

MEDICAL STUDENT HANDBOOK

2023-2024

Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine

Boca Raton, FL



FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
Schmidt College of Medicine

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|-----------|
| WELCOME TO FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY! | 5 |
| FAU COLLEGE OF MEDICINE MISSION AND VALUES | 6 |
| DESIRED ATTRIBUTES | 6 |
| TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION, RETENTION, PROMOTION, AND GRADUATION | 7 |
| ETHICAL AND LEGAL STANDARDS | 9 |
| Pre-matriculation and Post-enrollment Disclosure of Misdemeanor and/or Felony Arrests and/or Convictions for Medical Students Policy | 9 |
| STATEMENT ON FREE SPEECH | 10 |
| STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES | 10 |
| COLLEGE OF MEDICINE FACILITIES | 11 |
| OFFICES OF STUDENT AFFAIRS AND MEDICAL EDUCATION | 12 |
| OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS OVERVIEW | 12 |
| OFFICE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION OVERVIEW | 13 |
| CURRICULUM AND ACADEMICS | 13 |
| ACADEMIC EVALUATION AND THE COM’S COMPETENCY-BASED GRADING SYSTEM | 13 |
| CURRICULUM PROGRAM GOALS | 14 |
| CURRICULAR THREAD DESCRIPTIONS | 16 |
| ACADEMIC SCHEDULE AND ATTENDANCE | 17 |
| Academic Calendar, University Holidays, and Medical Student Schedule Commitments | 17 |
| Religious Observance Policy | 18 |
| The College of Medicine Attendance Policy | 19 |
| Severe Weather Policy | 23 |
| ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES | 24 |
| College of Medicine Grade Designations and Transcript | 24 |
| College of Medicine Assessments | 27 |
| Narrative Assessment of Student Performance | 27 |
| Examinations | 27 |
| Exam Policy and Protocol | 27 |
| Timeliness of Grade Reporting Policy | 28 |
| Institutional Competency Assessments (ICAs) | 28 |
| Required Formative Assessments | 28 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| United States Medical Licensing Exams (USMLE) Policy | 29 |
| College of Medicine Repeated Courses Policy | 30 |
| Evaluation Completion Policy | 30 |
| Academic Honors in Year 1 & 2 and AOA | 31 |
| Policy on Resident Orientation to the MD Program | 32 |
| Medical Student Performance Evaluations (MSPE) Policy and Procedure | 32 |
| STUDENT ADVANCEMENT PROCEDURES AND DUE PROCESS | 34 |
| REQUIREMENTS FOR MATRICULATION AND RETENTION | 34 |
| ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS | 37 |
| Oath of Academic and Professional Conduct for Students in the College of Medicine | 38 |
| Academic and Professional Standards Required for the Doctorate of Medicine Degree | 38 |
| Requirements for Academic and Professional Conduct | 38 |
| BEHAVIORAL REQUIREMENTS & STANDARDS | 39 |
| REQUIREMENTS FOR PROMOTION AND GRADUATION | 40 |
| MEDICAL STUDENT PROMOTIONS AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE (MSPPSC) AND THE STUDENT COMPETENCY REVIEW COMMITTEE (SCRC) | 41 |
| UNSATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE | 43 |
| ACADEMIC REMEDIATION | 47 |
| ACADEMIC GRIEVANCES | 48 |
| APPEALS POLICY | 48 |
| VOLUNTARY LEAVE OF ABSENCE POLICY | 51 |
| INVOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL POLICY | 53 |
| STUDENT & FACULTY CONDUCT & RESPONSIBILITY | 54 |
| ACADEMIC INTEGRITY GUIDELINES | 54 |
| PROFESSIONALISM EXPECTATIONS | 54 |
| Physicianship and Professionalism Advocacy Program (PPAP)..... | 54 |
| STUDENT MISTREATMENT POLICY..... | 55 |
| DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT POLICY | 58 |
| PROFESSIONAL DRESS GUIDELINES | 58 |
| SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY | 60 |
| RECORDING OF CLASS LECTURES BY STUDENTS POLICY | 62 |
| SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY..... | 62 |
| ALCOHOL POLICY..... | 63 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN ACADEMIC EVALUATION OF STUDENTS BY FACULTY POLICY | 63 |
| MEDICAL STUDENT ROLES AND SUPERVISION POLICY | 64 |
| DUTY HOURS POLICY FOR CLINICAL ROTATIONS..... | 67 |
| POLICY ON COMMUNICABLE DISEASES | 68 |
| FAU COLLEGE OF MEDICINE SELF-INSURANCE PROGRAM (FAU SIP): REQUIRED REPORTING | 73 |
| INDUSTRY RELATIONS..... | 73 |
| RESEARCH COMPLIANCE POLICY | 74 |
| STUDENT SERVICES | 74 |
| TUITION AND FINANCIAL AID..... | 74 |
| STUDENT RECORDS AND REGISTRATION..... | 76 |
| Student Academic Records Policy..... | 76 |
| Enrollment in Other Degree Programs | 76 |
| ACADEMIC ADVISING AND ASSISTANCE | 76 |
| ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE | 77 |
| MEDICAL STUDENT WELLNESS | 78 |
| Personal Counseling..... | 78 |
| Professionals Resource Network (PRN) | 80 |
| FAU STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES..... | 80 |
| EMERGENCY SITUATIONS | 81 |
| FAU Crisis Action and Victim Advocacy Center..... | 81 |
| FAU Police and Public Safety Department..... | 82 |
| POLICY REGARDING ACCESSING HEALTH SERVICES..... | 82 |
| FAU CAMPUS RESOURCES & FACILITIES | 83 |
| Library Services | 83 |
| Transportation and Parking | 83 |
| Contact Information for Accrediting and Governing Agencies..... | 83 |
| INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) POLICIES..... | 83 |
| EMAIL POLICY..... | 86 |
| UNIVERSITY POLICIES | 87 |
| APPENDICES | 88 |
| APPENDIX A: The Hippocratic Oath | 88 |
| APPENDIX B: Conditions of Acceptance..... | 88 |
| APPENDIX C: Map..... | 89 |

APPENDIX D: Definitions 89

STUDENT HANDBOOK

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY CHARLES E. SCHMIDT COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

WELCOME TO FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY!

State universities in Florida have been charged with the responsibility of providing students with an educational experience which prepares them to participate in a rapidly changing world and to do so with a commitment to the highest moral and ethical standards. One of the many goals of this Student Handbook is to make the “Policy on Academic, Professional and Behavioral Requirements and Standards Governing the Florida Atlantic University Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine” available for the medical students. Honesty and integrity in academic achievement, personal growth, and development are encouraged through the publication of these standards and statements of desired values and attitudes. All students are encouraged to read these statements and integrate them into their daily lives.

Being part of the University community provides many opportunities to exercise individual rights, but it also requires the assumption of responsibilities. Students should take responsibility to serve as leaders in promoting compassion for others and challenging prejudice against all individuals and groups, whether due to race, gender, age, marital status, religion, nationality, political persuasion, sexual orientation, handicap, or disease.

Enjoy your University and medical school experience and maintain it at a level of personal integrity and caring, which will reflect well upon you and Florida Atlantic University. We wish you the very best of success.

—The Faculty and Staff of the Florida Atlantic University Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine

The Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine Student Handbook is developed and maintained by the College of Medicine Office of Student Affairs with input from faculty, administrators, and staff from the College of Medicine and Florida Atlantic University. The information contained in the Handbook should serve as a guide for students throughout their academic, clinical, and extracurricular life as members of the FAU community and specifically as medical students. All medical students must abide by the Student Handbook policies and guidelines whenever on University property and at College-sponsored programs, either on campus or at off campus sites. Certain policies and procedures in the Handbook also apply to faculty and staff members who are employed or provide volunteer services to FAU and the College of Medicine.

The basic premise for these student guidelines is the understanding that individual rights are also accompanied by responsibilities. By becoming enrolled medical students in the College of Medicine, students also become members of the larger FAU community and thus, acquire rights in, as well as responsibilities to, the entire University community. Medical students are required to abide by all University regulations (<http://www.fau.edu/regulations/>) and policies (<https://www.fau.edu/policies/>) as well as the FAU Student Handbook, published annually by the FAU Office of Student Affairs.

All policies and procedures described in this College of Medicine Student Handbook and the FAU Student Handbook are subject to revision at any time and without notice. Such revisions are applicable to all medical students. The most recent version of the Handbook will appear on the College of Medicine website at <https://www.fau.edu/medicine/documents/student-handbook.pdf>.

Questions regarding the policies in this Handbook should be directed to the College of Medicine Office of Student Affairs at (561) 297-2219. (See Appendix A)

FAU COLLEGE OF MEDICINE MISSION AND VALUES

Mission Statement of the Schmidt College of Medicine

The college's mission is committed to transforming healthcare in South Florida and beyond through:

- Training exceptional clinicians and cutting-edge scientists
- Driving scientific break-throughs in discovery, basic and translational research
- Inspiring our community to get and stay healthy
- Revolutionizing health outcomes through innovative care pathways
- Attracting and retaining the best healthcare workforce
- Partnering with stakeholders to improve access to care

The Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine is an integrated learning organization that fosters high-quality, humanistic, and patient-centered care. Our mission is to deliver high-touch, high-tech education to our students and residents, and to collaborate on high impact, interdisciplinary research with leading experts in the field. The College of Medicine is dedicated to integrating discovery with health care and education in order to contribute to the vitality of our immediate communities, to improve the health and well-being of people and populations, and to transform community-based health care.

Values

The Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine achieves excellence in advancing patient care, research, and training health care leaders of the future with:

- Courage and passion
- Integrity, respect and inclusivity
- Collaboration and partnership
- Leadership, dynamism, and accountability

DESIRED ATTRIBUTES

Graduates of our medical school are expected to always demonstrate **Integrity**, **Honesty**, **Accountability**, and **Ethical and Professional Conduct**, while consistently seeking to embody the highest level of commitment to promoting:

Culture

- To establish a community in which all members of the community feel engaged, valued and supported in a transparent fair environment where we hold ourselves and on another accountable.

Clinical Care

- To create preeminent clinical programs that encompass or serve the needs of the community.

Education

- To educate, train, develop and inspire a community of lifelong learners.

Research

- To lead transformational research that generates the new knowledge required for advancing patient-centered care, accelerating educational change, and creating a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship with our communities.

Community Engagement

- To position the College of Medicine as an active community leader which seeks to continually enhance engagement opportunities with and for organizations and individuals.

