

MEDICAL STUDENT CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

This Medical Student Code of Professional Conduct is supplementary to the “Student Code of Conduct” published in The University of New Mexico Pathfinder 2006-2007 Student Handbook and the School of Medicine Honor Code, which are distributed to, and are binding upon, student’s admission to the University of New Mexico School of Medicine.

Honor and integrity are predicated on a concept of human dignity basic to the philosophy of the School of Medicine. Acceptance as a student commits the individual to abide by the Code of Professional Conduct. Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in professional matters. Each student will:

- develop effective life-long learning skills;
- attain personal mastery of medical knowledge and skill through honest effort;
- relate to patients and their families with compassion, truthfulness, and respect for their experience and dignity;
- relate to peers, teachers, students, and other caregivers in a spirit of collaboration and mutual respect;
- recognize and honor privileged information from both patients and colleagues;
- conduct him/herself in accordance with The University of New Mexico policies.

As a professional school, the School of Medicine faculty has determined that fitness of a student to practice medicine will be evaluated as part of each student’s periodic academic evaluation. “Fitness to practice medicine” consists of professional and ethical conduct under applicable New Mexico laws and regulations governing the practice of medicine.

The Associate Dean of Undergraduate Medical Education and/or the Associate Dean of Student Services may immediately suspend a student and/or ban a student if the Associate Dean concludes that the person’s continued presence on the campus may be a danger to themselves or endanger persons or property or may threaten disruption of the academic process or other campus functions.

See Temporary Enforced Leave of Absence under Due Process Policy and Procedures.

Examples of unprofessional or unethical conduct include, but are not limited to:

- conduct as determined by the faculty to be unbecoming or unethical in a person training to practice medicine or detrimental to the best interests of the public, patients, students, employees, the School of Medicine or The University of New Mexico;
- fraud or misrepresentation in applying for or procuring admission to medical school, including cheating on or attempting to subvert examinations;
- making false or misleading statements regarding one’s skill or the efficacy or value of the medicine, treatment or remedy prescribed or administered;
- use of any false, fraudulent or deceptive statement in any document connected with the practice of medicine;
- engaging in inappropriate sexual conduct with a patient;
- impersonating another person licensed to practice medicine;

- excessive substance abuse;
- conduct likely to deceive, defraud or harm the public;
- obtaining any fee by fraud or misrepresentation;
- being found mentally incompetent or insane by a court of competent jurisdiction;
- conviction of any offense punishable by incarceration.

The procedure for appealing an academic evaluation that a student is not fit for the practice of medicine is governed by the Due Process Policy and Procedure, Appendix B in this handbook.

Approved by the Dean of the School of Medicine 02/26/97

Approved by the Education Council 03/25/97

Revised to include Emergency Suspension Procedures 04/09/97

STUDENT CODE

Domain	Student Code
Introductory statement	As a student of Medicine, I am now a member of the medical community, and as a member, I accept responsibility for my conduct and expect the highest standards of myself. I will expect my colleagues to uphold these standards and will support them in doing so. I commit to the following:
Altruism (primacy of patient welfare)	I will maintain patient well being as my main focus and primary responsibility. I will not be deflected from this focus by pursuit of grades, evaluations, or other personal goals.
Accountability (reliability and responsibility) (commitment to professional responsibilities)	<p>I will be aware of ethical, professional, and legal standards as they apply to my responsibilities</p> <p>I will meet all of my program requirements and attend all required activities.</p> <p>When I am involved in patient care, I will not leave the clinic or the hospital prior to completing all of my required duties or prior to ensuring continuous care for my patients.</p> <p>I will recognize and report impairment of any type in my colleagues or myself</p> <p>I will demonstrate personal conduct that reflects positively on the medical profession and the medical school.</p>
Excellence (commitment to self-improvement) (commitment to professional competence) (commitment to improving quality of care) (commitment to scientific knowledge)	<p>I will strive to obtain the knowledge and skills required to obtain competence as a trainee and to learn best practices of my profession.</p> <p>I will assess my progress and identify areas for improvement and issues for continued learning.</p> <p>I will demonstrate a willingness to share in the learning process with peers, faculty, and staff to promote the student-teacher relationship.</p> <p>I will participate in scholarship that benefits the participants of the training program, as well as contributing to the medical knowledge base of the medical discipline and that improves my own fund of knowledge.</p> <p>I will recognize the boundaries of my competency and commit to practice within those boundaries.</p> <p>I will seek assistance from colleagues or professionals for any problems that adversely affect my education, quality of patient care or service to society.</p> <p>I will continue to strive to become an honest, responsible and compassionate member of the medical profession, with service to and well-being of the patient as my guide.</p>
Duty (commitment to improving access to care)	I will commit myself to learning and applying best medical practice. "Best

