



**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
EDWARDSVILLE**

# **Our Cougar Community**

**An Introduction to our Culture of Care**

A large crowd of students is gathered around a large bronze statue of a bear. Many students are holding up their phones to take pictures. The scene is outdoors, with trees and a clear sky in the background. The students are dressed in casual attire, and the atmosphere appears to be one of excitement and celebration.

“Creating an environment where students feel they truly belong can positively impact their educational journey.”

**Dr. Terrell Strayhorn**

# A Culture of Care

*Creating a community where you can thrive from the first time you walk on campus to the day you cross the commencement stage*



# So, what does it mean to have a culture of care?

- Encourages a focus on relationships and creating an environment that is affirming
- Doing what is within one's own power to create a sense of belonging for each student who chooses to attend SIUE
- Attention to basic needs and being proactive when students need individualized support



# 15 to Finish!

- **15 to Finish**, is an initiative that encourages students to enroll in **15** credits each semester (30 credits per year, including summer enrollment), putting you on track to graduate in four years!
- Data demonstrates that students who take **15** credits do better academically and are more likely to persist.





## What is Campus Climate?

Ensuring that all constituents (faculty, staff, students, visitors) can **engage in campus activity without concern for their psychological or physical safety**. Our institution is committed to a culture of belonging where all community members feel valued and have opportunities to make valuable contributions to the campus.

# Community Expectations

- Honor identity
- Listen deeply with an open mind
- Use “I” statements
- Practice empathy
- Remember each person is an expert in their own experience
- Engage authentically
- Nurture relationships





# Campus Support

- Dean of Students Office
  - CARE Reports
  - Cougar Cupboard
  - Basic Needs
- Student Accountability
- Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT)
- SIUE PD
- Mental and Physical Health
- ACCESS Office
- Equal Opportunity, Access and Title IX Coordination





## **Basic Student Needs**

- Food
- Housing
- Healthcare
- Technology
- Transportation

## **CARE Reports**

When you or a student you know needs support regarding basic needs, personal concerns, health issues or student concerns.



## **Cougar Cupboard**

We know that schoolwork and wellness can suffer when students don't have access to nutritious and available meals. The campus food and essentials provides critical access to basic needs. Hunger should never inhibit the path to graduation.

## **Basic Needs Support: Benefits Navigator and HOUSE Liaison**

Students experiencing basic needs insecurity including barriers to stable housing, food, transportation and health resources can gain support.

# Student Accountability

Students are expected to be caring and productive members of the community. The Student Code of Conduct outlines students' rights and responsibilities as members of the community and staff help SIUE students understand the impact their choices may have on themselves, the community, and their future goals.



*Student Rights and Conduct*

# Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT)

Reviews and assesses cases/incidents involving potential or actual threats of violence (to self or others) to determine whether the threat is probable or imminent. When notified of an incident, the team confers and determines what (if needed) response occurs. Proper University officials are notified to initiate a response if that need is determined.

# SIUE Police and Student Safety

- Community oriented philosophy
- Open and accessible to the University community 24 hours a day
- Crime alerts (E-lert and RAVE Guardian App)
- Crisis Intervention Officers (CIT)
- Safety Escorts
- Emergency Management
- Pharmaceutical Disposal
- Presentations and Programs
- Safe Exchange Zone
- Vehicle Jump-Starts and Lockout Assistance
- Emergency Campus Telephones



# Mental and Physical Health

## Campus Health Clinic

- Acute illness, physical exams, STI concerns/treatment, referrals, health concerns, labs, wellness concerns, emergency contraception, contraception management, allergy injections, TB and HIV tests

## Counseling Center

- Behavioral health consultations centering self-regulation; same-day, 30-minute walk-in services; on-going individual and group counseling sessions; referrals to off-campus providers if needed

## TimelyCare App

- SIUE has partnered with TimelyCare to provide a variety of self-care resources.
- Services include up to nine virtual counseling sessions per year, 24/7 TalkNow access, health coaching and self-care content.



*Cougar Care*

# Office of Accessible Campus Community & Equitable Student Support (ACCESS)


- Dedicated to providing reasonable curricular and co-curricular accommodations to diverse learners with major life impairments at SIUE
- Operates as bridge between classrooms and the commencement day stage.
- Every policy, procedure and resource implemented is designed to promote self-advocacy and independence, and remove gatekeepers to access as much as possible, leveling the playing field for all students.
- **Campus cultural goals**
  - Promote full social integration
  - Position disability as a social justice issue
  - Position disability as diversity



*Register now with ACCESS!*

# Equal Opportunity, Access and Title IX Coordination

- Committed to the principle of affirmative action and equal opportunity for all students, faculty and staff
- Promotes and fosters an inclusive campus environment by ensuring campus-wide compliance with federal, state, and local fair employment laws and regulations
- Starting point for reporting sexual harassment, sexual violence, sexual misconduct, relationship violence, and protected identity (e.g. race, religion, age, etc.) harassment or discrimination
- Listen to request for religious and medical exemptions from mandated vaccinations
- Support pregnancy accommodations for students



“Through informed and respectful discourse, the Office of the Vice President of Anti-racism, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion collaborates with system stakeholders at all levels to allocate resources and drive accountability for measures that strengthen equitable policies and a **sense of belonging** within the SIU Community.”

**SIU System Office**





## **Affinity Celebrations**

*Scan this QR Code and start the year off right by signing up for an Affinity Welcome Celebration sponsored by the KHub!*

# CONTACT US



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