Financial and Resource Development

- To operate from a well-defined and comprehensive strategy focused on financial sustainability.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION, RETENTION, PROMOTION, AND GRADUATION

The medical degree awarded by the College of Medicine at the completion of the undergraduate medical education process certifies that the graduate has acquired a broad base of knowledge, skills, and attitudes requisite to the practice of medicine. To achieve this end, all courses in the curriculum must be completed successfully. The technical (non-academic) standards listed here are required for admission, retention, promotion, and graduation and are intended to ensure that candidates, with or without reasonable accommodation, can fully participate in all parts of the curriculum.

Essential abilities and characteristics required for completion of the MD degree consist of certain minimum physical and cognitive abilities and sufficient mental and emotional stability to assure that candidates for admission, retention, promotion, and graduation are able to complete the entire course of study and participate fully in all aspects of medical training. The College of Medicine intends for its graduates to become competent and compassionate physicians who are capable of entering residency training (graduate medical education) and meeting all requirements for medical licensure. The avowed intention of an individual student to practice only a narrow part of clinical medicine, or to pursue a non-clinical career, does not alter the requirement that all medical students take and achieve competence in the full curriculum required by the faculty. For purposes of this document and unless otherwise defined, the term "candidate" means candidates for admission to medical school as well as medical students who are candidates for retention, promotion or graduation.

The College of Medicine has a societal responsibility to train competent healthcare providers and scientists who demonstrate critical judgment, extensive knowledge and well-honed technical skills. Although students learn and work under the supervision of the faculty, students interact with patients throughout their medical school education. Patient safety and wellbeing are therefore major factors in establishing requirements involving the physical, cognitive, and emotional abilities of candidates for admission, promotion, and graduation. The essential abilities and characteristics described herein are also referred to as technical standards. They are described below in several broad categories including: observation; communication; motor/tactile function and coordination; intellectual abilities - conceptual, integrative, and quantitative; and social and behavioral attributes. Candidates must adhere to universal precaution measures and meet safety standards applicable to inpatient and outpatient settings and other professional activities. Individuals whose performance is impaired by use of alcohol or other substances are not suitable candidates for admission, retention, promotion or graduation.

Delineation of technical standards is required for the accreditation of U.S. medical schools by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME). The following abilities and characteristics are defined as technical standards, and are requirements for admission, retention, promotion, and graduation. Candidates and current students who have questions regarding the technical standards or who believe they may need to request reasonable accommodation(s) in order to meet the standards are encouraged to contact the FAU Office of Student Accessibility Services.

Technical Standards

A. Observation/Perception: Sensory skills necessary to perform a physical examination are required. These include functional vision, hearing, smell, and tactile sensation. All senses must be adequate to observe a patient's condition at a distance and close at hand, and to elicit information through procedures regularly required in a physical examination such as inspection, auscultation, palpation, and percussion. Students must be able to perceive by the use of their senses and mental abilities all information presented or conveyed in one-on-one interactions (including patient encounters), diagnostic values and findings, laboratory demonstrations, large group lectures, small group sessions and team-oriented exercises, and in written, audiovisual, and computer-based formats.

B. Communication: Candidates must be able to speak and hear clearly. They must be able to use observational skills to describe changes in mood, activity and posture, and perceive non-verbal communications. They must be able to effectively and sensitively communicate in English in both written and oral modalities in order to interact with faculty members, classmates, other members of the healthcare team, patients, families, and others in order to elicit, convey, and clarify information, to work collaboratively, and to develop therapeutic relationships.

C. Motor/Tactile Function and Coordination: Candidates must have motor function adequate to elicit information from patients using inspection, palpation, auscultation and percussion, and to carry out diagnostic maneuvers. Such skills require coordination of gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, and sensation. An individual must be able to perform motor activities required in providing general and emergency treatment to patients, such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation, administering intravenous medication, applying pressure to stop bleeding, opening obstructed airways, suturing simple wounds, and performing routine obstetrical maneuvers. Such actions require both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, and coordinated use of the senses of touch and vision. Candidates must have sufficient postural control, neuromuscular control, control of the extremities, and eye-hand coordination to examine patients, provide appropriate patient care, and to attend and participate in all classes, small group sessions and team activities that are part of the curriculum.

D. Intellectual Abilities: Conceptual, Integrative and Quantitative: Candidates must be able to assimilate the detailed and complex information presented in the medical student curriculum. They must be able to learn through a variety of modalities including, but not limited to, classroom instruction; small group, team and collaborative activities; individual study; preparation and presentation of reports; simulations and use of computer technology. Candidates must be able to memorize, measure, calculate, reason, analyze, synthesize, and transmit information. They must recognize and draw conclusions about three-dimensional spatial relationships and logical sequential relationships among events. They must be able to formulate and test hypotheses that enable effective and timely problem-solving in diagnosis and treatment of patients in a variety of clinical settings and health care systems.

E. Behavioral and Social Attributes: Candidates must exercise good judgment, communicate in a clear and timely way with others, and promptly complete all responsibilities attendant to the study of medicine and to the care of patients. They must display characteristics of integrity, honesty, attendance and conscientiousness, empathy, a sense of altruism, and a spirit of cooperation and teamwork. Candidates must be able to interact with patients and their families, health care personnel, colleagues, faculty, staff, and all other individuals with whom they come in contact in a courteous, professional, and respectful manner. They must understand the legal and ethical aspects of the practice of medicine and function within the law and adhere to the ethical standards of the medical profession. Candidates must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads, to function effectively under stress, and to display flexibility and adaptability to changing environments. They must have the emotional health to fully use their intellectual ability, exercise good judgment, and to carry out all responsibilities related to patient care. Candidates must possess sufficient emotional health to withstand stress, the uncertainties inherent in patient care, and the rigors intrinsic to the study and practice of medicine. They must be capable of regular, reliable and punctual attendance at classes and perform their clinical responsibilities in an equally dependable fashion. Candidates must be able to contribute to collaborative learning environments, accept and process constructive feedback from others, and take personal responsibility for making appropriate positive changes. Core attributes of professionalism defined by the faculty of the FAU College of Medicine include altruism, honesty and integrity, respect for others, empathy and compassion, responsibility and dependability.

Ability to Meet the College of Medicine's Technical Standards

All candidates for the College of Medicine will be required to complete a Technical Standards Attestation form on a yearly basis. If at any point an enrolled candidate ceases to meet the technical standards of the College of Medicine, they must notify the Office of Student Accessibility Services, who will determine what accommodations are reasonable.

If, after all reasonable accommodations are made, there is concern that the student remains unable to meet the technical standards, the student will be referred to the Medical Student Promotions and Professionalism Standards Committee (MSPPSC), who will review the student's performance. It is the responsibility of the MSPPSC to determine whether a student can or cannot meet the described standards after reasonable accommodations have been made. The MSPPSC will determine any necessary actions on a case-by-case basis.

ETHICAL AND LEGAL STANDARDS

Medical students at the Schmidt College of Medicine must adhere to the following principles from the American Medical Association's Principles of Medical Ethics, 1988, which are described as "standards of conduct that define the essentials of honorable behavior for the physician."

AMA Principles of Conduct

A medical student:

- 1. Shall be dedicated to providing competent, compassionate, and respectful medical service to all patients, considering each as an individual, regardless of characteristics such as race, national origin, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, disease, or disability*
- 2. Shall deal honestly with patients and colleagues, and strive to expose or otherwise respond in a professional manner to those persons of the health care team whose behavior exhibits impairment or lack of professional conduct or competence, or who engage in fraud or deception*
- 3. Shall abide by the law*
- 4. Shall respect the rights of patients including the right to confidentiality, and shall safeguard patient confidences within the constraints of the law*
- 5. Shall continue to study, apply, and advance scientific knowledge; make relevant information available to patients, colleagues, and the public; suggest consultation when appropriate; and use the talents of other health professionals when indicated*
- 6. Shall recognize a responsibility to participate in activities contributing to an improved society*

Pre-matriculation and Post-enrollment Disclosure of Misdemeanor and/or Felony Arrests and/or Convictions for Medical Students Policy

Candidates must meet the legal standards to be licensed to practice medicine in the State of Florida. As such, candidates for admission must acknowledge (by informing the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions or the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs in writing) and provide written explanation of any felony or misdemeanor offense or any legal action pending against them, as well as any institutional disciplinary action taken against them prior to matriculation. In addition, any student charged with or convicted of any felony or misdemeanor offense or any legal action pending against them, as well as any institutional disciplinary action taken against them while in medical school must immediately notify the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions or the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs as to the nature of the offense or conviction. Failure to disclose prior charges or convictions or any new charges or convictions can lead to disciplinary action that may include dismissal.

STATEMENT ON FREE SPEECH

As a state institution, Florida Atlantic University (“FAU” or “University”) must uphold the protections guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, as well as the Constitution of the State of Florida. Free speech, free expression, and peaceable assembly are basic to the exchange of ideas and beliefs on campus.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act individuals must be able to meet the College of Medicine’s academic and technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodation. Accommodation is a means of assisting students with disabilities to meet essential standards by providing them with an equal opportunity to participate in all aspects of each required course or clinical experience without altering the essential requirements of the curriculum. Reasonable accommodation is not intended to guarantee that students will be successful in meeting the curricular requirements.

It is the student’s responsibility to submit the necessary forms to the FAU Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in a timely manner for each course, clerkship and rotation in the MD program in order to receive the appropriate accommodations (accommodations cannot be granted retroactively). The forms may be downloaded directly from the SAS website at <http://www.fau.edu/sas/Forms.php>.

The Use of Auxiliary Aids and Intermediaries

Technological compensation can be made for some disabilities in certain areas, but a candidate should be able to perform in a reasonably independent manner. Qualified students with documented disabilities are provided with reasonable accommodations that may include involvement of an intermediary or an auxiliary aid, but no disability can be reasonably accommodated with an aid or intermediary that provides cognitive interpretation, or substitutes for essential clinical skills, or supplements clinical and ethical judgment. Thus, accommodations cannot eliminate essential program elements or fundamentally change the curriculum of the College of Medicine.

Request for Accommodation

Accepted applicants with a documented disability and enrolled students who believe they have a disability, who request accommodations, have the responsibility for documenting the disability and the need for accommodations, following the procedures of the FAU Office of Student Accessibility Services (SAS). The SAS provides students with disabilities the services and accommodations needed within the framework of these Technical Standards to successfully participate in the full academic program of the FAU College of Medicine. If requested, the SAS will assist the accepted applicants and enrolled students in identifying professional resources available to make an assessment and a recommendation for accommodations. The cost of that assessment is the responsibility of the applicant/student. Documentation of the disability should be submitted to the SAS. Students must register with the SAS to receive authorized academic Support Services, provide documentation of the disability and undergo an intake interview. A SAS representative will collaborate with the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions and the Director for Student Success and Wellness (or designee) to confirm that the requested accommodations are reasonable within the structure and goals of the curriculum.

