



Understanding BIT & Advising Pathways: When and How to Submit Reports



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www.marshall.edu/bit

What is BIT?

The Behavior Intervention Team (BIT) is designed to assist faculty, staff, and administration with students facing high levels of distress in their lives and those with behavior problems.

▶ Collaborative Team

The BIT is a collaborative team made up of representatives from the Office Student Advocacy and Accountability, Counseling Center, Accessibility and Accommodations, Academic Affairs, Housing and Residence Life, MUPD, and more.

▶ Staying Safe

The BIT, in an effort to respond to safety needs of campus, assists in helping keep the university safe by connecting distressed students to available support services.

▶ Monitoring

The BIT will continue to support students, even after the initial report, by checking in with students to see if more support is necessary or other intervention methods are needed for the student to be successful.

What BIT is NOT

Administrative, treatment or disciplinary body

Adjudicate, discipline, or impose sanctions against any member of campus

Intended to address random conduct matters that occur in the classroom



When to File a BIT Referral

▶ Signs of Emotional Distress

A student could be showing signs of emotional distress (crying, withdrawing, expressing helplessness) to you or is reported to you by another student (haven't seen their roommate leave the dorm in days)

▶ Disruptive or Disturbing Behavior

Disruptive behavior could be inappropriate outbursts or refusal to follow directions .

▶ Change in appearance or behavior

Disturbing behavior could be disturbing or violent content in assignments where the topic was not to write such content .

Student is experiencing a change in appearance or behavior (hygiene decline, erratic mood swings).

BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION TEAM (BIT)

Student Concern

Sudden decline in quality of work and grades, Repeated absences, Disturbing content in writing or presentation (e.g., violence, death), You find yourself doing more personal rather than academic counseling during office hours, Continuous classroom disruptions



Mental Health Concern

Self-disclosure of personal distress that could include family problems, financial difficulties, depression, grief, or thoughts of suicide, Excessive tearfulness, panic reactions, irritability, or unusual apathy, Concern about student by their peers, Unprovoked anger or hostility, Making implied or direct threats to harm self or others, Academic assignments dominated by themes of hopelessness, rage, isolation, despair, suicidal ideations.



Physical Endangerment

Marked changes in physical appearance including deterioration in grooming, hygiene, or weight loss/gain, Excessive fatigue/sleep disturbance, Intoxication, hangovers, or smelling like alcohol, Disoriented behavior



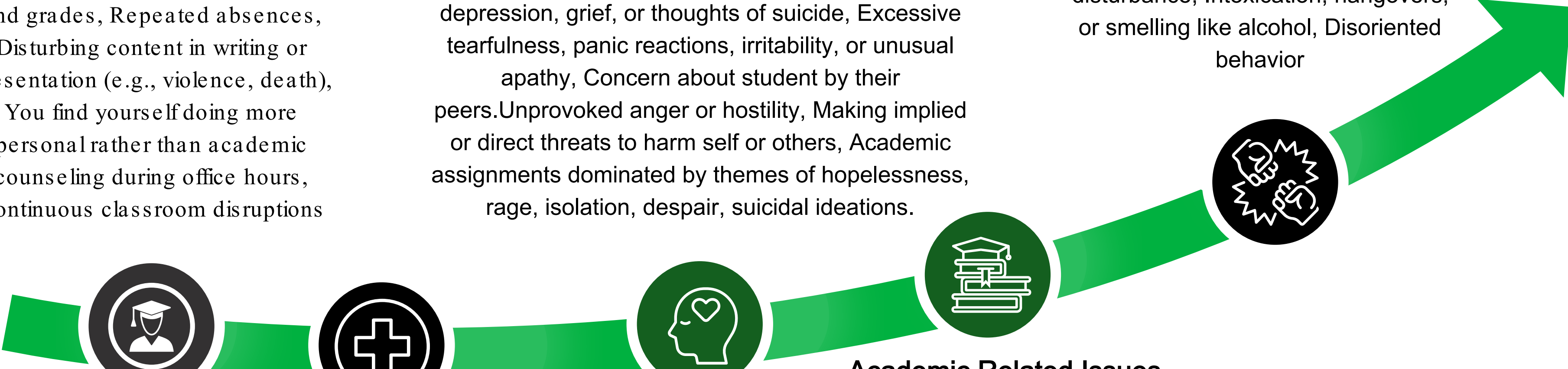
Medical Concern

Instances where EMS are called (injury/illness) or may relate to a concern brought about by an illness.



