

## Welcome to MindWise Cuesta College

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about MindWise screening which offers a comprehensive approach to mental health, substance use, and suicide prevention.

Unfortunately, we live in a time where the stigma surrounding mental illness prevents students from reaching out for help. Fortunately, promoting different strategies, such as offering prizes or sharing related information & resources, is a powerful way for students to feel motivated, and it also makes a statement to our students that you and your department/team believe this is an important topic and sends them the message that you are supportive of efforts to destigmatize mental illness.

We hope you'll consider joining us in creating a healthy, positive environment at our campus!

General ways to engage students:

 Provide time during your meetings/workshops to take the MindWise screening.

- offer motivational rewards/prizes
- Keep the students up to date with the events and activities that we promote from the Health Center.
  Follow us on <u>social media</u> @cuestahealthcenter or visit our news & events web page.
- Contact us, we can help you designing a short presentation about our services, creating a mindfulness workshop, movie forum, or inviting one of our team members to discuss any topic related to well-being and mental health.
- Share promotional material: check <u>our website</u> or contact us if you need help motivating your students.
- Incorporate <u>MindWise screening</u> into your canvas shell, website, social media.
- Send an email to your students as an invitation to take the screening (see the script below).



## Students invitation.

Dear Student,

## How are you feeling? It's ok if you aren't sure.

Take a free, online behavioral health screen >



At Cuesta College, your overall well-being is our #1 priority.

Behavioral health - which includes mental health, substance use and more- is a key part of your overall well-being. Brief screenings are the quickest way to determine if you or someone you care about should connect with a behavioral health professional. Think of these as a checkup from your neck up. This program is completely anonymous, confidential, and do not transfer with your academic records.

Seventy-five percent of behavioral health conditions are diagnosed by the age of 24. Initial symptoms often appear during the college years, when exploratory behaviors with substances and alcohol also begin. The college years are an exciting time of personal growth, but they can also bring academic, social, and financial pressures, which can worsen underlying mental health and substance use issues.

By taking a brief MindWise Screening, students can learn if they have a behavioral health issue and learn signs and symptoms. Immediately following the brief questionnaire, you will see your results, recommendations, and key resources.

Students can take the screening on their phone, a laptop, or tablet – anonymously and from the privacy of their own dorm room. Click here to take a screening

Questions: Please contact the Student Health Center or visit our website.

