

## Parental Notification Policy

The University is committed to supporting the health, safety, and well-being of its students. The University recognizes that parents, guardians, and emergency contacts can play an important role in assisting students who experience alcohol or controlled substance-related medical emergencies and seeks to involve appropriate support persons when doing so promotes student health and safety. Consistent with federal privacy law and New York State's Beau's Law (Education Law § 6438-d), this policy outlines the circumstances under which the University may or must notify a parent, guardian, and/or designated emergency contact regarding:

- Alcohol or controlled substance-related incidents involving students under the age of twenty-one, and
- Serious health, safety, or welfare concerns involving any student.

### Health and Safety Notifications

In situations that the University is aware of involving serious injury, illness, significant mental health concern, circumstances requiring emergency medical intervention or transport, or other crisis situations that pose an imminent health or safety risk, a University medical provider, counselor, the Vice President for Student Affairs, the Dean of Students, or their designee may notify a parent, guardian, and/or designated emergency contact, consistent with FERPA and applicable law.

The Vice President for Student Affairs, the Dean of Students, or their designee may also notify a parent, guardian, and/or designated emergency contact regarding disciplinary matters, crisis situations, or other significant concerns when permitted by FERPA, applicable law, or University policy.

Whenever reasonably possible and appropriate:

- The student will be informed prior to notification, and
- Students are encouraged to initiate communication with parents/guardians themselves when facing health or substance-related concerns.

### Alcohol and Controlled Substance Notifications

For students under 21, the University may, at the discretion of an authorized University official, notify the parent, guardian, and/or designated emergency contact, regarding:

- Alcohol or controlled substance-related disciplinary matters
- Patterns of escalating misconduct that pose health or safety concerns
- Alcohol-related medical evaluation, transport, or hospitalization (including situations where a student is transported for assessment or precautionary care)

Except when notification would create an imminent and articulable threat to the safety of the student or others as determined by the Vice President for Student Affairs, Dean of Students, or their designee, for students under 21, the University will notify the parent, guardian, and/or designated emergency contact regarding:

- Controlled substance-related medical treatment, transport for medical treatment, hospitalization, suspected overdose, poisoning, or other acute drug-related medical emergency
- Acute alcohol-related medical emergency (including loss of consciousness, respiratory depression, inability to maintain airway)

For students 21 or older, such notification may occur only when a health or safety emergency exists, consistent with FERPA and applicable law.

### **General Policy Provisions**

Students are required to maintain accurate emergency contact information. In the event of a critical incident, authorized University officials may notify one or more of the following:

- The listed parent(s) or guardian
- The student's designated emergency contact

The University shall conduct regular annual training for relevant administrators and staff regarding FERPA's health and safety emergency provisions and their application to alcohol and controlled substance-related medical evaluation, transport or hospitalization involving suspected overdose or acute medical emergency.

The University encourages students to involve parents, guardians, or other trusted individuals when facing significant health, safety, or substance-related concerns. Notification by the University will occur in accordance with FERPA, applicable law, and University policy. This encouragement does not limit the University's discretion under this policy.

Nothing in this policy limits the University's ability to take immediate action to protect the health or safety of a student or other individuals, consistent with FERPA and applicable law.

*"Notification"* means direct communication by University officials to a parent, guardian, and/or designated emergency contact using contact information maintained in official student records. Notifications under this policy may be made using the parent, guardian, and emergency contact information maintained in the University's official student records. The University will make reasonable efforts to make notification under this policy when contact information is updated and available. Where this policy states that the University *may* notify, such notification is discretionary and based on the professional judgment of the authorized University official.

This policy does not create a duty to notify in every circumstance and the University retains discretion to determine the timing, manner, and recipients of notifications, except where otherwise provided in this policy.

This policy shall be published annually and made publicly available on the University's website, in the Student Code of Conduct, and through other student-facing publications as appropriate.