

Counseling and Career Services

PCC Counseling Center

The counseling staff at Piedmont Community College is dedicated to providing effective academic, career, and personal counseling services to our students. A college education is a positive and powerful asset in a person's life. However, in achieving this education, students may encounter situations in which assistance and/or guidance is needed. The Counseling Center is here to help. The counseling staff is comprised of professional educators with extensive training in counseling and guidance. Counselors are experienced in assisting students to develop skills, discipline, and attitudes necessary for college success.

Academic Counseling

Counselors are available to assist students in identifying, planning, and achieving their academic goals. The counseling staff helps to ensure that students make satisfactory progress towards the completion of academic coursework. Counselors can assist students with the following situations and much more:

1. Selection of Program of Study
2. Exploring the process of transferring to another College or University
3. Resolving Student/Instructor conflicts
4. Improving Study Skills and Strategies

Career Counseling

The Career Service Staff is committed to providing our students and graduates with the necessary services, resources, and opportunities to define their personal career goals and prepare for future success in the job market and workplace. The Career Center assists students in exploring career interests, identifying career goals, and outlining steps needed to achieve these goals. Students who have not decided upon a career path are encouraged to make an appointment to explore career options and discuss their goals.

Personal Counseling

Counselors are available to assist students facing challenges prohibiting them from being successful in their academic, social, and personal life. Counseling sessions are short-term, on a limited basis, and confidential. Information will only be released at the request of the student. Students needing more ongoing, therapeutic counseling will be referred to an outside agency.

Some of the most common problems for which students seek help include the following:

- Difficulty concentrating or completing academic tasks
- Family or relationship problems
- Issues of grief and loss
- Difficulty managing stress
- Difficulty with self-esteem and identity
- Relating with peers
- Coping with academic pressures and problems
- Lack of motivation

Explore Careers

Students who are undecided on a program, career, or wish to change career paths are strongly encouraged to stop by the Career Center. Staff members assist students in exploring their interests, values, abilities, experiences and personality; and how they relate to the various career fields. The Career Center is located in Bldg. E – Student Services, and offers the following resources:

1. Career Testing – Self - Assessments
2. Resume Writing
3. Interview Preparation
4. Printed Resources Various materials
5. [PCC Career Coach website \(https://piedmontcc.emsicc.com/\)](https://piedmontcc.emsicc.com/)

PCC has its own online job posting website. This site allows students to search for job within their surrounding areas and beyond, apply for jobs, upload resumes, cover letters and other important documents.

Please review the Career Coach Privacy Policy before logging on to the site

<https://piedmontcc.emsicc.com/privacy>

Career Testing

Self-Assessments are one of the first tools used in career counseling, and can come in many different forms. The purpose of an assessment is to help you learn more about yourself. Self-awareness is the key to making a good career choice. At the Career Center you will find the following inventories:

- CFNC offers some assessment tools free of charge. One good assessment provided by CFNC is the Interest Profiler. The assessments are free, but you will need to set up an account if you do not have one.
- Myer-Brigg Type Indicator – This assessment can help you understand the attributes of your personality and how they relate to your career choices. It is based on the theory that you are most satisfied and successful in a career that allows you to use your natural preferences. Understanding your strengths and personality type will help you determine the type of careers and activities you might enjoy and thrive in. Fees may apply.
- Strong Interest Inventory – This assessment measures your preferences over a wide range of occupations, work tasks, leisure activities, and academic subjects and compares your interests with those of professionals working in a variety of occupations who enjoy their job. It also includes information on how your interests can be linked to college majors. By identifying trends among your interests, the assessment generates an extensive list of prospective careers for further exploration. Fees may apply.

Resume Writing

Need help writing a Resume or Cover Letter? Need a Resume critiqued? What type of Resume is good for you? The Career Center is here to help. Remember a good resume is an essential tool for finding a job. Resume assistance is available to students and alumni. Appointments are needed and encouraged. Please bring a resume (printed and/or electronic) and a jump/flash drive.

Interview Preparation

I have an Interview, now what? If you need help preparing for an Interview stop by the Career Center. The staff is available to assistance students and alumni in learning strategies to effectively handle the job interview. The Career Center also has a CD titled "My Interview Simulator" that provides the viewer with numerous questions one may encounter on a job interview. For additional resources on Interviewing skills you can use The Riley Guide - Interviewing Advice.