

INSTITUTION	WHAT IS YOUR INSTITUTION DOING TO ADDRESS STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS?	HAS YOUR INSTITUTION MADE ANY CHANGES TO HOW STUDENTS ARE GRADED OR EVALUATED, WITH MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS IN MIND?
Alfred State College	Alfred State offers supportive, confidential counseling for all Alfred State students. Students can meet with counselors in person or through on-line services. Services include: • Anxiety and stress management; • Depression and mood challenges; • Relationship and family concerns; • Diversity, identity, or LGBTQ+ issues; • Alcohol or drug-related challenges; • Grief and loss; • Group and couples counseling. Alfred State has licensed and pre-licensed mental health counselors to support the needs of our students. We offer individual and group counseling, as well as health promotion and educational workshops. Wellness consultation is also available. Services are offered both in person and virtually. We partner with Mantra Health for virtual psychiatric care and have an on-campus provider to address the needs of our students with ADHD and those who are high-risk or carry a more severe diagnosis. Faculty are encouraged to be supportive and are aware of the resources available to the students, so they can recommend their students to seek resources when needed; however, faculty have autonomy as to how they manage their attendance policy. We offer destress days during finals week and have a room (the Oasis) dedicated for relaxation and recharge. Students and faculty have access to the space.	Nothing has [been] established like the University of Michigan.* Rather than abandon grading, Alfred State makes sure students have mental health supports to support their success. This includes self-serve resources so students learn how to manage the many pressures they will undoubtedly face throughout their lives post-graduation. *Note: The University of Michigan reference refers to the policy outlined in this article. That policy has since been put on pause.
Alfred University	Declined to comment	Declined to comment

Cayuga Community College	No response	No response
Colgate University	Said staff were unable to provide responses at this time	Said staff were unable to provide responses at this time
Cornell University	Responded, but did not provide information	Responded, but did not provide information
Corning Community College	No response	No response
Elmira College	At EC, every student has access to free, confidential mental health support through our partnership with TimelyCare. Students can schedule a counselling session, get immediate care with the TalkNow (24/7) service, health coaching, and more. Beyond TimelyCare, Molly [Barletta, director of counseling and wellbeing] provides a friendly and consistent presence for students looking for support as they transition to telemental health. She has also organized general events and activities to proactively promote wellness and resilience among the students. For example, she hosts yoga and mindfulness events, coordinates psychoeducational groups, trainings for different EC Community groups, and other on-campus wellness initiatives.	Did not provide information
Empire State University	Empire State University is an online public institution and our approach to mental health support reflects the virtual nature of how our courses and services are delivered. Our online format is more flexible for students since courses run asynchronously (i.e., on students' own time vs. a set day and time). Empire is also the state's only designated autism-supportive institution, with a Center for Autism Advocacy, as we serve an increasing number of neurodivergent students.	The university's approach to grading continues to be guided by the learning objectives and outcomes for each course, while offering a range of support services to promote student well-being and success.

Finger Lakes Community College	FLCC provides mental health resources, including virtual 24/7 medical and mental health care through TimelyCare, as detailed on the College website .	FLCC does not have a specific policy related to mental health and grading, but our faculty are very sensitive to the needs of students, many of whom are low-income or first-generation students. This includes not just mental health but all the other trials of life, such as a car breakdown that keeps someone from getting to class, needing to work extra hours to pay a bill, etc. Mental health is often related to other life stressors, so we think in terms of overall well-being or what is sometimes referred to as “wrap-around” services.
Genesee Community College	No response	No response
Hobart and William Smith Colleges	HWS views mental health as a community priority, meaning we make sure all of our faculty, staff, and students know how to support each other. We just finished a four-year initiative to be a JED Campus, meaning we evaluated all of our services, tracked our progress, and added essential services toward our goal of offering counseling and crisis services 24/7/365. HWS offers not just in-person counseling, but remote counseling (even when students are home over breaks) and applied emotional intelligence courses that reduce anxiety and depression while increasing coping skills. JED is a nonprofit that protects emotional health and prevents suicide for teens and young adults, partnering with high schools and colleges to strengthen mental health, substance misuse and suicide prevention programs and systems.	HWS has instituted policies that allow students more flexible voluntary withdrawal possibilities and changing a course to credit/non-credit, even after the course is complete.

