

Notification of Student Rights to Declare a Mental Health Emergency Contact 2023-24

The State of Illinois enacted a law (Public Act 099-0278) effective January 1, 2016, that **allows a student to assign an emergency contact for mental health emergencies**. This would be **outside the emergency contact person you provided when you enrolled in the college**. This mental health emergency contact that would be contacted should you as a student experience a mental health crisis where you are determined that you are unable to make a decision on your own, pose a clear danger to yourself or others, or you ask that the College contact your emergency mental health contact.

The individual that, if you choose to have a mental health emergency contact should be **someone that is over the age of 18 years of age and can make medical decisions on your behalf**, if you are unable to do so. Without a STUDENT OPTIONAL DISCLOSURE OF PRIVATE MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION on file and an emergency arises, the college may contact your general emergency contact on file. Please understand that under certain circumstances as allowed and/or required by law, **College officials may contact your parents, family members or others in the event of an emergency without your expressed written consent**. You have a right as a student to withdraw or revoke your STUDENT OPTIONAL DISCLOSURE OF PRIVATE MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION authorization by notifying the college in writing to the Dean of Students at cyvasque@jjc.edu.

You can access additional information about this process by visiting the <https://www.jjc.edu/campus-life/student-rights-responsibilities/ferpa-information-and-forms> webpage. You may complete the online form at https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?JolietJuniorCollege&layout_id=8. This can be updated each year or if you choose to change it in the future, please complete the form again.

Respectfully,

Cyndi Vasquez-Barrios
Dean of Students
Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities
Joliet Junior College
cyvasque@jjc.edu
(815) 280-2309