Academic Related Issues

Classroom environment issues (e.g., unprofessional behavior, bias, or disruptions), Concerns about grading fairness or academic integrity, Instructor accessibility or responsiveness, Barriers to academic progress (e.g., missing materials, unclear expectations, or accommodations not being honored)



FERPA Considerations

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protects student educational record management.

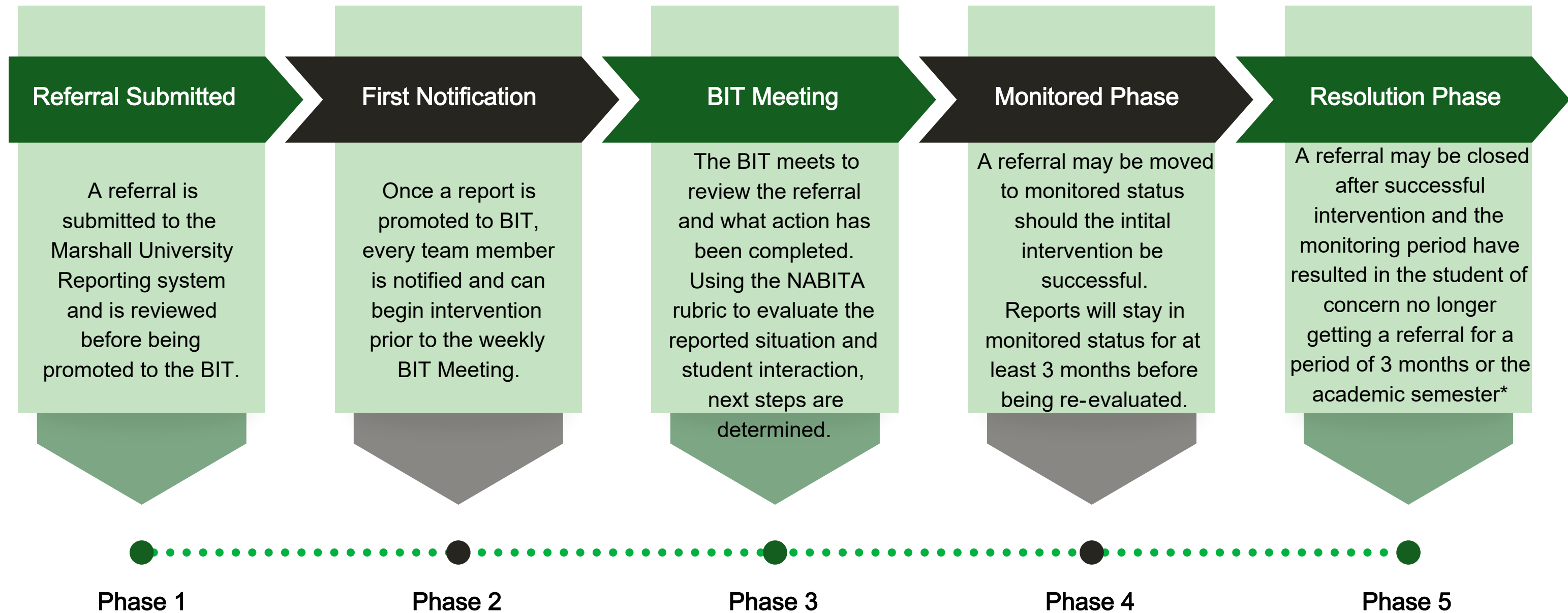
Educational records can include but are not limited to: grades, communication with university officials, and other business associated with the university.

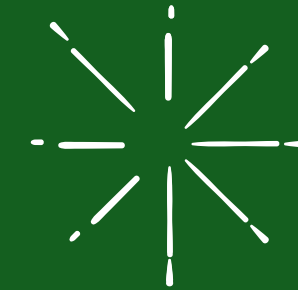
Due to FERPA, the actions taken by the BIT, Title IX, and other campus offices may not be disclosed to the reporter or other parties.*

Should you have questions regarding if your report has been received or addressed, you may contact the Assistant Director of Case Management and Data Assessment or the office that the report was filed with (e.g., Title IX).



