

Colleges and universities have faced lawsuits brought by parents of students who have committed suicide or made suicide attempts. This article argues that policies of colleges and universities should not seek to limit institutional liability but should balance the private interest of their students, the relationship of the school to parents of the students, requirements of due process, and their commitment to antidiscrimination principles. This article focuses on the current procedural protections in college and university policies handling students at risk of suicide and argues that suicidal ideation or attempt should not be treated as if the student has committed a disciplinary infraction, but should be treated as a mental health issue that should not trigger a disciplinary proceeding. The article proposes an intermediate mediation step before resorting to disciplinary hearings or involuntary medical withdrawal.