Keuka College

At Keuka College, we believe that supporting a student's mental health is inseparable from supporting their success as a whole person. That's why we use the Eight Dimensions of Wellness as the lens for all our programming and student services, paired with a multi-tiered system of support so that every student has a level of care that meets their needs. Several of the many programs and services we provide to support all aspects of student health, including mental health, are as follows:

- Each year, we host our Passport to Wellness Conference, a campus-wide day dedicated to helping students and employees explore all eight dimensions of wellness together;
- We're proud to hold two federal grants from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) that enable us to provide mental health and suicide prevention training both on campus and in the surrounding community;
- Students have access to free mental health counseling, a dedicated Mental Health and Wellness Coordinator, a College Health Educator, and occupational therapy services, all of which are designed to address academic and wellness needs as they arise;
- We empower students through peer-led initiatives like PAWs (Peer Ambassadors of Wellness) and our Active Minds club, both of which help build a culture of connection and support across campus;
- Our custom-made Student Success Portal offers all students a personalized view of the support available to them;

We have not changed grading practices, but Keuka College pairs academics with strong, personal support to serve the whole student. Our emphasis is on upstream prevention: identifying academic challenges early and connecting students with appropriate resources. We've found that maintaining consistent expectations, paired with support for students, is a best practice for supporting their mental health. When support is proactive and easy to access, students are better equipped to engage in college-level academics with confidence.

- Through the portal, students can schedule appointments with offices across campus and register for upcoming events, which makes connecting with help simple and approachable;
- First-time, first-year students are provided with a dedicated success coach who helps them with the transition to college and connects them to our network of support;
- The Academic Success Center and Lightner Library collaborate on events that pair themed drop-in academic assistance and learning opportunities with free snacks, creating relaxed settings where students can study, ask questions, and connect with staff and peer tutors. Our annual Reading Fair supports both the whole student and the development of reading skills, and it is complemented by co-curricular engagement opportunities such as our popular book club;
- The College has also adopted academic policies and practices designed to support student success, giving students clear pathways and appropriate flexibility as they work through setbacks;
- For students who need more focused help, our Academic Support Intervention Team (ASIT) responds when faculty raise academic concerns. Each student is paired with a support person who reaches out directly, helps identify the barriers the student may be facing, and connects the student with the right resources. ASIT works in close collaboration with KC Cares, so that when an academic concern is connected to a

	student's broader well-being, our academic and wellness teams respond together. Keuka College is small on purpose. Our size allows us to know our students individually and respond to them in a truly interdisciplinary way – connecting faculty, staff, counselors, and health professionals so that no student falls through the cracks. Because faculty, academic support staff, and wellness professionals work side by side, we can address a student's academic and personal needs as one connected picture and help each student succeed. Being small isn't a limitation; it's what makes this level of personalized, whole-person care possible.	
Monroe Community College	MCC provides integrated student mental health and wellness supports that are responsive to student need and proactive to support a spectrum of well-being on campus. The Counseling Center provides confidential mental health counseling services to support students' personal, academic, and career goals. These services are provided both in-person and virtually with MCC counseling staff. We have a full-time wellness coordinator and part-time wellness ambassadors who provide education and support to students by coordinating wellness events and programs on topics related to suicide prevention, mental health awareness, health education/promotion, nutrition, sexual health, and disability awareness. A popular reoccurring wellness event is Wellness Wednesdays, a midweek break designed to help students pause, recharge, connect, and take care of their overall well-being. Each event	MCC has not instituted a pass/no-credit program like the University of Michigan.* The importance of flexibility with respect to student participation, assignment deadlines, and grading was brought into sharper focus during the pandemic, and our conversations surrounding these faculty-led practices have continued. While MCC has not made a college-wide change to its grading structure specifically in response to student mental health needs, we have engaged faculty in ongoing professional learning around equitable and student-centered teaching practices. Over the past several years, programming through our Teaching and Creativity Center has explored topics such as grading for equity, flexibility in

features a different wellness theme, activity, or resource, along with a free lunch and therapy dogs.

MCC's Coordination, Assessment, Response, and Education (CARE) behavioral intervention team provides coordinated support for students of concern and addresses concerns about student behavior and personal issues, including mental health.

We have Zen Zones throughout campus. Starting in the Counseling Center as "sanctuary" spaces for students to quietly escape to focus on self-care and self-renewal, we have expanded them to other student spaces on campus, such as the library, Student Life & Leadership Development office, and the tutoring center.

We provide student access to virtual resources as well. Therapy Assistance Online (TAO) provides students access to self-guided, interactive educational sessions on over 50 topics related to mental health, wellness, and substance use.

