



Parent/Guardian Permission for Counseling Services

Student: _____
Parent/Guardian: _____
School: _____

Date: _____
Grade: _____

PERMISSION

I give consent for my child to participate in counseling sessions. If the need arises, my child may discuss issues addressed by Utah Code Ann. §53A-13-301 and §53A-13-302 (see below) with _____ (employee name), _____ (employee position). Parents/Guardians who would like additional information may contact the above-stated person either prior or subsequent to the service being provided. The contact phone number is: _____.

I further waive the two (2) week waiting period so that counseling services may begin immediately. The Utah Family Education Rights and Privacy Act requires a two-week waiting period prior to the student being interviewed, unless a parent waives this notification period. Checking this box, along with your signature, will allow us to waive this particular provision of the law and provide services to your child immediately.

LENGTH OF PERMISSION

I further agree that permission is valid for one year (365 days) from the date of signature unless a written withdrawal of authorization is submitted to the school principal by the authorizing parent or guardian. The Utah Family Education Rights and Privacy Act provides that this authorization is valid only for the activity for which it was granted unless otherwise agreed to by the parent or guardian. As counseling services may be needed at various times throughout the upcoming year, your signature indicates your agreement thereby allowing us to provide counseling services to your student as the need arises throughout the upcoming year.

Signature

Relationship to student

Date

POSSIBLE ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

Under the Utah Code Ann. §53A-13-301 and §53A-13-302 of the Utah Family Education and Privacy Act, school district personnel are required to have your consent as parent or legal guardian if information is sought from your child concerning the following issues:

- a. political affiliations or political philosophies (except as provided under Utah Code §53A-13-101-1 or rules of the State Board of Education);
- b. mental or psychological problems;
- c. sexual behavior, orientation, or attitudes;
- d. illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
- e. critical appraisals of individuals with whom the student or family member has close family relationships;
- f. religious affiliations or beliefs;
- g. legally recognized privileges and analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, medical personnel, or ministers;
- h. income, except as required by law.

NOTE: Parental consent is *not* required in response to a situation in which a school employee reasonably believes to be an emergency, or as authorized under Utah Code §62A-4a-403 (Utah Child Abuse or Neglect Reporting Act) or by order from a court. Depending on the nature of the presenting problem and concerns shared during an initial interview or counseling session by the student or parent(s), some of the issues listed above may be discussed. Your signature is evidence of approval for the service provider identified above to discuss one or all of these issues with your child, if the need arises. Information gathered in the interview will be used to formulate treatment considerations. Information gathered during the course of counseling will be integrated into the treatment program.

Service providers have a responsibility to insure that an appropriate administrator is informed of any information that concerns potential problems or at-risk situations that might occur. Information concerning life-threatening situations will be shared with the parent and appropriate school personnel. Information gathered from an interview or counseling session may be shared with the administrator or other school personnel only on a need-to-know basis. Information regarding a student's drug or alcohol use will be reported to the parent(s). State law requires that information suggestive of child abuse must be reported to the appropriate governmental agency.