

THE COUNSELING CENTER
Request for a Graduate Assistantship
Position: Fall 2021-Spring 2022

The primary roles for the Graduate Assistants in the Counseling Center are serving as Case Managers/Referral Coordinators. Additionally, Graduate Assistants offer front desk coverage for the Counseling Center. Graduate Assistants with background and experience in group counseling may facilitate or co-facilitate counseling groups under the supervision of the Director of the Counseling Center, who is a licensed psychologist.

To best serve our students on campus, it is necessary to refer an increasing number of students to community resources, so that they may receive a higher level of care (e.g., intensive eating disorder treatment services, substance abuse rehabilitation, intensive outpatient services). The Graduate Assistants serving for the Counseling Center play an integral role in coordinating the shift of care into the community. Graduate Assistants have the opportunity to meet with clients of the Counseling Center individually for referral appointments to aid in this process. Additionally, Graduate Assistants are welcome to participate in our growing outreach programming on campus to offer other departments information about our services and provide specialty support (e.g., stress management training, diversity focused programming). They serve as valued members of the Counseling Center team.

Functions of the Graduate Assistant

- To identify appropriate community providers as needs arise in our clients for referral;
- To maintain and keep current a database of providers, including which insurances they accept, the kinds of problems in which they specialize, their rates, and whether they are accepting new patients;
- To guide Counseling Center clients through the referral process to individual providers and/or treatment services in a timely fashion;
- To participate in at least one group supervision and/or training seminar offered through the Counseling Center;
- To follow up with clients who are referred to assure that the referral has been accomplished and to ascertain students' feedback regarding their satisfaction with both the process of referral and the services they are receiving;
- To identify other human service agencies that can assist with non-therapeutic needs—e.g. housing, food, employment, welfare etc.
- To assist students in need of those services to navigate what can be a confusing network of procedures and requirements;
- To assist in the design, delivery, and marketing of outreach programming to the campus community.
- To support front desk coverage for the Counseling Center.

Qualifications

If approved for this request, applicants must be current Graduate students with backgrounds tied to the mental health fields (e.g., Masters/CAGS programs in

counseling and social work)

Contribution to the Graduate Assistant's Professional Development

Our graduate assistants have all reported that working in a college counseling setting has been a very enriching experience, allowing them an inside look at both the clinical and administrative challenges of providing psychological services to students. We believe this will afford them a broader range of career options within the mental health arena.

If approved for this request, the application procedure will be to:

Please email a cover letter, CV, and two letters from professional references to:

Dr. Ryan Porell, Interim Director of the Counseling Center/Licensed Psychologist,
rporell@ric.edu