To be eligible for services at the SAS, a student must satisfy the definition of a disability as established by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Both the ADA and Section 504 define a disability as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. To be eligible for accommodations, a student must provide appropriate documentation of each disability that demonstrates an accompanying substantial limitation to one or more major life activities.

In applying for support services, the student with a disability must provide the SAS with appropriate written documentation from a licensed professional in the field concerning the specific diagnosis and expected academic limitations. The submission of appropriate documentation is just one step in the process of registering for support

services with the SAS. For a full description on how to submit the necessary appropriate written documentation to request accommodations, go to <https://www.fau.edu/sas/Forms.php>.

Note: The Assistant Dean of Preclinical Curriculum and the Director of Preclinical Education for Year 1/Year 2 or the Assistant Dean for Clinical Curriculum and the Director of Clinical Education for Year 3/Year 4 will be notified by SAS of the student's approved accommodations in a SAS Letter of Notification requested by the student and will communicate the approved accommodation to all affected parties. Such notification will not include any underlying diagnosis or condition.

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE FACILITIES

Most on-campus teaching for medical students occurs in the Charles E. Schmidt Biomedical Science Center (BC-71). In addition to lecture halls, small group rooms, the anatomy lab, and clinical skills rooms, the Biomedical Science Center has offices that support medical students:

- The Office of Medical Education and Student Affairs (Suite 145 on the first floor), includes the Office of Student Affairs and the Associate Dean for Medical Education.
- The Office of Medical Student Financial Aid is on the second floor.
- Offices of the Associate Dean for Educational Affairs and Admissions, Assistant Dean of Preclinical Curriculum, the Medical Librarian, and staff in the Office of Medical Education who support the educational program, are also on the first floor.

The Office of the Dean and other administrative leaders, offices of the Chairs of the College of Medicine's academic departments, and offices and/or research labs for some of the full-time faculty are on the second and third floors. Offices of other full-time faculty are in one of three other buildings on the FAU campus. Faculty and staff office locations, phone numbers, and email addresses are published in course, clerkship and rotation syllabi and can be found on the COM Directory (<https://www.fau.edu/medicine/directory/>).

There are Student Lounges that are solely for the use of medical students. The use of television, microwave, furniture, games, videos, books, journals, and other COM amenities in the Student Lounges should be mutually decided on a first-come, first-served basis. Refrigerators in these lounges are provided for short-term storage of perishable foods. Students should only store enough food for a two-day period of time; this includes frozen food. Non-perishable foods should not be stored in the refrigerators. All food must be removed on a weekly basis; any food remaining in the refrigerators after 6:00 PM on Fridays will be discarded by students who are assigned by the Student Council.

Students are assigned a mailbox and are required to periodically check and clear their mailboxes to ensure timely receipt of COM and University-related mail. Any items left in mailboxes after the last day of classes in each semester will be discarded. Students may mail personal letters by affixing proper postage and placing them in the "Outgoing Mail" bins. Students should use the U.S. Postal Service for packages and any other mail.

Medical students have access to printers and copying machines in the COM facility, which they can use on a 24/7 basis at a specific cost per page. FAU has launched a printing solution that will allow students to print from anywhere from almost any device. Students can add funds to their Owl Card Printing Account and use these funds on both copiers and printers that are part of the solution. Users queue print jobs to a virtual queue, and then release them for printing on any printer. The "release stations" require user authentication, by swiping card or entering your FAU NET ID to release and collect sensitive documents. For more information about how the systems work go to FAU's Printing Services website. <https://www.fau.edu/print/>

OFFICES OF STUDENT AFFAIRS AND MEDICAL EDUCATION

The Offices of Student Affairs and Medical Education at the Schmidt College of Medicine strive to educate, counsel, advise, and professionally transform a group of students into culturally competent, empathic and ethical physicians. OSA and OME work in concert with the mission of the College by fostering medical students' intellectual, academic, physical, emotional, spiritual, and social growth. We promote student-centered educational and leadership opportunities to enhance communication, critical thinking, ethical judgment, problem-solving, and professional skills. OSA and OME promote responsibility, integrity, a strong work ethic, collaboration, altruism, mentoring, volunteerism, and community service outreach while providing curricular programs, developmental opportunities, academic support and counseling services designed to promote optimal learning. In addition to academic support, OSA and OME strive to enhance students' personal awareness and wellness while preparing them to become outstanding medical professionals who provide patient-centered health care that is responsive to the needs of the communities we serve.

OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS OVERVIEW

The Office of Student Affairs is dedicated to Medical Student Advocacy. Our goal is to create a compassionate and caring atmosphere in which each of our students feels comfortable. We make an effort to get to know all of our medical students. We pride ourselves on striving to provide resources for your personal health and wellness, as well as academic achievement and excellence.

We are your point of contact for assistance in many areas, including student success, career and personal advising. We represent the institution and the medical profession to our medical students and implement institutional policies and procedures. We also are involved with medical student communications, special programs, and letters of recommendation, residency application and the match, and other important aspects of the medical student experience at the College of Medicine. We are responsible for administering Orientation for new and returning students. In addition, we serve as a liaison to College of Medicine Student Government, medical student interest groups, and alumni relations.

You may schedule an appointment at any time by calling (561) 297-2219 or by stopping at the Office of Medical Education and Student Affairs (Suite 145). See Annie Thomas or email her at athomas@health.fau.edu for an appointment with Dr. Caceres, the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions. Please explore our website to find out more about us. We invite your suggestions and opinions; contact Dr. Jennifer Caceres, Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions, at jcacere3@health.fau.edu. Dr. Mark Di Corcia, Associate Dean for Educational Affairs and Admissions at mdicorcia@health.fau.edu, Ms. Joanna Duran, Senior Director of Student Affairs and Student Services at dujanj@health.fau.edu. You may schedule an appointment with Christine Woolf, Ph.D., Director of Student Success Services at cwoolf@health.fau.edu and Michelle Lizotte-Waniewski, Ph.D., Director of HealthFirst at mlizotte@health.fau.edu. For the rest of the OSA professional staff please see the College of Medicine Directory (<https://www.fau.edu/medicine/directory/>).

The OSA features experienced faculty and staff who are dedicated to the overall well-being of medical students and provides programs and services for all medical students at FAU from the time of admission to the time of graduation and beyond. Activities include supporting the Office of Admissions in the admissions process; mentorship of students; personal, and financial counseling; support of educational and extracurricular activities and support of student organizations and leadership opportunities. The OSA provides learning opportunities outside of the formal classroom and clinical settings that are designed to complement and enhance the overall educational experience.

Regular Hours: 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday except on University holidays.

The Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions or the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs are also available for urgent student issues or situations. Contact information for urgent matters is provided to medical students during Orientation. Most activities in the OSA function in an "open-door" manner so students may visit the office for help and support by the faculty and staff without making appointments. However, because the OSA is committed to medical student support and exercises confidentiality, it is strongly recommended that students make appointments in advance to ensure the availability of the specific professional and time to discuss the issue to the student's satisfaction.

OFFICE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION OVERVIEW

The Office of Medical Education is dedicated to providing the most conducive learning environment and most effective, innovative, integrated patient-focused curriculum for our medical students. Our goal is to create opportunities for our students to learn collaboratively in an academically rigorous atmosphere in which each of our students feels safe and supported, yet challenged to grow and develop. Our faculty and staff pride themselves on creating an FAU College of Medicine family who is dedicated to the academic and professional success of our students. We are your point of contact for everything related to the curriculum, including but not limited to the academic policies, schedules, courses, syllabi, and assessments.

You may contact the Office of Medical Education at any time by calling 561-297-4366. If you'd like to contact Dr. Suzanne Bertollo, Associate Dean for Medical Education, you may do so via email at sbertollo@health.fau.edu. If you'd like to schedule an appointment with Dr. Bertollo, you may see Ms. Holly Labarca, or email her at hlabarca@health.fau.edu for scheduling assistance. If you'd like to contact Dr. Mark Di Corcia, Associate Dean for Educational Affairs and Admissions you may email mdicorcia@health.fau.edu. If you'd like to contact our Year 1 & Year 2 administrative team, you may email Dr. Michelle Lizotte-Waniewski, Assistant Dean for Preclinical Curriculum, at mlizotte@health.fau.edu and Ms. Mavis Brown, Director of Preclinical Education, at mbrown@health.fau.edu. If you'd like to contact our administrative team for Year 3 & Year 4, you may email Dr. Jennifer Foster, Assistant Dean for Clinical Curriculum, at fosterj@health.fau.edu and Ms. Lacey Sorrentino, Director of Clinical Education, at lsorrentino@health.fau.edu. For the rest of the OME faculty and staff please see the College of Medicine directory on the website, <https://www.fau.edu/medicine/faculty-staff/>. Please explore our website to find out more about us. We always invite your input, suggestions and opinions.

CURRICULUM AND ACADEMICS

ACADEMIC EVALUATION AND THE COM'S COMPETENCY-BASED GRADING SYSTEM

The College of Medicine curriculum is organized by year of study (1, 2, 3, and 4). Years 1 and 2 are divided into a fall semester and a spring semester each year. Each year or semester includes a series of independent courses, clerkships and rotations, with several courses or clerkships occurring concurrently. Student performance is assessed in each course, clerkship and rotation. Students must pass each course, clerkship and rotation in the curriculum, as well as complete Institutional Competency Assessments (ICAs), thread/portfolio assignments, and USMLE/NBME examinations, to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress.

All College of Medicine courses, clerkships and rotations are mapped to the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC) Physician Competency Reference Set (PCRS) listed below. Our competency-based grading process at the College of Medicine ensures that teaching, assessment, and remediation of all competencies are equally prioritized.

AAMC PCRS Competencies

Patient Care: Provide patient-centered care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health.

Knowledge for Practice: Demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological and social-behavioral sciences, as well as the application of this knowledge to patient care.

Practice-Based Learning and Improvement: Demonstrate the ability to investigate and evaluate one's care of patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and to continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and life-long learning.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills: Demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families, and health professionals.

Professionalism: Demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities and an adherence to ethical principles.

Systems-Based Practice: Demonstrate an awareness of, and responsiveness to, the larger context and system of health care, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources in the system to provide optimal health care.

Interprofessional Collaboration: Demonstrate the ability to engage in an interprofessional team in a manner that optimizes safe, effective patient- and population-centered care.

Personal and Professional Development: Demonstrate the qualities required to sustain lifelong personal and professional growth.

Each medical school course, clerkship or rotation clearly defines in its course syllabus the goals and objectives for the course, clerkship or rotation; the competencies that will be taught, assessed, and graded within that course or clerkship; description of course activities, the faculty involved, and details of all course-specific policies and procedures.

