

MEDICAL STUDENT CONDUCT

Medical students must conduct themselves at all times in a professional, ethical and lawful manner. Through their actions, they are expected to uphold the academic integrity of the institution and the standards of conduct expected of all medical professionals. They are to respect the rights and property of all persons with whom they interact, both inside and outside the university community. They are to abide by local, state and federal laws.

The medical profession has a strong tradition of peer review and self-discipline. There are two programs that provide guidance and advocacy to students regarding appropriate professional conduct and behavior: the Physicianship and Professionalism Advocacy Program and the Code of Honorable and Professional Conduct.

PHYSICIANSHIP AND PROFESSIONALISM ADVOCACY PROGRAM

The Physicianship and Professionalism Advocacy Program (PPAP) provides one of several formal mechanisms to monitor, evaluate and improve the professional conduct and behavior of medical students. This program allows students, faculty and administration to promote the highest levels of professional conduct in medical students and to express concerns when the standards of conduct are not upheld. A complete description of the PPAP is included in **Appendix I** of this handbook.

The professional attributes by which students are evaluated include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Honesty and Integrity
- Responsibility, Reliability, and Dependability
- Respect for Colleagues, Faculty, and Staff
- Altruism
- Empathy
- Commitment to Competence and Excellence
- Self-Assessment and Self-Improvement
- Respect for Patients

THE CODE FOR HONORABLE AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

The Code of Honorable and Professional Conduct (Honor Code) described in **Appendix II** of this handbook should serve as a guide to medical students in matters related to academic integrity and professional conduct. The Honor Code provides mechanisms for peer evaluation and support, which the faculty and administration believe is an essential component of medical education and the development of medical students.

The Council for Honorable and Professional Conduct (CHPC) promotes awareness of the Honor Code and the principles it embodies. The Council has no executive authority, but serves in an advisory role to students, the faculty and the administration.

The faculty and administration of the UMMSM endorses the Honor Code. However, the process of peer review and support does not negate or diminish the right and obligation of the faculty and administration of the UMMSM to maintain the academic integrity of the

institution, to enforce the policies of the university, and to ensure that students act in accordance with the ethical and professional standards of the medical profession.

THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The teachers and learners of medicine share a responsibility to foster a learning environment that upholds the highest moral and ethical values of the medical profession. The faculty and administration of the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine support the following compact between teachers and learners of medicine. By accepting a position at the UMMSM, students pledge to uphold this compact.

COMPACT BETWEEN TEACHERS AND LEARNERS OF MEDICINE Association of American Medical Colleges

Preparation for a career in medicine demands the acquisition of a large fund of knowledge and a host of special skills. It also demands the strengthening of those virtues that undergird the doctor/patient relationship and that sustain the profession of medicine as a moral enterprise. This Compact serves both as a pledge and as a reminder to teachers and learners that their conduct in fulfilling their mutual obligations is the medium through which the profession inculcates its ethical values.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

DUTY

Medical educators have a duty, not only to convey the knowledge and skills required for delivering the profession's contemporary standard of care, but also to inculcate the values and attitudes required for preserving the medical profession's social contract across generations.

INTEGRITY

The learning environments conducive to conveying professional values must be suffused with integrity. Students learn enduring lessons of professionalism by observing and emulating role models who epitomize authentic professional values and attitudes.

RESPECT

Fundamental to the ethic of medicine is respect for every individual. Mutual respect between learners, as novice members of the medical profession, and their teachers, as experienced and esteemed professionals, is essential for nurturing that ethic. Given the inherently hierarchical nature of the teacher/learner relationship, teachers have a special obligation to ensure that students and residents are always treated respectfully.

COMMITMENTS OF THE FACULTY

We pledge our utmost effort to ensure that all components of the educational program for students and residents are of high quality.

As mentors for our student and resident colleagues, we maintain high professional

standards in all of our interactions with patients, colleagues, and staff.

We respect all students and residents as individuals, without regard to gender, race, national origin, religion, or sexual orientation; we will not tolerate anyone who manifests disrespect or who expresses biased attitudes towards any student or resident.

We pledge that students and residents will have sufficient time to fulfill personal and family obligations, to enjoy recreational activities, and to obtain adequate rest; we monitor and, when necessary, reduce the time required to fulfill educational objectives, including time required for “call” on clinical rotations, to ensure students’ and residents’ well-being.

In nurturing both the intellectual and the personal development of students and residents, we celebrate expressions of professional attitudes and behaviors, as well as achievement of academic excellence.

We do not tolerate any abuse or exploitation of students or residents.

We encourage any student or resident who experiences mistreatment or who witnesses unprofessional behavior to report the facts immediately to appropriate faculty or staff; we treat all such reports as confidential and do not tolerate reprisals or retaliations of any kind.

COMMITMENTS OF STUDENTS AND RESIDENTS

We pledge our utmost effort to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors required to fulfill all educational objectives established by the faculty.

We cherish the professional virtues of honesty, compassion, integrity, fidelity, and dependability.

We pledge to respect all faculty members and all students and residents as individuals, without regard to gender, race, national origin, religion, or sexual orientation.

As physicians in training, we embrace the highest standards of the medical profession and pledge to conduct ourselves accordingly in all of our interactions with patients, colleagues, and staff.

In fulfilling our own obligations as professionals, we pledge to assist our fellow students and residents in meeting their professional obligations, as well.

COMMITMENTS OF UMMSM STUDENTS

In accepting a position in the UMMSM, students become accountable to the University, to the Profession of Medicine, and to the patients they serve. Student responsibilities include:

- Commit themselves to the conscientious, respectful, non-discriminatory and thoughtful service of their patients
- Pursue excellence vigorously and independently in their lifelong education
- Educate their patients and colleagues

- Conduct themselves lawfully, and in a professional and ethical manner
- Notify the appropriate body in a timely manner of any problems that adversely affect their training, and to participate in the process of program improvement and development
- Pursue mental and physical support for any conditions that might compromise their educational goals or patient care
- Comply with the honor code established by the student body of the UMMSM
- Be familiar with and adhere to the rules and responsibilities outlined in this document.