Student awareness of resources can be a barrier to access. We use an AI assistant to proactively connect students to resources. It conducts regular outreach throughout the semester related to academic, financial, engagement, and wellness topics. It is also 24/7 responsive to student questions and shares relevant information and resources. It also helps us identify opportunities for human intervention.

In addition, we focus on resources to help faculty and staff support student well-being. For example, the Counseling Center created the Red Folder at MCC, a handy reference tool for supporting students in crisis.

assignment and course design, and approaches that maintain academic standards while recognizing the different circumstances students may face.

*Note: The University of Michigan reference refers to the policy outlined in [this article](#). That policy has since been put on pause.

	Dr. Aubrey Zamiara, Director of Health & Wellness, facilitated MCC's participation in a Higher Education/Harm Reduction pilot program in 2024, a collaborative effort between the New York State Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors (CLMHD), the NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH), and the Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS). As a result of this training, five individuals from MCC became certified Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) instructors with the qualifications to deliver MHFA courses. Around 200 faculty and staff have completed MHFA certification through this effort.	
Nazareth University	Here are some Nazareth University mental health programs to highlight: 1. Continued utilization of clinical (individual and group) services at Health & Counseling (last year we saw more students for counseling than any prior year); 2. Outreach and prevention programs (comprehensive list here; 3. The great work of our NazCares team, a multidisciplinary team that works to identify and help students who are struggling in any area. This semester we hired a case manager to provide even more holistic support to students; 4. The Princeton Review ranks Nazareth at #19 for Best Student Support and Counseling Services – a ranking which is a wonderful reflection of the hard work of our Campus Life team. As announced on 10/20/26, Nazareth University earned its second federal grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). It is a four-year grant in the total amount of \$366,000 for Mental Health Awareness Across Campus (MHAAC):	Nazareth has not made any changes to how students are graded, but accommodations for mental health issues do provide support.

	Integrating a holistic approach to mental health education and suicide prevention at Nazareth University. Read more here .	
Rochester Institute of Technology	Responded, but did not provide information	Responded, but did not provide information
Roberts Wesleyan University	Responded, but did not provide information	Responded, but did not provide information
St. John Fisher University	Access to services: All enrolled students have access to our services through Fisher's Health and Wellness Center. This includes graduate and online students. We have partnerships that expand our capability to allow students fully virtual counseling options as well as to bring more intensive services to our setting. There are no session limits, instead we focus on clinical need and the utilization of the community when appropriate. Campus-wide response team: Fisher has a campus-wide Community Response Team that can respond to larger scale events/tragedies when they occur. This campus-wide team of staff and faculty have been trained in an approach known as CISM (Crisis Incident Stress Management). The creation of positions that support students: Through the generosity of the Mucci Family, we have created a position known as an Integrative Clinical Care Manager. This individual is a licensed mental health counselor and serves on our Care Team which offers an additional safety net of support to students. Access to Training: We offer QPR to all of campus as a free resource for those who would like additional gatekeeper training. Our entire Safety and Security team has completed this online 60-minute course.	Did not provide information

SUNY Brockport

- [Hazen Counseling Center](#). Students have access to free, confidential mental health services on campus. Services include:
 - Same-day urgent mental health crisis appointments for all students;
 - Initial screening appointments to assess current mental health related concerns and impact on the student's academic, social, and interpersonal life;
 - Ongoing biweekly individual counseling sessions with licensed mental health professionals or qualified graduate interns;
 - Weekly therapy groups;
 - Psychiatric evaluation and consultation;
 - Specialized substance abuse counselor on staff to assist students who are experiencing drug/alcohol or other addictive behaviors causing problems in their life;
 - Skills-based workshops;
 - Outreach programs;
 - Consultation services for faculty/staff;
 - Sexual assault advocate from RESTORE Sexual Assault Services has an office in Hazen Hall to meet with students;
 - Case management services to assist students with connecting to community-based resources.
- Virtual mental health support thorough the TimelyCare platform (free):

No, we have not made such changes [like the University of Michigan*].

*Note: The University of Michigan reference refers to the policy outlined in [this article](#). That policy has since been put on pause.