CURRICULUM PROGRAM GOALS



FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
Schmidt College of Medicine

| MD Educational Program Goals | Assessment Methods | Threads | PCRS | | | | | | | EPAs | |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------|
| | | | PATIENT CARE | KNOWLEDGE FOR PRACTICE | PRACTICE-BASED LEARNING & IMPROVEMENT | INTERPERSONAL & COMM SKILLS | PROFESSIONALISM | SYSTEMS-BASED PRACTICE | INTERPROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION | | PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT |
| 1. Demonstrate knowledge of the normal structure and function of the human. | MCQ, IE, NBME, FNE | LLD | | X | | | | | | | |
| 2. Demonstrate knowledge of the various causes of disease states, and describe the molecular, structural, and physiological alterations that underlie these states. | MCQ, NBME, FNE, OE, SP | LLD | | X | | | | | | | |
| 3. Describe the changes that occur to organs and organ systems throughout development and aging. | MCQ, NBME, FNE | LLD, GHA | | X | | | | | | | |
| 4. Demonstrate knowledge of the principles underlying normal behavior and psychopathologic disorders. | MCQ, NBME, FNE, SP | LLD | | X | | | | | | | |
| 5. Describe the mechanisms of action, side effects, and interactions of major therapeutic agents. | MCQ, NBME, FNE, OE, SP | LLD | | X | | | | | | | |
| 6. Describe the principles of prevention and the non-pharmacological approaches to disease and symptom management. | MCQ, NBME, FNE, OE, SP | LLD, GHA, CCC | | X | | | | | | | |
| 7. Demonstrate knowledge about the impact of cultural practices, socioeconomic factors, gender, sexuality, religion, ethnicity, and race on individual patients, disease, treatment and public health. | OSCE, PE, CPE, FNE, IE, MCQ | SSS, EPP | X | X | | | | | | | |
| 8. Describe population specific factors that affect disease prevention, incidence, treatment, and outcomes, and apply this information to patient care. | OSCE, CPE, PE, FNE, OE, SP | LLD, SSS, CCC, GHA | X | X | | | | | | | |
| 9. Demonstrate knowledge of the basic principles of organization and finance for a variety of healthcare delivery systems. | PE, CPE | EPP, GHA, CCC | | X | | | | X | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|--------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|----|
| 10. Complete a thorough, accurate, and sensitive medical history and physical exam. | OSCE, PE, CPE | SSS, CCC, GHA | X | X | | X | | | | | 1 |
| 11. Demonstrate effective adaptation of communication skills to the needs of the patient, the sensitivity of the information discussed, and the nature of the situation. | OSCE, PE, CPE | SSS, CCC, GHA | X | | | | | | | | |
| 12. Establish appropriate relationships with patients, respecting their values, privacy and dignity. | OSCE, PE, CPE | SSS, EPP, CCC, GHA | X | | | X | | | | | |
| 13. Develop a prioritized differential diagnosis and select a working diagnosis following a clinical encounter. | OSCE, PE, CPE, FNE | | X | X | | | | | | | 2 |
| 14. Integrate and apply basic science concepts and current medical knowledge to patient care through critical thinking and clinical problem solving. | OSCE, PE, CPE, FNE | LLD | X | X | X | | | | | | |
| 15. Locate, appraise, and assimilate evidence from the scientific literature related to patient care. | OSCE, PE, CPE, SP, FNE | LLD | X | X | X | | | | | | 7 |
| 16. Gather, interpret, synthesize, and prioritize patient data in order to develop a patient management plan for acute and chronic conditions. | OSCE, PE, CPE, OE, SP | | X | X | | | | | | | 3 |
| 17. Educate and counsel patients using shared decision-making about plans of care, health promotion, and disease prevention. | OSCE, PE, CPE, FNE | CC, EPP | X | X | | X | | | | | 11 |
| 18. Identify the rationale for and effectively perform selected clinical procedures that are appropriate for the chief complaint. | PE, CPE | LLD | X | X | X | | | | | | 12 |
| 19. Recognize urgent or emergent medical problems and initiate evaluation and management. | PE, CPE | | X | X | | | | | | | 10 |
| 20. Communicate medical information clearly and effectively in both written and oral form to other | OSCE, PE, CPE, OE, SP | SSS, CCC | X | | | X | | X | | | |
| 21. Demonstrate the ability to organize and prioritize tasks and effectively manage time in a clinical | OSCE, PE, CPE | LLD | X | | X | | | | | X | |
| 22. Give or receive a patient handover to safely transition care responsibility. | OSCE, CPE | | X | | | X | | | | | 8 |
| 23. Demonstrate knowledge of the roles of other members of a healthcare team and work effectively with them | OSCE, PE, | CCC | X | X | | | X | X | | | 9 |
| 24. Identify and address ethical and legal concerns in the practice of medicine and in research, recognizing | CPE | EPP, LLD | | | | X | | | | | |
| 25. Contribute to teaching, research, and scholarly activity in a variety of educational settings and in-patient care. | IE, CPE, FNE | LLD | X | X | | | | | | X | |
| 26. Utilize information technology to optimize teaching, learning, research and patient care. | FNE, SP, CPE | LLD | X | X | X | | | | | X | |
| 27. Identify, correct, and report common sources of medical errors and apply models for quality | SP, CPE | EPP, LLD | X | | X | | X | | | | 13 |
| 28. Demonstrate professional behaviors toward patients, families, and members of healthcare teams. | CPE, FNE, PE | EPP | X | | | | X | X | | | |
| 29. Demonstrate a commitment to life-long learning including developing reflective practices, recognizing | OSCE, PE, CPE | LLD | | | X | | | | | X | |
| 30. Prioritize personal health and wellness practices and develop effective coping strategies to maintain physical & mental health, seeking assistance as needed. | FNE, PE, CPE | LLD, EPP | | | X | | | | | X | |
| 31. Demonstrate an awareness of how personal beliefs, values, emotions and tolerance of ambiguity influence behaviors with others and responses to difficult situations. | FNE, PE, CPE | CCC, EPP, SSS | | | | | | | | X | |
| 32. Model service to patients and communities to enhance the well-being of others and to advocate for vulnerable groups and those with limited access to healthcare. | FNE, PE | SSS | X | | | | X | | | | |
| 33. Demonstrate leadership skills that enhance team functioning, the learning environment, education, research and patient care. | FNE, PE | CCC, LLD | X | X | X | X | X | | | X | |

CURRICULAR THREAD DESCRIPTIONS

Structure, Systems and Society (SSS) Thread

The Structures, Systems & Society Thread (SSS) enables learners to explore the structures, systems, and social determinants of health that impact the lives and health of all of our patients. The goal of the SSS Thread is to prepare learners to effectively care for and communicate with people across a broad spectrum of backgrounds and recognize their own advocacy role as future physicians in addressing social systems and structures that have a downstream effect on health, illness and disease. The SSS Thread provides students with a foundation for appraising and responding to their own perspectives and viewpoints, as well as those held by peers, teachers, patients and community members through lectures, reflections and discussions in small group sessions, standardized patient & simulated encounters as well as clinical and community-based experiences. In order to develop such skillsets, students will be exposed to evidence-based content from the biomedical, behavioral, socioeconomic & social sciences, as well as reflect on relevant personal and clinical experiences and humanities content.

Ethics, Professionalism, and Professional Identity Thread (EPP)

It is of utmost importance that our students be professional, humanistic, and ethically competent as well as medically competent. The goal of the Ethics, Professionalism, and Professional Identity Thread is to teach students to recognize, analyze, manage, and prevent ethical issues in clinical settings; support students' emotional wellbeing when faced with ethical dilemmas; and promote the exploration of personal values and the formation of students' professional identities. Professional identity formation (PIF) is critically important because it pertains to a student's very being: attitudes and biases, affective self-awareness, empathy, emotional intelligence, communication skills, and virtues ranging from humility and diligence to altruism and self-care. As stated by Cruess and Cruess, professionalism is the set of values, behaviors, and relationships that underpins the trust the public has in doctors, while professional identity formation is not just how others perceive you, but how you come to perceive yourself 1. The development of all these areas – ethics, professionalism, and professional identity formation – are crucial to being a “good” physician.

Geriatrics and Healthy Aging Thread (GHA)

Older adults are living longer, often with chronic, complex illness that affects all aspects of their lives. It is critical that physicians understand how to provide patient-centered, high quality care to this population. The goal of the Geriatrics and Healthy Aging Thread is to provide students with the knowledge and skills to care for the unique needs of an older adult population. The thread objectives align with the AAMC Minimum Geriatrics Competencies for Graduating Medical Students.

Lifelong Learning and Discovery Thread (LLD)

To develop the next generation of physicians who will think critically, practice evidence-based medicine, participate in meaningful and ethical research, and pose thoughtful questions as life-long learners to enhance the care of their patients we have prioritized a life-long learning and discovery thread in our curriculum. Students will be systematically introduced to the basic scientific and ethical principles of clinical and translational research, including the ways in which such research is conducted, evaluated, explained to patients, and applied to patient care. This thread includes the overall goals of understanding: 1) The bidirectional relationship between scientific findings and patient care; 2) Ethical issues related to research, and 3) Variations in study designs and statistical analyses, and how to critically appraise methods in scientific articles, including interpretation of outcomes to guide patient-centered clinical decision making. The importance of self-directed learning will be highlighted in the thread and the skills necessary to practice evidence-based medicine will be taught such that students learn to independently identify, analyze, and synthesize relevant information, generate testable hypotheses, always appraise the credibility of their information sources, and assess applicability to patient care. This thread will focus on training students to develop the essential skills required to be motivated, self-directed, lifelong learners and evidence-based practitioners as the foundation necessary to provide the highest quality care to patients.

Communication, Compassion, and Collaborative Care Thread (CCC)

The Communication, Compassion, and Collaborative Care Thread was developed to give medical students a strong foundation in the skills they will need as physicians to provide compassionate, humanistic, collaborative, and patient-centered care. Physicians must be empowered with an ability to communicate and empathize with the patient and their families. While excellent diagnostic skills are necessary in treating patients, it is insufficient to expect that merely

making the diagnosis and crafting a treatment plan will result in desired patient outcomes. Being able to partner with our patients and other providers on the health care team has become essential to providing patients with the care that they need. Strong physician communication skills have been correlated with improved patient satisfaction and better patient outcomes in wide variety of diseases. The physicians of today must be able to function collaboratively on health care teams that include health professionals from other disciplines as they provide coordinated services to patients. Ensuring that our students learn effective communication skills with patients, families, colleagues, and other health professionals is critical to develop the physicians that patients and our society deserve.

