CLIENT CONFIDENTIALITY: UNDER AGE 18
Counseling Services
Trinity University

Texas law permits or requires that we disclose the following information, including but not limited to:

- If your counselor believes that you are likely to cause imminent physical injury to yourself or another person, the counselor is permitted to notify medical or law enforcement.
- If your counselor believes that the physical or mental health or welfare of a child in Texas (i.e., an unmarried person under the age of 18) has been adversely affected by abuse or neglect, the counselor is required to report the alleged abuse to Texas Child Protective Services.
- If you report that you have been exploited sexually by a mental health provider in Texas, your counselor is required to report the alleged mistreatment to the prosecuting attorney in the county in which the alleged sexual exploitation occurred and to any state licensing board that has responsibility for the provider's licensing.
- If required by court order or in conjunction with certain legal proceedings.

If any exception to confidentiality should occur, and if possible, we will discuss with you any permitted or required disclosure of information in advance of the disclosure. We are not legally obligated to do so, however, and some circumstances would not permit a discussion with you before disclosure.

Except when otherwise permitted to be disclosed by law, your counseling record is available only to the mental health professionals in the office of Counseling Services. Your counseling record is not part of your academic record. Until you are 18 years of age, however, a parent or legal guardian has the right to ascertain what services you are receiving or have received, speak with your counselor, and obtain a copy of your counseling record.

Texas law gives you the right to examine the content of your counseling record. Texas law requires that we keep your counseling record for a minimum of seven years following the termination of services, after which the hard-copy and/or electronic files will be destroyed.

In order to provide you with high quality assistance, your counselor may consult with other counselors on our professional staff. The staff consultants are legally bound to maintain confidentiality. Finally, to protect your confidentiality and avoid the possibility that others will infer that you are a client, your counselor will not speak to you outside of the office unless you speak first.