<p>(commitment to just distribution of finite resources)</p>	<p>medical practice” is a term used to refer to medical practice that equitably balances evidence-based guidelines, ethical concerns, ethical business practices, patient preferences, cultural concerns, and the cost-effective and appropriate use of medical resources.</p> <p>I will use resources appropriately with patient care as the cornerstone of decision making while being mindful of how application of scarce resources impacts the system.</p> <p>I will work to educate individual patients and larger groups about public health issues and health care options.</p> <p>I will apply appropriate ethical standards to all academic and clinical activities.</p>
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<p>Honesty/Integrity (commitment to maintaining trust by managing conflicts of interest) (commitment to maintaining appropriate relations with patients)</p>	<p>I will demonstrate truthfulness in academic and clinical activities, including examinations, evaluations and any other representation of my work. I will not participate in or be a party to unfair advancement of academic standing.</p> <p>I will be truthful in all interactions with patients, peers, and faculty regarding patient data or other information.</p> <p>I will be honest in the collection, interpretation and reporting of data pertinent to academic work or patient care.</p> <p>I will be cognizant of potential conflicts of interest with pharmaceutical or other medical industry representatives, and remember that patient welfare is my primary focus.</p> <p>I will be cognizant of potential conflicts between my personal values, economic forces, institutional policies, ethical practice, and patient preferences. I will work to ensure that in spite of these potential conflicts, patients have access to the best current medical care.</p>
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<p>Respect for Others (respect for patient autonomy)</p>	<p>I will demonstrate the highest standards of ethical, legal, and professional behavior in the academic and clinical setting.</p> <p>I will be honest with my patients and empower them to make informed choices about their treatment.</p> <p>I will not discriminate in any situation based on race, ethnicity, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, socio-economic status, ability to pay, or other identifiable social category.</p> <p>I will demonstrate humility and will not abuse the power of my position</p>
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<p>Privacy and Confidentiality</p>	<p>I will protect patient confidentiality and uphold the dignity of all.</p> <p>I will maintain the confidentiality of the medical record and will comply with all HIPPA requirements for transmission and sharing of patient-specific medical information.</p>
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PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND TEST ETHICS

Students are expected to abide by the Honor Code signed upon entering medical school. **Behavior which subverts the integrity of the examination process for oneself or others is unacceptable.** Such behavior includes but is not limited to:

Before an examination

1. Seeking and/or obtaining access to examination materials prior to test administration.
2. Unauthorized entry into the area where test materials are being prepared.
3. Unauthorized reproduction and/or dissemination of test materials.

During an examination

4. Sharing information about any of the test materials including simulation (electronic, human or mechanical) and paper cases.
5. Possessing unauthorized materials during an examination. This includes reviewing instructions on outer doors for standardized patient encounters more than 5 minutes before the scheduled testing time.
6. Leaving the test area without authorization.
7. Possessing and/or using recording devices.
8. Possessing and/or using unauthorized study aids.
9. Giving or receiving information during the examination.
10. Sharing information, resources or reasoning on problems meant to be solved by individuals.
11. Theft of examination materials.
12. Disruptive behavior which affects other examinees, standardized patients, or staff. Communication and signaling devices must be off.
13. Making reference notes of any kind during the examination, except on paper provided. All written notes must be deposited in the designated area before moving forward to the next testing activity.
14. Unauthorized reproduction and/or dissemination of test materials.

After an examination

15. Sharing information about any of the test materials including simulation (electronic, human or mechanical) and paper cases.
16. Altering or misrepresenting examination scores.
17. Unauthorized reproduction and/or dissemination of test or copyrighted materials.

IRREGULAR BEHAVIOR WILL BE INVESTIGATED AND REVIEWED.

Student Code of Conduct

I have carefully read the University of New Mexico School of Medicine's Student Code of Conduct and hereby declare that I will adhere to this code from the time of this signing and throughout my enrollment at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine.

Signature of Accepted Applicant

Printed Name

Date