The table below outlines each of the curriculum threads, assessment methods used to measure student performance related to thread content, and the related Core Entrustable Professional Activities.

| Threads | Assessment Methods | Core Entrustable Professional Activities |
|--|---|---|
| CCC - Communication, Compassion, & Collaborative Care SSS – Structures, Systems & Society EPP - Ethics, Professionalism & Professional Identity GHA - Geriatrics & Healthy Aging LLD - Life-Long Learning & Discovery | CPE - Clinical Performance Evaluation FNE - Facilitator Narrative Evaluation IE - In-house Examination MCQ - Multiple Choice Quiz NBME - National Board of Medical Examiners Exam OSCE - Objective Structured Clinical Examination OE - Oral Exam PE - Preceptor Evaluation SP - Student Presentation | EPA 1: Gather a history and perform a physical examination EPA 2: Prioritize a differential diagnosis following a clinical encounter EPA 3: Recommend and interpret common diagnostic and screening tests EPA 4: Enter and discuss orders and prescriptions EPA 5: Document a clinical encounter in the patient record EPA 6: Provide an oral presentation of a clinical encounter EPA 7: Form clinical questions and retrieve evidence to advance patient care EPA 8: Give or receive a patient handover to transition care responsibility EPA 9: Collaborate as a member of an interprofessional team EPA 10: Recognize a patient requiring urgent or emergent care and initiate evaluation and management EPA 11: Obtain informed consent for tests and/or procedures EPA 12: Perform general procedures of a physician EPA 13: Identify system failures and contribute to a culture of safety and improvement |

ACADEMIC SCHEDULE AND ATTENDANCE

Academic Calendar, University Holidays, and Medical Student Schedule Commitments

The academic calendar is posted on the College of Medicine website (<https://www.fau.edu/medicine/md/>) and students should familiarize themselves with the required activities for the medical educational program. Please note that the academic calendar for the College of Medicine differs from that of the rest of the University. Medical students are governed by the College of Medicine academic calendar and **dates are subject to change**. Students must check OwlMed, and the College’s web site for the latest academic schedule.

Students are expected to participate in ALL scheduled orientations as well as classes and exams from the first through the last date in each semester that appears on the academic calendar, excluding mid-semester breaks. Please note that a **matriculating student who is not physically present at the beginning of Year 1 (which will generally be at 8:00 a.m. on the Monday of Orientation Week for Year 1) without an excused absence will forfeit his/her position in the class. All fees and tuition that have been paid by that student will be refunded and the position will be offered to a student on the alternate list.**

Courses, clerkships and rotations listed in the academic calendar vary in number of credits, intensity of scheduled time, and duration. They are organized to begin and end on common dates in each year or semester and generally have a uniform weekly schedule.

During the first two years of medical school, required activities include educational activities and assessments in courses, assessments that are required for promotion from Year 1 to Year 2, Year 2 to Year 3, and activities such as compliance required by the Office of Student Affairs. During a typical week, course activities (lectures, labs, small groups, clinical experiences, and examinations) will be scheduled such that on average, three half days are kept free for independent study. Course directors are required to adhere to approved College of Medicine academic calendars when scheduling their courses. Course examination dates and times are coordinated and scheduled to attempt to ensure a reasonable work load for students.

During the third and fourth years of medical school, students will actively participate in a lottery process to create their clerkship and rotation schedules within the overall framework of the College of Medicine academic calendar and the curriculum requirements. Should a medical student need to formally request an alternative educational site or curriculum assignment, the student should reach out to the Associate Dean for Medical Education and/or the Assistant Dean for Clinical Curriculum, Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions or the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs.

Activities related to assessments outside of courses that are required for promotion (e.g. Institutional Competency Assessments, Portfolio/Thread assignments, National Board Examinations) and Office of Student Affairs activities may be scheduled during open time in the course schedules, lunch periods, or Independent Study Time. Every effort will be made to notify students of such activities in advance.

FAU is officially closed on a number of national holidays, typically including Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day and the following Friday, a winter holiday on varying days during the period that includes Christmas Day and New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Memorial Day, and Independence Day. The dates of the University Holidays for each year can be found at <https://www.fau.edu/hr/holiday-schedule/>. The College of Medicine is closed and does not hold classes on University Holidays; however, during clerkships and year 4 rotations students may be expected to work and take call on these days depending on the patient care activities at their assigned clinical sites, or to attend other scheduled activities.

Religious Observance Policy

The College of Medicine recognizes that students, faculty and staff observe a variety of religious faiths and practices. The College will follow [FAU Regulation 2.007](#) regarding absences due to personal observances of religious holidays. A student who must be absent from an academic or educational requirement due to religious beliefs or practices will not be penalized. The procedure for requesting religious accommodations at the College of Medicine (see below) is intended to provide additional detail, specific to the medical program, to assist students in following FAU Regulation 2.007. For purposes of implementing FAU Regulation 2.007, references to the "instructor" in FAU Regulation 2.007, Section (2) b.(Class Attendance) shall be replaced by "Office of Student Affairs".

Procedure for Requesting Religious Accommodation at FAU College of Medicine

- All students must complete the online [Absence Request Form](#) no later than the end of the second week of the applicable academic term.
- The Office of Student Affairs will notify students via email once this absence request has been confirmed.
- Students must then forward this confirmation email to the course or clerkship director and/or the direct supervisor of any classes, courses or sessions they will be missing as soon as possible in order to arrange make-up assignments and/or completion of missed work.

During years 3 and 4, students work closely with curriculum/clerkship directors to create their schedules for the year. During the winter before their clerkship year, year 2 students complete a year 3 schedule survey to help guide the planning of Year 3 LIC schedules. It is recommended that students alert the curriculum/clerkship directors during those periods of any religious accommodations necessary so that scheduling conflicts can be avoided. For year 4, it is recommended that students alert the curriculum/rotation directors of any religious accommodations necessary prior to the completion of the rotation schedules.

The College of Medicine Attendance Policy

Medical students, as future physicians, are considered professionals and should conduct themselves in a manner consistent with that role in all activities, including but not limited to classroom work, laboratory work, and clinical experiences. Professionalism related to attendance includes arriving to all educational and clinical activities on time, for all scheduled days and for all mandatory sessions, as specified by the course, clerkship or rotation director. Specific attendance and punctuality requirements for courses, clerkships and rotations will be included in the course syllabus or may be communicated by alternate written means, such as email or notice in OwlMed. Students are expected to be present for all mandatory activities including all orientation sessions and any sessions added to the academic calendar over the course of the year, excluding designated vacation time.

Each student's primary objective should be to fully participate, engage in, and complete their undergraduate medical education in four years. Timely communication between the student and the course, clerkship or curriculum director is essential to any episode of student absence or tardiness from mandatory medical school activities. The faculty is well aware that personal issues can arise throughout the academic year but professionalism standards require that students always communicate in a timely, honest, respectful, and professional way. An unexcused, uncommunicated absence at any time during medical school is a serious matter. It will be viewed as a breach of professionalism.

Failure to comply with attendance requirements will impact the student's final course, clerkship or rotation grade and affect eligibility for school-based or national awards. Additionally, a pattern of unexcused absences or failure to complete missed work by the required due date may result in failure of a course or clerkship and possible disciplinary action through the MSPPSC, up to and including dismissal from the College of Medicine. Any student filing a false or fraudulent application for absence or having a recurrent pattern of unexcused absences will automatically be referred to the MSPPSC for an infraction of the Code of Academic Integrity ([FAU Regulation 4.001](#)).

Absences and Tardiness

Absences and tardiness from any educational, classroom or clinical activity must be handled in a professional manner and whenever possible requires prior notification and compliance with the procedures outlined below. Students must realize that their absence or tardiness negatively impacts many other people including faculty, preceptors, attending physicians, fellow students, and ultimately patients who are expecting them to be timely with their delivery of care. Absences fall into two types, unanticipated and anticipated. The primary difference between an "unanticipated" and "anticipated" absence is the realistic ability/inability to foresee the absence prior to the event. Absences then fall into one of two categories, excused or unexcused. This policy covers both types and categories of absence and tardiness.

Definitions

Tardiness occurs when the student arrives after the scheduled and expected start time for the educational and/or clinical activity. Tardiness at the College of Medicine is defined as a single episode of arriving after the scheduled and expected start time for any mandatory educational and/or clinical activity within a course, clerkship or rotation.

Unanticipated absences occur when the student's ability to participate in a required educational and/or clinical activity changes suddenly shortly prior to the event. Examples include but are not limited to: sudden onset of illness, a car accident, a family emergency, or death of a close family member, etc.

Anticipated absences are those absences that can realistically be foreseen and planned for in advance. Examples include but are not limited to: a religious holiday, wedding, elective surgery, jury duty, representing the College as a member of a committee or task force, or presenting research at a national meeting/conference, etc.

Excused absence or tardiness is when the absence or tardiness is deemed to be within the parameters of the attendance policy and professional behavior expected of a medical professional and future physician. An excused absence or tardiness will not negatively impact a student's final grade and/or eligibility for school-based or national awards.

Unexcused absence or tardiness is when the absence or tardiness is deemed to have violated the acceptable parameters of the attendance policy and professional behavior expected of a medical professional and future

physician. Patterns of unexcused absences and tardiness are of particular concern, but any unexcused absence or tardiness may impact a student's final grade, affect eligibility for school-based or national awards, and may result in referral to the Student Competency Review Committee (SCRC) for remediation and support and/or referral to the MSPPSC for disciplinary action.

Communication about ANTICIPATED Absences & Tardiness

Because personal issues can arise throughout the academic year, a student may request an excused anticipated absence or tardiness for a critical personal event that cannot be arranged during independent study time, free time on evenings/weekends, regularly scheduled vacation time, and/or white space/discretionary time in years 3 and 4. As future medical professionals, students are expected to use their free time and vacations to meet the majority of their personal needs. Students are not entitled to additional discretionary time.

If students anticipate the need to be tardy for any mandatory educational or clinical activity, they should request approval directly from the course director(s) and/or faculty supervisor of the impacted course, clerkship or rotation. If a pattern of tardiness is identified the student's competency in professionalism may be reviewed by SCRC.

In order to receive an excused anticipated absence for any course work at the College of Medicine, students must complete the following steps:

- Submit the online "Absence Request Form" (<https://comsupport.fau.edu/absence.html>) no later than 4 weeks prior to the event. All requests filed less than 4 weeks prior to the event could be denied unless there are extenuating circumstances outside of the student's control. The student will be notified via email if their request is approved or denied.
- If the absence is approved, the student must then forward this approval notification email to the impacted course, clerkship or rotation director(s) to arrange for completion of missed work and/or other make-up assignments.
- Students will be responsible for completing missed work and/or make-up assignments by the deadline determined by the course director (for years M1 and M2) or the clerkship, rotation, or year 3 or year 4 director(s).

