

West Chester University
Student Health and Wellness Advisory Council
Fall 2023

Purpose Statement:

The **purpose** of the Student Health and Wellness Advisory Council (SHWAC) is to serve as a liaison between the student body and the Health and Wellness unit in the Division of Student Affairs at West Chester University (WCU).

Functions of the council include:

- a. To represent and advocate for the health and wellness needs and concerns of the student body.
- b. To serve in an advisory capacity to the administration of the Health and Wellness unit.
- c. To aid in creating awareness of services offered by the Health and Wellness unit.
- e. To work to ensure health and wellness programs and services are available that benefit the WCU campus community.
- f. To actively demonstrate leadership in the field of college health through advocacy and awareness.

Student Membership:

Eligibility

- a. Any currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate student (full or part-time) at West Chester University is eligible for membership.
- b. A student's selection is contingent upon the successful submission of an application to a selection committee made up of directors in the Health and Wellness unit.

Active Membership Requirements

- a. **Active** members must maintain regular and punctual attendance at SHWAC meetings. An excused absence from a meeting requires prior notification to the SHWAC Chair that an unavoidable conflict exists.
- b. Members are permitted to be absent for one meeting per semester. Members who exceed this allowance will have their membership terminated.
- c. Members must also be in good academic and disciplinary standing as defined by the University.
- d. Active membership can continue from year to year for the duration of the member's academic career at WCU if active membership requirements are fulfilled.

Application for Membership

- a. Each prospective member of SHWAC will submit an application to the SHWAC selection committee.
- b. All SHWAC members will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement which will be kept on file for the entirety of the academic year. Any member violating the confidentiality agreement will be dismissed from SHWAC and may be subject to student conduct action per University policy.

Evaluation

- a. The SHWAC Leadership Team has the right to dismiss any member not in good standing.

Enumeration

- a. The membership of SHWAC will include at least one Student Government Association representative to be appointed by Student Government Association. Additional representatives from student organizations include, but are not limited to, athletics, fraternity and sorority life, residence life, identity centers, commuter student association, university college, the honors college, and other academic units.
- b. To maintain a diversified and representative organization, the Committee will make a significant effort to include at least one international student, one graduate student, one out-of-state student, one first-year student, as well as at least one WCU Office of Wellness Promotion peer educator and a student staff member from Campus Recreation.

SHWAC Meetings

- a. SHWAC will hold 5 meetings during both the fall and spring semesters.
- b. Attendance at all SHWAC meetings is expected with required prior notification of excused absence to the Chair of the SHWAC.
- c. Members will be informed in case of meeting cancellation.
- d. Special or emergency meetings may be called with a minimum of two days notice by the Leadership Team.

SHWAC Leadership

- a. Leadership of the SHWAC will consist of the 4 directors in the Health and Wellness Unit (Campus Recreation, Counseling Center, Student Health Services, and Wellness Promotion), a representative from CARE, as well as the Assistant Vice President for Health and Wellness.

- b. During the starting phase of the SHWAC, one of the directors will serve as the Chair of the SHWAC and preside over meetings with other directors having responsibilities including budget management, meeting minutes, etc. A decision to transition to a co-chair model, including a student co-chair and a director, will be discussed by the council at the conclusion of the first semester and revisited at the end of the first year as needed.
- c. Each director will contribute \$250 annually to the administrative costs of the SHWAC.

Benefits of Student Contributions:

- a. As a member of the SHWAC, potential benefits include:
 - a. Gaining leadership skills
 - b. Enhancing and advocating for the health and wellness needs of the campus community
 - c. A WCU-branded item(s)
 - d. Snacks are provided at meetings

To apply as a member of the SHWAC, click [here](https://wcupa.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8u0aY9sI5qVktwy)
[\(https://wcupa.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8u0aY9sI5qVktwy\)](https://wcupa.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8u0aY9sI5qVktwy)

Applications for the inaugural year (2023-2024) will remain open through October 20, 2023.