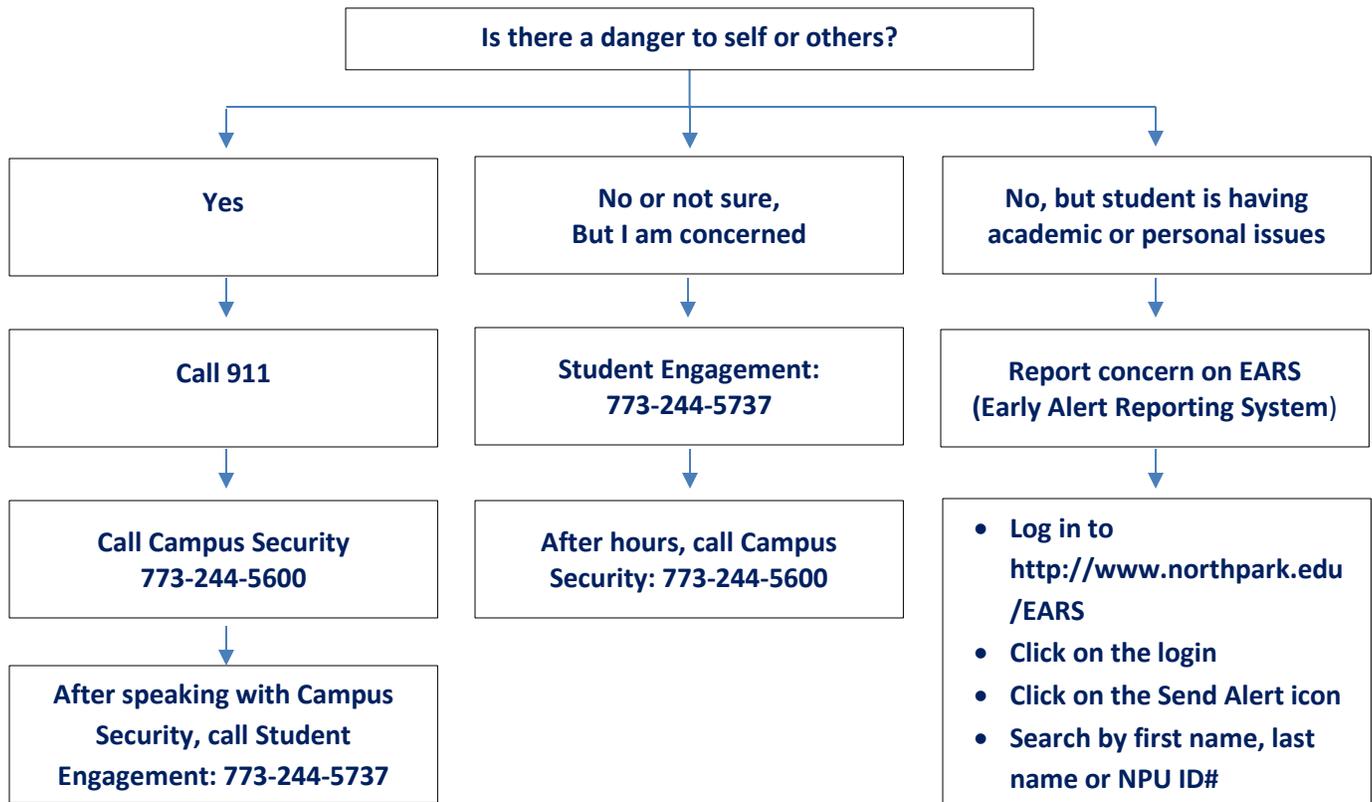


# Protocol: Responding to distressed students



## Your role

As a North Park University employee interacting daily with students, you are in a position to recognize behavior changes that characterize the distressed student. A student may use behavior instead words to communicate their need for help. Encouraging and helping the student seek assistance with the appropriate campus resources is important. Use the *Responding to Distressed Students Protocol* if you notice the following behaviors or notice yourself or others reacting to a student's behaviors in the following way:

## Student Behaviors

- Behavioral or emotional change
- Withdrawal/Not engaging in activities
- Several absences from classes
- Change in hygiene or appearance
- Decline in academic performance
- Alcohol or drug abuse
- Excessive or inappropriate anger
- Bizarre thoughts or behavior

## Reactions to Student Behaviors

- Feeling uncomfortable about student's comments or behavior
- Concern about the student's ability to function
- Feeling alarmed or frightened

If you have concerns or questions, call the Center for Student Engagement at 773-244-5737.