Patterns of absence and tardiness from all educational, classroom and/or clinical activities throughout the College of Medicine curriculum will be tracked by course, clerkship and rotation faculty and administrators and the Office of Student Affairs.

Communication about UNANTICIPATED Absences & Tardiness

If a student has an emergency that prevents him/her from attending a mandatory scheduled educational or clinical activity, or from being on time, he/she is expected to notify the course or clerkship director and/or the direct supervisor for the session (small group leader, preceptor, attending, etc.) for that required activity as soon as possible, preferably before the start of the scheduled activity/shift. It is important that students directly notify the person that is expecting them for the session in as timely a manner as possible. If the faculty member has a concern about the student's well-being, the faculty may contact the Office of Student Affairs to ensure that the student is aware of all available resources. Course and clerkship directors will let the student know by email if the unanticipated absence or tardiness will be excused or unexcused as well as if any make-up time/work are required.

If an absence is anticipated to extend beyond two days, students must also notify the Office of Student Affairs by email at COMStudentAffairs@health.fau.edu so they can assist as needed, particularly if a leave of absence may be required. Please note that in some instances, i.e., medical illness, documentation may be required by the Office of Student Affairs.

Unanticipated absences and tardiness will be tracked by course and clerkship faculty and administrators, and unexcused unanticipated absences may impact a student's final grade, affect eligibility for school-based or national awards, and may result in referral to the Student Competency Review Committee (SCRC) for remediation and support and/or referral to the MSPPSC for disciplinary action.

M1 and M2 Specific Information

Advance planning is critical in years 1 and 2 when students are involved in integrated courses with small group activities as well as clinical experiences, standardized patient exercises, simulation center and laboratory activities. All personal events should be scheduled during vacation time, nights, weekends, and independent study time; however, for events that can be planned well in advance and may not fit within the free time/vacation time of the academic calendar, such as a wedding, the advance planning should ideally begin prior to the beginning of the academic year or with as much lead time as possible. This will avoid missing any crucial course activities or clinical sessions. Please remember that all students must submit a request for an excused anticipated absence for any course work at the College of Medicine via the online "[Absence Request Form](#)" and list all course/clerkship directors affected by the absence no less than 4 weeks prior to the event.

Personal and Professional Days

M1 and M2 students are allowed to request up to 3 personal days and up to 3 professional days per academic year. Make-up work will be assigned by the course director(s) for missed curricular events and activities. Students are responsible for completing all make-up work by the assigned deadline.

Personal days can be used for any activity at the discretion of the student. Typical activities for personal days include but are not limited to weddings, self-care days, appointments, family events or attendance solely as a learner at a professional conference. At the time the Absence Request Form is submitted (at least 4 weeks prior to the date), no additional supporting documentation will be required. **Note:** Religious observances and health services appointments are not considered personal days and are governed by separate policies. Please see the Religious Observance Policy and Policy Regarding Accessing Health Services in the COM Student Handbook for details.

Professional days are designated for students to present their work at professional conferences. These days may not be used to solely attend a conference as a learner. To request an excused absence for a professional day, students must submit an "Absence Request Form" and **must also provide documentation demonstrating that their conference submission has been accepted to a meeting at the time that this form is submitted**. Students will not be allowed to utilize more than 1 day prior to or following the conference presentation date. Note: Students who are appointed by COM administration to represent the College of Medicine at a designated event will be granted excused absences to cover the time required for event attendance and will not need to use individual professional days for this purpose. Absence Request Forms must be submitted for all professional days, whether attendance at the designated event is voluntary or appointed.

The following restrictions apply to the use of personal and professional days

- Personal days may not be used on "blackout dates" designated by the Offices of Student Affairs and Medical Education. Blackout dates include days of required attendance at College of Medicine activities. Student requests for professional days on blackout dates will be reviewed on a case by case basis.
- The Medical Education Deans reserve the right to place limits on the number of students that can be absent at any educational activity to ensure the integrity of the curriculum. Therefore, absence requests may be denied in whole or in part at their discretion.
- **No more than 3 personal and professional days** per year can be missed contiguously from the curriculum.
- Students may not attend more than one professional conference during a single course.
- Personal days may be used for professional purposes, but only after all professional days are exhausted.
- Unused personal and professional days will not be carried over to the following year.

Personal and professional days will be tracked for each student, and limits on these days will be strictly enforced. Misuse or failure to comply with the policy for excused absences will be considered a serious lapse in professionalism and potentially a violation of the COM's Behavioral Requirements and Standards as described herein the Medical Student Handbook

M3 and M4 Specific Information

Advance planning is critical in years 3 and 4 when students are involved in developing their own clerkship and rotation schedules. Significant white space and/or break time is already provided in the year 3 and year 4 schedules so that additional personal and professional days are rarely necessary. Most personal events should be scheduled during vacation time and year 4 discretionary time; however, for events that can be planned well in advance and may not fit within the free time/vacation time of the academic calendar, such as a wedding, the advance planning should ideally begin prior to the time when clerkships and year 4 rotations are chosen in order to pick a clerkship or elective block that does not have night or weekend call at the time of the event. This will avoid missing any crucial inpatient clerkship or acting internship/rotation time. Close communication well in advance of schedule completion with the year 3 and 4 directors and administrators is essential. Please see the chart below for guidance and remember that for personal events that can be planned in advance, but become known after the year 3 clerkship or year 4 schedule is set, students should complete the online "[Absence Request Form](#)" and list all course/clerkship directors affected by the absence no less than 4 weeks prior to the event.

Year 3 - The outpatient blocks in the longitudinal integrated clerkships (LICs), for the most part, do not have night or weekend call, so efforts will be made to schedule students on those blocks in anticipation of approved absences. If necessary on-call schedules may be adjusted if possible to free up a given weekend day or night with advance notice. Year 3 students may miss one day during each LIC before make-up time is required. Students must make every effort to reschedule missed clinical experiences and preceptor sessions when they are missed. Unexcused absences will always require make-up time. Students should be aware that missing greater than 2 days may impact a final grade and result in a referral to SCRC or the MSPPSC for disciplinary action. It is the student's responsibility to work with their attending, preceptors, clerkship directors, as well as the year 3 director(s) and coordinators to plan any necessary make-up time. Therefore, the responsibility and any consequence(s) for missing a required clinical experience/activity (e.g., lowered grade, course failure, repeating an academic year, leave of absence, probation, suspension, or dismissal etc.) regardless of the circumstance lies with the student.

Year 4 - Given the importance of residency interviews and the Step 2 Exam, the year 4 team works closely with students to be flexible with scheduling. With that said, students are expected to be consistently proactive and responsible communicators with the year 4 leadership and administrators as well as the supervising attendings on their rotations. Arrangements for medical student absences must not negatively impact patient care. When a medical student is to be absent from assigned duties, for any reason, it is the responsibility of the individual student to notify the supervising faculty physician or rotation coordinator of his/her absence with as much prior notice as possible. Please see M4 Absence Policies Specific Considerations in the M4 Handbook for more details.

Guidelines for Absences and Tardiness for M3/M4 Students

| EVENT | ABSENCE EXCUSED? | MAKE UP TIME NEEDED? | |
|---|--|---|--|
| | | Outpatient Block | Inpatient Block |
| Healthcare or health services appointments | Yes, however documentation could be required and OSA may be involved to assist the student should a LOA be required. | Yes, if > 1 day missed. Student responsible to reschedule missed experiences. | Yes, if > 1 day missed. Student must make up a full continuity week during vacation time if 2 days are missed during an inpatient block. |
| Student illnesses/ accidents, including infections that could put patients or other staff at risk | Yes, however documentation could be required and OSA may be involved to assist the student should a LOA be required. | Yes, if > 1 day missed. Student responsible to reschedule missed experiences. | Yes, if > 1 day missed. Student must make up a full continuity week during vacation time if 2 days are missed during an inpatient block. |
| Illness or death of a close family member or close friend | Yes, however documentation could be required and OSA may be involved to assist the student should a LOA be required. | Yes, if > 1 day missed. Student responsible to reschedule missed experiences. | Yes, if > 1 day missed. Student must make up a full continuity week during vacation time if 2 days are missed during an inpatient block. |
| Family emergency (unspecified) | Yes, however documentation could be required and OSA may be involved to assist the student should a LOA be required. | Yes, if > 1 day missed. Student responsible to reschedule missed experiences. | Yes, if > 1 day missed. Student must make up a full continuity week during vacation time if 2 days are missed during an inpatient block. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Religious holidays | Yes, please see religious observance policy. Reasonable accommodation will be made to schedule around all requested observed holidays during outpatient blocks. Ideally students should let the year 3 and 4 director know when schedules are being made. | Student responsible to reschedule missed experiences | Yes, if > 1 day missed. Student must make up a full continuity week during vacation time if 2 days are missed during an inpatient block. |
| Presentation or representing FAU at a medical/scientific conference | Typically, yes, if notification is made 2 months prior to LIC/M4 schedule completion. Attempts will be made to schedule the missed days during outpatient blocks, but depends on the timing of the conference and what critical course events will be missed. | Student responsible to reschedule missed experiences. | Yes, if > 1 day missed. Student must make up a full continuity week during vacation time if 2 days are missed during an inpatient block |
| Attending a medical conference | Rarely to never. The request must be made prior to completion of LIC/M4 schedule. Student may only miss one day per LIC before vacation time must be used to make-up absences. | Student responsible to reschedule missed experiences | Yes, if > 1 day missed. Student must make up a full continuity week during vacation time if 2 days are missed during an inpatient block |
| Wedding (student is bride or groom) | Yes, if notification is made 2 months prior to LIC/M4 schedule completion. Attempts will be made to schedule the missed days during outpatient blocks. | Student responsible to reschedule missed experiences. | Yes, if > 1 day missed. Student must make up a full continuity week during vacation time if 2 days are missed during an inpatient block |
| Birth/adoption of a child (student is the mother or father) | Yes, OSA should be involved to assist the student should family leave be required. | Work will be made upon return from Family Leave. | |
| In the wedding party of a family member or extremely close friend | Yes, if notification is made 2 months prior to LIC/M4 schedule completion. Student may only miss one day per LIC before vacation time must be used to make-up absences. | Student responsible to reschedule missed experiences. | Yes, if > 1 day missed. Student must make up a full continuity week during vacation time if 2 days are missed during an inpatient block |
| Residency Interviews and Step 2 Exams | Yes, if year 4 team and rotation attendings are notified in advance, and year 4 policies are followed | Follow Year 4 Absence Policy | |

Severe Weather Policy

Cancellation of required clinical activities due to severe weather or disaster will follow FAU Severe Weather Policy. Toll free hotline: 1-888-8FAUOWL (832-8695) <http://www.fau.edu/advisory/>.