What happens after submitting a BIT Referral



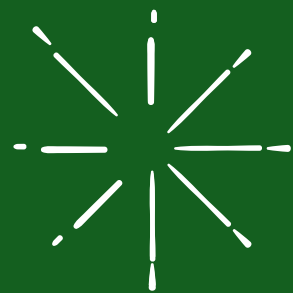


CASE STUDY

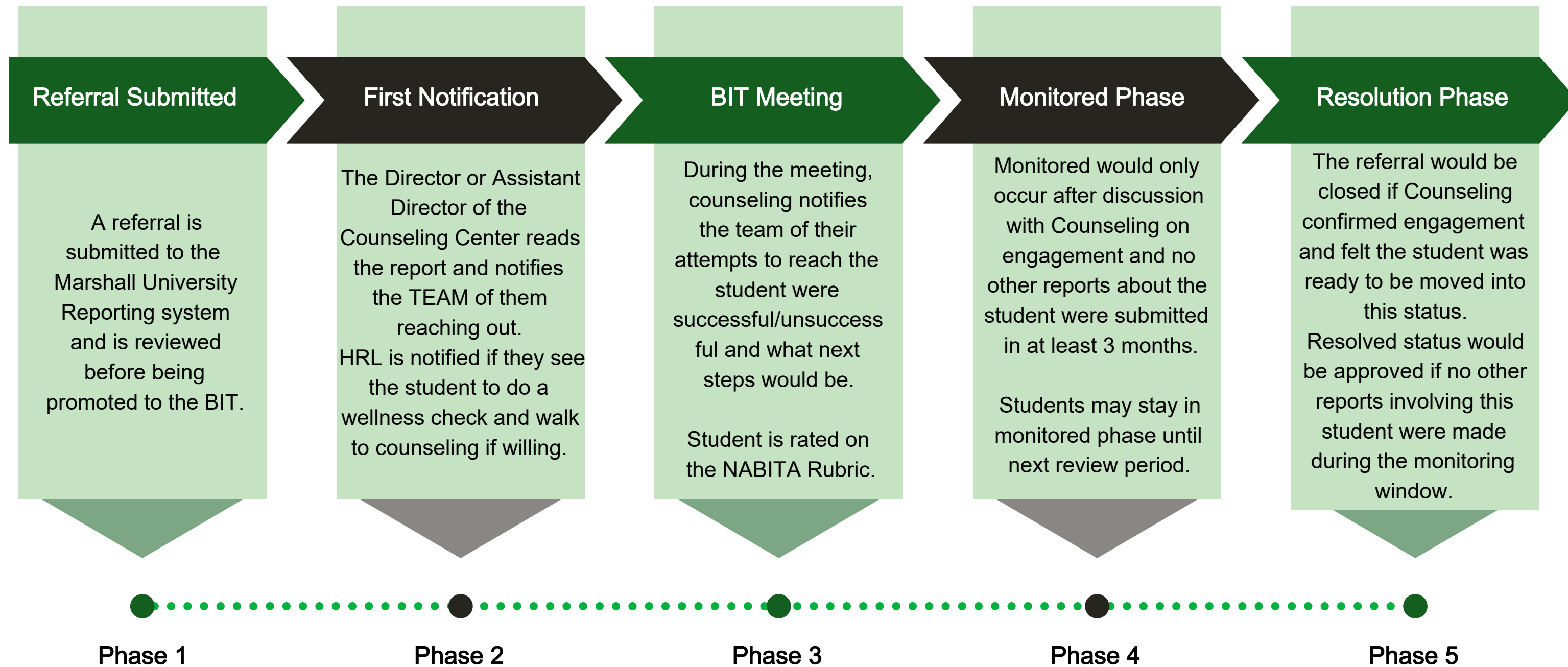
I met with John today for an advising appointment, and I'm concerned about his well-being. He appeared very withdrawn and had difficulty maintaining focus during our conversation. When I asked about his attendance, he shared that he has "barely been getting out of bed" and is "failing most of [his] classes."

He also mentioned feeling overwhelmed after a recent breakup and said, "I just don't know how much more I can keep doing this." He denied needing immediate help when I asked, but he was visibly tearful and shaking.

I walked him through campus resources, but he declined to connect directly to counseling while he was in my office. Given the level of distress and academic decline, I am submitting this referral so the BIT team can follow up.



What happens after submitting a BIT Referral



What is the difference in a Navigate Alert and a BIT Report?

The Behavior Intervention Team (BIT) is designed to assist faculty, staff, and administration with students facing high levels of distress in their lives and those with behavior problems. A Navigate referral is designed to connect a student to a resource when their distress is not urgent and their need is not BEHAVIOR RELATED.

▶ Refer to Counseling Center

This alert goes directly to the Counseling Center and should be used when a student wants counseling services, but isn't facing immediate or urgent concerns (suicide, self harm, etc.). This alert is both HIPPA and FERPA protected and will be closed without comment.

▶ Housing or Food Insecurity

This alert goes to both Student Affairs and Housing and will be triaged accordingly. Once the correct office has the information they will address the concern with university and local resources.

▶ Personal or Family Hardships

This alert goes to Student Affairs and allows our SA team to intervene and support the student as much as possible with university and local resources as they manage their hardship.