to work, learn and teach, unencumbered and uninhibited by threats of intimidation or harm.

It is the responsibility of all faculty, staff, and students to immediately report any situation that could reasonably result in harm. Any member of the campus community may become aware of troubling behavior by a person or situation that is causing serious disruption or inability to conduct normal business. However, assessment of behavior that might constitute a threat should not be confused with management of a crisis.*

**A crisis may be defined where a person may pose an active or immediate risk of violence to self or others.*

In these cases, Public Safety should be contacted at (925) 631-4282.

The team is comprised of campus personnel who have decision-making ability in dealing with troubling situations. A collaborative process to assess threats will be used and depending on the situation, personnel with areas of specialization may be called upon to assist the BIT. The team broadens the scope of involvement and includes other faculty and staff members, when appropriate. The following individuals comprise the Saint Mary's College BIT: the Associate Director of the Health and Wellness Center, the Director of Counseling and Psychological Services, the Chief and Director of Public Safety, the Assistant Vice Provost for Student Success, and the Dean of Students, whom serves as the chairperson. In the absence of any of these individuals, a designee may be appointed by the Vice Provost of Student Life. The Chairperson keeps the Vice Provost of Student Life advised of the situations.

Information from faculty, staff and students is confidentially shared among the team members. The BIT reviews all information on the student's behavior and background, and the team will then determine courses of action/interventions and monitor the student on a case-by-case basis. Any violations of the Code of Student Conduct will be determined by the Dean of Students whom also serves as the Chief Conduct Officer of the College.

The role of the BIT is:

- to lead a collaborative effort to promote optimal health and safety of students and all members of the College community;
- to ensure a systematic response to students' behavior that may be disruptive in the residences, classroom, or other areas of the campus;
- to develop strategies that best utilize campus and community resources to assist students; and
- to support student success.

Actions that BIT may initiate:

- Refer and/or contact other officials/professionals
- Mandate Assessments
- Warning/Recommendation Letters
- Immediate Interim Suspension
- Involuntary Administrative Withdrawals
- Parental Notification

If you are concerned about a student, please let us know. You may report a student of concern by submitting detailed information to: dos@stmarys-ca.edu.

If you have questions, need to submit a report, or need further assistance, contact:

Dean of Students
Ferroggiaro Hall, Room 200
925-631-4238

If you are concerned that someone is in danger of harming themselves or others, contact immediately:

Public Safety
Assumption Hall West
925-631-4282

If someone needs medical attention, contact:

Health and Wellness Center
Augustine Hall, Ground Floor
925-631-4254

If someone needs emotional/psychological attention, contact:

Counseling and Psychological Services
Augustine Hall, Ground Floor
925-631-4364

If there is an academic or classroom concern, contact:

Student Success Office
Filippi Academic Hall, Room 190 or Filippi Hall, Main Floor
925-631-4349