Students are responsible for checking e-mails, and university or hospital websites for updated procedures and protocols. In the case of a loss of all methods of communication, students should follow general recommendations from the FAU Severe Weather Policy and exercise their own judgment in considering personal and public safety.

In the event of severe weather or a natural disaster that interrupts or has the potential to interrupt normal operations, students will be contacted by the Office of Student Affairs and/or the Office of Medical Education with instructions pertaining to class and clinical rotation attendance. If there are any questions, concerns, or doubts regarding travel to school or to a clinical rotation, students should always err on the side of caution and seek and remain in safe shelter.

Students will be notified as soon as possible if specific clinical sites are closed, or activities are cancelled with postings and updates via FAU e-mail account.

ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

College of Medicine Grade Designations and Transcript

The official College of Medicine transcript is organized by academic year, listing all courses, clerkships and rotations in the academic year, with the credit hours for each course, clerkship or rotation, followed by the final grade earned for each course, clerkship or rotation.

Final Grades on College of Medicine **Transcript** for Years 1, 2, and 4

Satisfactory
Unsatisfactory
U/S: Unsatisfactory/Satisfactory Remediation
Incomplete
Withdrawal
Withdrawal Exceptional Circumstances

Final Grades on College of Medicine **Transcript** for Year 3

Honors
High Satisfactory
Satisfactory
U/S: Unsatisfactory/Satisfactory Remediation
Unsatisfactory
Incomplete
Withdrawal
Withdrawal Exceptional Circumstances

Final Grades on College of Medicine Final Year 1 and 2 **Course Grade Reports**

Satisfactory
Satisfactory with Concern
Unsatisfactory
U/S: Unsatisfactory/Satisfactory Remediation
Incomplete
Withdrawal
Withdrawal Exceptional Circumstances

Grades on College of Medicine Final Year 3 **Clerkship Grade Reports**

Honors
High Satisfactory
Satisfactory
Satisfactory with Concern
U/S: Unsatisfactory/Satisfactory Remediation

Unsatisfactory
Incomplete
Withdrawal
Withdrawal Exceptional Circumstances

Grades on College of Medicine Final Year 4 Course/Rotation Grade Reports

Satisfactory
Satisfactory with Concern
U/S: Unsatisfactory/Satisfactory Remediation
Unsatisfactory
Incomplete
Withdrawal
Withdrawal Exceptional Circumstances

Below you will find a detailed description of the grade designations included on the College of Medicine transcript. For further details of the grading within each course, clerkship or rotation, please see the respective course syllabus, the Year 3 LIC Syllabus and/or the Year 4 Syllabus.

Satisfactory

A Satisfactory grade indicates satisfactory performance in meeting learning objectives in a course, clerkship or rotation. Students who receive a “Satisfactory” (S) grade in all graded course competencies or LIC/clerkship/rotation components will receive a “Satisfactory” grade for the medical school course, clerkship or rotation.

Unsatisfactory

Students who receive an “Unsatisfactory” (U) grade in one or more competencies or LIC/clerkship/rotation components will receive an “Unsatisfactory” grade for the medical school course, clerkship or rotation and will be referred to the MSPPSC for review of the student’s overall academic progress. The MSPPSC will then make a determination by vote for the students to either remediate a specific competency to the satisfaction of the course or clerkship director (and in some cases in conjunction with the competency director) and be eligible for an “Unsatisfactory/Satisfactory Remediation” (U/S) grade (described below) or require the student to repeat the course/clerkship/rotation, repeat the year, be placed on probation, suspension, and/ or be dismissed from the College of Medicine. If the students are required to repeat the course/clerkship/rotation or repeat the year then all “Unsatisfactory” final grades will be listed on the student’s permanent transcript and a notation of the failed competency and any remediation plan or adverse action will be described in the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE/Dean’s Letter). If remediation is approved the student will meet with the course, clerkship, rotation, and/or competency director to develop a formal remediation plan (“Plan for Remediating Unsatisfactory Performance”). This plan will include expectations for the work to be performed, method of student re-assessment, and time period for the remediation, and will be submitted to the Lead Basic Science Course Director, Lead Clinical Science Course Director, Year 3 Associate Director, or Year 4 Associate Director accordingly or designee who will submit it to the Medical Student Promotions and Professional Standards Committee (MSPPSC). Upon satisfactory remediation, the course, clerkship, or rotation director will report the satisfactory achievement for the course to the SADSAA, ADSA, or the designee, and the Lead Basic Science Course Director, Lead Clinical Science Course Director, Year 3 Associate Director or Year 4 Associate Director will inform the MSPPSC and the registrar. The registrar will record the new (U/S) final grade. If the students are required to repeat the course/clerkship/rotation or repeat the year then the transcript will reflect both the initial grade of Unsatisfactory (U) and the final grade earned in the subsequent course, clerkship or rotation. Failure to complete the plan for remediation (i.e., work not completed or performed at an unsatisfactory level) will be reported by the SADSAA, ADSA, or the designee to the MSPPSC for action, which can include requiring the student to repeat the course/clerkship/rotation, repeat the year, be placed on probation, suspension, and/ or be dismissed from the College of Medicine.

U/S: Unsatisfactory/Satisfactory Remediation

Students who have been granted the opportunity to remediate an Unsatisfactory grade without needing to repeat the course/clerkship/rotation will be given an “Unsatisfactory/Satisfactory Remediation” (U/S) grade if they successfully complete the remediation plan. All “Unsatisfactory/Satisfactory Remediation” final grades will be listed on the student’s permanent transcript and a notation of the failed competency, any remediation plan, or adverse action will be described in the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MPSE/Dean’s Letter).

Satisfactory with Concern

Students who receive a “Satisfactory with Concern” (SWC) grade in any competency with at least a Satisfactory grade in all other competencies, will be given a “Satisfactory with Concern” grade on their final course grade report and will be referred to the Student Competency Review Committee (SCRC) for a formative support plan. The grade of “Satisfactory with Concern” is considered to be formative and will not be entered into the student’s permanent transcript or the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE). Instead, the grade will be listed as “Satisfactory” on the student’s transcript and MSPE. However, a pattern of receiving “Satisfactory with Concern” final grades or failure to improve in any competencies of concern will result in a recommendation to the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions and/or Assistant Dean for Student Affairs to review for potential referral to the MSPPSC, with possible consequences including further remediation, repeating the course/clerkship rotation, repeating the year, being placed on probation, suspension, and/ or being dismissed from the College of Medicine.

Incomplete

Students may receive an Incomplete (I) grade if they are unable to complete required work in a course, clerkship or rotation. Because of the consecutive nature of the curriculum in Years 1 and 2, any student in Year 1 or Year 2 who receives an Incomplete (I) grade may not continue in the curriculum until they have completed and passed the required coursework. Due to the scheduling of the curriculum, a student who fails to complete and pass the required coursework in a timely fashion may need to take a leave of absence in order to do so.

A student in Years 3 or 4 may be assigned an Incomplete (I) grade in a clerkship because of a failure to complete the required coursework. In addition, a student in Year 3 may be assigned an Incomplete (I) grade for failing to pass the NBME Subject Examination on the first attempt (see details in Year 3 Clerkship Syllabus). A student in Years 3 or 4 may continue in the curriculum, and/or progress to a subsequent year of study, pending approval by the MSPPSC. For all students who are assigned an Incomplete (I) grade, a formal plan (“Plan for Completing Course Requirements”), including the outstanding course requirements, method of assessment, expected time period to complete outstanding requirements, and criteria for successful completion of outstanding requirements will be established by the course, clerkship, or curriculum director. When completed, the course, clerkship, or curriculum director will report the grade earned to the student, the College of Medicine registrar and other members of the Office of Student Affairs and Office of Medical Education teams as outlined on the Incomplete Coursework form. A grade of Incomplete (I) will then be removed and replaced with the final grade earned. The transcript will reflect only the final grade earned in the course, clerkship or rotation.

Students who do not satisfactorily complete the outstanding requirements to convert an Incomplete (I) grade to an earned grade within the expected time period will be referred to the MSPPSC for review, which may result in adverse actions including, but not limited to, repeating the course/clerkship/rotation, repeating the academic year, being placed on probation or suspension, or dismissal from the College of Medicine.

Withdrawal

First and Second Year

Students will receive a withdrawal grade (“W”) if they withdraw from a course after 3 weeks. The course name and grade appear on the transcript, but no credit is awarded and the course is not included in any cumulative numeric grade calculations. However, students who receive a withdrawal grade may not be eligible for Year 1 and 2 Honors or AOA.

Students will receive a withdrawal with exceptional circumstance grade ("WM") if they withdraw from a course after 3 weeks and meet the criteria for an exceptional circumstance grade. The course name and grade appear on the transcript, but no credit is awarded and the course is not included in any cumulative numeric grade calculations. Please refer to the "University Regulation 4.013" for the complete policy on Withdrawals for Exceptional Circumstances.

Third and Fourth Year

Students will receive a withdrawal grade ("W") if they withdraw from a course, clerkship, or rotation after 1 week. The course, clerkship, or rotation name and grade appears on the transcript, but no credit is awarded and the course, clerkship, or rotation is not included in any cumulative numeric grade calculations. However, students who receive a withdrawal grade may not be eligible for AOA.

Students will receive a withdrawal with exceptional circumstance grade ("WM") if they withdraw from a course, clerkship, or rotation after 1 week and meet the criteria for an exceptional circumstance grade. The course, clerkship, or rotation name and grade appears on the transcript, but no credit is awarded and the course, clerkship, or rotation is not included in any cumulative numeric grade calculations. Please refer to the "University Regulation 4.013" for the complete policy on Withdrawals for Exceptional Circumstances.

College of Medicine Assessments

Narrative Assessment of Student Performance

In the majority of College of Medicine courses, clerkships and rotations a narrative description of student performance is required as a component of assessment whenever the teacher-student interaction permits this form of assessment. Narrative comments will be provided to students for their review in a timely manner and will be a part of the students' permanent file. Clerkship grading narratives are included verbatim, except for minor grammatical edits, in the MSPE/Dean's Letter.

Examinations

The majority of written in-class exams at the College of Medicine are conducted as secure web-based objective examinations. Exams are timed and proctored and students take them in a designated classroom using secure exam administration platforms and procedures. To the degree possible, exams for concurrent courses will be scheduled so that exams do not compete with other learning activities. Students have opportunities to raise concerns about exams or ask specific questions by contacting the course or clerkship director. The course director will email exam result statistics to the class, and individual exam results will be posted in the OwlMed gradebook.

