

Regulations on Counseling Center and Counseling Services

Established June 21, 2012

Amended Nov 2, 2014

Amended Dec 22, 2017

Article 1 (Operation Purpose) ① The Counseling Center is a specialized institution established as a part of the on-campus support system for the members of Pohang University of Science and Technology (hereinafter referred to as “University”). ② The Counseling Center shall promote the overall wellbeing of the persons who receives counseling (hereinafter referred to as “clients”) including improvement in academic performance, general performance, adjustment to campus life, and mental health.

Article 2 (Counseling Service) ① The members of University such as undergraduate and graduate students, researchers, and administrative staffs currently studying or working at this University have free access to the counseling services offered by the Counseling Center. ② Counseling Service has its purpose in relieving stress that derive from various aspects of life such as academics, career, adjustment to college life, emotional issues, interpersonal relationships, family, behaviors and habits, existence, personality, sexual orientation/gender identity, and sexual harassment or abuse (Amended, Dec.22, 2017). ③ In principle, counseling service should be offered only when the client makes a voluntary request. However, students on academic probation shall be required receive counseling service.

Article 2-2 (Exceptions for Counseling Service) ① In cases where there is a reasonable concern that the right(s) of the University members have been or will be violated, the urgent need for intervention is recognized, and if the Head of the Counseling Center finds it appropriate to take measures to protect these individuals’ rights, then the Counseling Center may take measures such as making suggestions or requesting for cooperation to related institutions inside or outside of University, even if the client or situation is not applicable to Clause② of Article 2 in these regulations. (Established Dec. 22, 2014).

② The violation of rights and the need for intervention under Clause① shall be judged based on the rights guaranteed by the ‘Constitution of the Republic of Korea’. (Established Dec.22, 2017).

③ If the Head of the Counseling Center finds it necessary, he or she may convene a committee of between 3 to 9 persons with the purpose of providing fair treatment of the matter, and request a review by this committee, before making suggestions or requesting for cooperation as in Clause①. (Established, Dec.22, 2017)

④ The Head of the Department who was given a suggestion in accordance with Clause① shall comply with the suggestion unless there is a justifiable reason, and if there is any difficulty in complying with the suggestion, he or she shall explain the reason to the Head of the Counseling Center without delay. (Established, Dec.22, 2017)

Article 2-3 (Consultation for Counseling Services) ① The Counseling Center may have a consultant other than counsellors in order to provide high-quality counseling services to members of this University. (Established Dec.22, 2017)

② The person who is appointed as the consultant shall comply with the obligations attributed to the members of the Counseling Center in accordance with these regulations and the 'Regulations on the Prevention and Handling of Sexual Harassment and Violence.' (Established, Dec.22, 2017)

③ The person who is appointed as the consultant can participate in the investigation or alike regarding the case in accordance with the 'Regulations on the Prevention and Handling of Sexual Harassment and Violence', with the request of the Head of the Counseling Center. (Established Dec.22, 2017).

Article 3 (Confidentiality and Counseling Ethics) ① The Counseling Center shall uphold the counsellor's code of ethics by 'Korean Counseling Psychological Association.'

② All members of the Counseling Center shall keep confidential all records and information regarding client's counselling pursuant to the counsellor's code of ethics by 'Korean Counseling Psychological Association.' However, 'Regulations on the Prevention and Handling of Sexual Harassment and Violence' shall take the foremost effect on cases regarding sexual harassment and violence.

③ The Counseling Center shall not disclose any information about their client without his or her consent. However, confidentiality may be limited in cases of urgent situations where providing information is mandated by law or if the client is deemed to pose a threat to himself/herself or to others.

Article 4 (Emergency) ① "Emergency" refer to situations where threat is being posed to peoples' lives or society.

② In cases of emergencies, the Counseling Center shall endeavor to provide appropriate counseling services in collaboration with related agencies on and off campus.

Article 5 (Counseling Procedure) ① Those who wish to receive counseling should submit a personal counseling application form (POSTECH Counseling Center Application Form) via email or in person.

② Performing personal counseling and psychological assessments shall be assigned to one of the counsellors in the order the application is received, and in alignment with the applicant's request and the type of needs. However, the counsellor can be reassigned with the request of the applicant.

③ The counsellor who was assigned with counselling shall contact the applicant via phone or email to make a counseling appointment. If the applicant does not respond to the phone or email more than 3 times, the provision of counseling service could be postponed.

④ If the counsellor come to a judgement that it is difficult to give counseling on the matters the client wishes to receive counseling in, the counsellor shall inform the client and refer him or her to another counsellor in or out of the Counseling Center.

⑤ Once the applicant agrees to become a client, the counsellor-client relationship is established and the counseling begins.

⑥ Once the client's problem is resolved or improved through counseling, the counseling sessions may end with the consent from the counsellor and the client.

⑦ If the need for psychiatric treatment is raised during the counseling process, the counsellor may recommend psychiatric treatment to the client.

⑧ In serious cases where the client's psychiatric treatment is found to be indispensable, the Counseling Center shall proceed in accordance with Article 8 of this regulation.

Article 6 (Cancellation of Counseling Appointment by the Client) ① In principle, the client's repeated cancellation, change of appointment, or absence shall be dealt with appropriately at the discretion of his or her counsellor on a case-by-case basis.

② If the client fails to show up on the appointment without notice for three times in a row, the counsellor shall inform the client via email that the counselling sessions could be terminated, and end the case if the client fails to respond to the email.

Article 7 (Reassigning Counsellor) ① If the client needs to be reassigned to a different counsellor due to reasons such as the counsellor quitting the job, the current counsellor shall sufficiently explain to the client regarding the reassignment, and discuss with the client whether he or she is willing to continue the counselling with the new counsellor.

② When reassigning counsellor, the current counsellor shall do his or her best to ensure that the counseling goes well by providing accurate information about the client as well as his or her counseling record to the new counsellor.

Article 8 (Dealing with Severe Cases) ① If the counsellors of the Counseling Center, through having sufficient discussions, arrive at a conclusion that the client is having a severe case, they shall request him or her to receive a psychiatric treatment for the benefit of his or her wellbeing.

② 'Severe case' refers to the case where the client's state of mind goes far beyond the scope of the counseling center and thus psychiatric intervention is indispensable. The criteria for diagnosing a severe case are as follows:

1. There is a high risk of suicide or harming others
2. A serious psychiatric disorder is suspected
3. Psychiatric intervention is obviously necessary

③ If the client accepts the advice from the Counseling Center and begin to receive psychiatric treatment, the Counseling Center shall continue with the client's counseling in collaboration with the hospital or the psychiatrist in charge.

④ If the client does not accept the Counseling Center's recommendation to receive psychiatric intervention and the client's state of mind is beyond the scope that could be dealt through counseling, the Counseling Center shall cease the counseling sessions and report to the academic advisor or the vice president/head of the department. If necessary, Counseling Center must also request for the assembly of the committees such as the Student Affairs Committee.

Addendum

These amended regulations shall take effect on June 21, 2012.

Addendum

These amended regulations shall take effect on October 15, 2015.

Addendum

These amended regulations shall take effect on December 22, 2017.