- 24/7/365 access to digital self-care and peer community;
- 24/7/365 “TalkNow” counseling support and crisis intervention (available internationally);
- Scheduled therapy visits with licensed providers in all 50 states (helpful for online students or students who are doing an internship in another state);
- Health Coaching (available internationally).
- [Counselor Education Hartwell Training Clinic:](#)
 - Available to SUNY Brockport students during each semester who are looking for support or assistance talking through a concern.
 - During the academic year, students can walk-in or schedule an appointment to meet with a supervised counselor-in-training Mon.–Thurs. from 4:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- [Basic Needs Resources.](#) In an effort to reduce barriers that may prevent students from optimal functioning, and to cultivate a campus-wide referral network, SUNY Brockport has support services available for all students:
 - Housed within the Center for Well-Being (also part of the Hazen Center for Integrated Care) in Dailey Hall;
 - Assistance accessing nutritious food, stable and affordable housing, transportation, hygiene products, childcare and/or healthcare;
 - Food pantry on campus;

- Free access to safer-sex supplies and feminine hygiene products.
- [Emergency mental health funds for students:](#)
 - Circumstances that impact a student's mental health can prevent them from achieving academic success and continuing their education. The University offers short-term, one-time funds to students experiencing a situation that is negatively impacting their mental and emotional well-being through the Student Mental Health Emergency Fund.
 - Student funds up to \$1,000 are available to currently enrolled students who are experiencing a hardship or crisis that has impacted their mental and emotional well-being and could impact their ability to remain in school. These funds are designed to assist with the cost of mental health treatment, medication, transportation, and basic needs.
- LGBTQIA+ Resources:
 - [Center for Gender and Sexual Diversity](#);
 - Counselor on staff in Hazen who specializes in working with students presenting with issues related to gender and/or sexuality.
- Support for students with neurodiversity: In partnership with the Student Accessibility Services Office, a counselor on staff in the Counseling Center with specialized training in neurodiversity, Brockport offers a neurodiversity support and connect group.

	- Website, “Be Well at Brockport:” - Resource hub for students, parents, faculty, staff, and community members. - Online portal with access to wellness resources encompassing the Eight Dimensions of Health (academic & occupational; emotional; environmental; financial; mental; physical; social and spiritual). Do students take formal "mental health days?" - There are no “formal mental health days” clearly outlined in any of the campus policies or procedures, however it seems as though students DO indeed take days off from classes, work, activities, when needed. - If a student presents to the Counseling Center in crisis during a time they should be in class, we will provide a note simply stating they were seen.	
SUNY Cortland	Responded, but did not provide information	Responded, but did not provide information
SUNY Geneseo	SUNY Geneseo approaches student mental health as both a clinical and a community-wide responsibility. Our model includes prevention and wellness programming, early identification and intervention, individualized counseling, case management, and coordinated support for students experiencing more significant concerns. Geneseo is a JED Foundation Alumni Campus, reflecting the college’s completion of a comprehensive assessment of its mental health resources, policies, systems, and campus culture. Our work	Geneseo has not made an institution-wide change to its grading system in response to student mental health needs, and we are not currently pursuing a first-semester pass/no-credit model like the University of Michigan pilot.* Faculty members may work with students experiencing difficult circumstances when appropriate, consistent with course requirements and college policies. The

is also informed by the [American College Health Association's Healthy Campus Framework](#).

Programs and services include:

- Individual counseling and clinical mental health services;
- Case management that provides short-term, goal-oriented assistance and connects students with appropriate campus and community resources;
- The Geneseo CAREs team, which coordinates multidisciplinary support and early intervention for students experiencing academic, behavioral, or health-related concerns;
- Weekly [mental health skills workshops](#) and [Yoga for Mental Health](#) sessions;
- The [W.E.L.L. Certificate](#), which helps faculty and staff recognize when students may be struggling, respond compassionately, and connect them with appropriate resources. More than 100 employees have completed Mental Health First Aid training during the past two years;
- The [Pulse Survey](#), through which a representative sample of students regularly reports on their well-being. The results help the College identify trends, adjust programming, and contact students who request support.

Geneseo does not designate formal “mental health days” as excused absences. Students may make their own decisions about taking an occasional absence within the attendance policies established for their courses. We encourage students to communicate directly with their professors when they are struggling. Faculty members frequently offer reasonable flexibility, and when a

goal is to respond compassionately while maintaining academic standards and treating students equitably.

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	student's needs are more sustained or concerning, faculty and staff can connect that student with case management, counseling, or the CAREs team.	
Tompkins-Cortland Community College	We do have programs and services available.	We don't currently have any institutional grading or evaluating changes like [those proposed at the University of Michigan.*] *Note: The University of Michigan reference refers to the policy outlined in this article. That policy has since been put on pause.
University of Rochester	The Mindful Professor Training Program teaches faculty the tools they need to support students with mental health challenges. Read the University's article about the program here .	No.

*Data updated on 10/21/26.