

Counseling & Wellness Services
053 Student Union
Wright State University
3640 Colonel Glenn Highway
Dayton, Ohio 45435
(937) 775-3407

Group Participation Agreement

Respect for all Group Members

At Counseling and Wellness Services, we are committed to providing a welcoming environment where the spectrum of individual identity is recognized, valued and respected. We encourage group members to share aspects of their identity that are meaningful to them and to be supportive of this sharing by others. Aspects of identity that might be discussed include race, ethnicity, language, nationality, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, ability, and socioeconomic status.

Use of Technology

When circumstances prevent the group from meeting in person, we will use Webex videoconferencing software for our meetings. Webex meets HIPAA standards of encryption and privacy protection and is available to you free of charge as a student at Wright State. In order to participate in the group, you must agree to comply with the following guidelines:

- Participate in all meetings from a location within the state of Ohio
- Use a secure internet connection for group meetings
- Participate in group meetings from a private location, ensuring that no one can hear or see other members of the group
- Participate using video so that other members can see that you are in a private location
- Provide the address where you are located and a phone number where you can be reached to facilitators privately through chat at the start of each session
- Refrain from recording any part of the group session
- Close all other browser tabs/windows and all other programs while participating in group
- Refrain from using your phone or any other devices during the group session
- If an unexpected interruption occurs that may compromise confidentiality, immediately inform the facilitators via chat and then leave the meeting and rejoin the meeting when able to do so privately

You will receive invitations to group meetings on Webex via email. Please be aware that email is not a confidential form of communication.

Confidentiality

In a group therapy setting, it is important that members be able to trust that the information they choose to share in the group will not be shared with others outside of the group. Group facilitators are required by law to keep any information shared in group confidential, except in some limited circumstances. However, group members are not required by law to keep information confidential. We ask that each group member commit to not disclose to anyone outside the group any information that might identify another group member, including names, physical descriptions, biographical information, and specific content shared in the group. This includes not disclosing any information about the group through social media and refraining from searching for other members on social media.

Group members are free to talk with others about their own experiences in the group. Please consult with your group facilitator(s) about what specific information can be shared outside of the group.

Each group has different guidelines for contact between members outside of group. Please be respectful of whatever guidelines your group has agreed upon.

Attendance

If the group is meeting via Webex, you will use the same Webex link that you used to attend your pre-group meeting. You are expected to log into the group meeting five to ten minutes prior to the start time each week and will not be able to enter if you log in more than fifteen minutes after the start time unless prior arrangements are made with the group facilitators.

You will benefit the most from group therapy if you are present for every group session. In addition, you will be an important part of your group and will be missed if you are not present. We ask that you commit to attend each session of group, arrive on time for group and stay for the entire session. If an illness or emergency occurs and you will be late, plan to leave early, or will not be able to attend group, we ask that you call Counseling & Wellness Services to inform the group facilitators *prior to* the group start time.