Exam Policy and Protocol

Students must be at the door of the testing room ready to enter at the time instructed by the Chief Proctor which is usually 15 or 30 minutes prior to the start of the exam. After entering the testing room, students will proceed directly to their workstation and wait quietly until the exam begins. If a student needs to leave the testing room prior to the start of the exam they must be escorted, one at a time, by a proctor.

Students must be in their assigned seats in the testing room in time for the instructions given prior to the start of the exam. Students arriving more than 10 minutes after the start of an exam will not be permitted to enter the examination room or take the exam.

Students taking exams must leave all personal items in their locker, including cell phones and backpacks. Students will not be allowed to sit for an exam if they bring personal items (see list) into the testing room.

Students must be escorted, one at a time, by a proctor on all personal breaks taken during exams. Extra test time for personal breaks will not be granted.

Students who fail to show for an exam due to an emergency or to extenuating circumstances must notify the Office of Student Affairs as soon as possible to explain their situation.

Personal Items Not Allowed in the Examination Room

Electronic devices, including: cell phones, cameras, recording devices, PDAs, calculators, and paging devices
Study materials (books, notes, papers)
Pens, pencils, highlighters and other writing instruments
Suitcases, briefcases, backpacks
Beverages or food of any type
Coats
Brimmed hats

Personal Item Exemption (PIE): Any enrolled student with a documented disability may request an accommodation, including accommodations related to personal items in the examination room, by submitting the necessary forms to the FAU Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in a timely manner prior to each semester in the MD program. Please note, accommodations for NBME subject and NBME shelf exams may take an additional 60 days if approval must be granted by the NBME. The forms to request an accommodation may be downloaded directly from the SAS website at <http://www.fau.edu/sas/Forms.php>.

Reminder: Failing to comply with examination regulations or failing to obey the instructions of an examination proctor is considered a form of academic dishonesty, a professionalism violation and a violation of the Code of Academic Integrity (FAU Regulation 4.001). <https://www.fau.edu/regulations/>

Timeliness of Grade Reporting Policy

All final course, clerkship, and rotation grades and narrative evaluations must be submitted to the Office of Medical Education, released to students, and sent to the College's registrar's office within six (6) weeks of the completion of all required components of the course, clerkship or rotation. Timely distribution of grades is the responsibility of the course, clerkship, or curriculum director(s) and will be monitored by the Office of Medical Education. Failure to distribute grades within the required timeframe will result in the Office of Medical Education reporting any noncompliant course, clerkship, or curriculum directors to the College of Medicine Curriculum Committee (COMCC) so that quality improvement efforts will be initiated.

Institutional Competency Assessments (ICAs)

Competency in clinical skills, critical thinking, general medical knowledge as well as other core competencies, will be evaluated independently from course work three times during the course of study:

Year 1 ICA - Scheduled at the end of the first academic year, during the week immediately following the end of course work before the summer break

Year 2 ICA - Scheduled at the end of the second academic year, during the final week before the period of study for USMLE Step 1

Year 3 ICA - Scheduled after completion of both Longitudinal Integrated Clerkships at the end of Year 3.

Evaluations will include 1) test stations in the Objective Structured Clinical Exam (OSCE) format, involving medical cases that may be virtual, standardized patients, or simulations, and 2) assessments of written notes, oral presentations, or other activities linked to the test stations. In Year 1, students must pass the OSCE stations and related assessments to pass the Foundations for Medicine 2 course. In Year 2, students must pass the OSCE stations and related assessments to pass the Foundations for Medicine 3 course. Each ICA also includes mandatory formative assessments. Students are expected to complete all aspects of each ICA to be promoted to the next year of study.

Required Formative Assessments

Throughout the courses, clerkships and rotations in all four years of medical school, students are provided with regular, formative feedback on their performance. This feedback takes the form of narrative feedback by faculty and peers and a range of other assessments, such as non-graded quizzes on course content. Course and clerkship directors are expected to ensure structured formative feedback on student performance early enough to allow sufficient time for remediation. For short courses or clerkships (less than 4 weeks), formal feedback is not required, but some method of assisting students to assess their learning is expected.

Comprehensive Knowledge Assessment: The NBME Comprehensive Basic Science Examination (http://www.nbme.org/Schools/Subject-Exams/Subjects/comp_basicsci.html) is administered during the Year 2 ICA. It is a required exam, but the results do not impact student grades. The purpose of this exam is for students to self-assess their preparation for the USMLE Step 1 exam.

In order to become fully licensed to practice medicine in the United States, individuals must pass all three (3) USMLE Step exams. The United States Medical Licensing Exams (USMLE) Policy describes the required components of the USMLE during medical school and the implications for the residency match and graduation.

All students must take and pass the USMLE Step 1 before being promoted to Year 3. Students must take and pass the USMLE Step 2 CK (Clinical Knowledge) exam prior to graduation. Students are expected to take and pass each examination by the deadlines for that examination set forth in the policy below.

United States Medical Licensing Exams (USMLE) Policy

Students must be enrolled in the College of Medicine to be able to register for and take the USMLE Step 1 and Step 2 CK examinations. Students are required to complete applications for the USMLE examinations in sufficient time to request test dates to meet the required deadlines. Students with circumstances that prevent them from taking or retaking the USMLE Step 1 or Step 2 CK according to the dates in this policy must, as soon as possible, petition in writing to the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or designee), who will review the request and make a determination.

Students who request accommodations from a USMLE from the NBME must adhere to the same deadlines. ***It is the student's sole responsibility to obtain any necessary accommodations in a timely fashion and to meet the deadlines for each examination set forth in the policy below.***

Failure to pass either Step 1 or Step 2 CK after the third attempt will result in dismissal from the College of Medicine.

USMLE-Step 1 Examination

Scheduling of Step 1

Students are required to take Step 1 of the USMLE at least 10 days prior to the start of the Synthesis and Transition course at the beginning of Year 3. Students who delay taking Step 1 until after this time period may not begin the Year 3 clerkships until May of the following year. Such students will be required to take a leave of absence (LOA) for one year and complete the Step 1 exam by July 15th of their LOA. If a second or third attempt to take the Step 1 exam becomes necessary, such students must comply with the "Failure and Retaking of Step 1" policy described below.

Failure and Retaking of Step 1

Students who fail USMLE Step 1 on their initial attempt will be removed from the Year 3 curriculum and will be required to take a leave of absence (LOA) for one year to prepare for and retake Step 1. Students must retake Step 1 by September 30th of their LOA. Students who fail their second attempt must complete their third attempt to pass Step 1 by December 31st of their LOA. Students who fail Step 1 and receive notification of such failure while on a LOA for another reason, such as but not limited to a research year, fellowship, or pursuit of an additional degree, are required to adhere to the same deadlines for their subsequent attempt(s), as stated in the preceding sentence, within the same calendar year as their first attempt. Students who pass the USMLE Step 1 on their second or third attempt may start the Year 3 curriculum when it begins again the following May.

USMLE- Step 2 Examination

Students must take and pass Step 2 Clinical Knowledge (CK) prior to graduation. Initial attempts to pass Step 2 CK must be completed by September 1st of the year preceding graduation. Student who do not obtain a passing score on USMLE Step 2 CK before the final date for submission of the NRMP rank order list may be withdrawn from the residency match by the Office for Student Affairs. At the discretion of the Senior Associate Deans for Student Affairs, such students will be allowed to walk with their class at commencement and will receive a diploma with a later date, if it is anticipated that they will have met all graduation requirements within a reasonable time after commencement.

Passing scores must be documented no later than April 15th of the same academic year if the student expects to graduate on time. Failure to document a passing score for the Step 2 exam by this deadline will result in a delay in graduation.

College of Medicine Repeated Courses Policy

Upon completion of a Year 1 or Year 2 course at the College of Medicine, each student will obtain a final grade of Satisfactory (S), Unsatisfactory (U), or Unsatisfactory/Satisfactory Remediation (U/S) which will be listed on the student's transcript. When a medical student repeats a Year 1 or Year 2 course at the College of Medicine, his/her transcript will reflect both the initial grade received of Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U) as well as the subsequent grade received in the repeated course. In addition, when a medical student repeats a Year 1 or Year 2 course, only the first numeric score associated with the medical knowledge component for the repeated course will be used to determine eligibility for honors, awards, and AOA.

Evaluation Completion Policy

All students of the Florida Atlantic University Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine play a vital and essential role in contributing to the continual improvement of the medical education program and all aspects of the College of Medicine. The responsibility to provide feedback is critical to the medical profession, and reflects the mutual obligation that teachers and learners have to provide constructive commentary to each other as they seek to improve and enhance their performance. Consequently, all students are expected to actively participate in the College's comprehensive evaluation program. The Office of Program Evaluation and Assessment (OPEA) collects and compiles all evaluation data, and then provides anonymized reports and analysis to the appropriate curriculum committees. These committees, in conjunction with the Office of Medical Education (OME), utilize the data to formulate and implement curriculum improvement and faculty development strategies. In order to attain valuable participation of every student in the evaluation process, the Office of Medical Education has established the following guidelines.

All program and teaching evaluations are mandatory; students are required to complete 100% of these curriculum evaluations as part of their professional responsibilities at the College of Medicine. Failure to do so may result in a professionalism violation and other disciplinary action by the College of Medicine. The evaluations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Final Course, Clerkship and Rotation evaluations
- Small Group Peer Assessment and Self-assessment
- Evaluations of Assigned Small Group Facilitators and Preceptors
- Faculty Lecture Evaluations

Evaluations that students must complete will be assigned at appropriate times throughout the curriculum, with a clearly designated timeframe for required completion. Whenever possible class time will be allotted for completion of evaluations. Faculty and staff of the College of Medicine commit to assigning as few evaluations as possible to achieve the goal of ongoing curricular improvements and faculty development/evaluation. Should a student receive an evaluation for a non-mandatory session that they did not attend, students will still be required to complete a few questions on why they chose not to attend and what alternative resources they used to master the material covered in the session.

Confidentiality of all Student Responses

Confidentiality of student responses on all evaluations is assured. However, should a comment on an evaluation be considered an overt or covert expression of potential self-harm, harm to others or property, or otherwise cause concern for the well-being of the student or community, the faculty member and/or course director may notify the COM Office of Student Affairs (OSA) dean(s). The COM OSA dean(s) may request that the Manager, Educational Technology (Year 1/Year 2 evaluations) or 3rd party evaluation vendor (Year 3 evaluations) identify the student to the deans of Student Affairs. In all other situations, responses to evaluations are always compiled and anonymized prior to being reported. Should a one-on-one relationship with a faculty member, such as a clinical preceptor, preclude anonymity then evaluation data will not be shared until the grading process is complete. Should a student have any concerns or questions about the anonymity of an evaluation, he/she may speak to the course or clerkship director and/or the Director of the Office of Program Evaluation and Assessment (OPEA).

Quality of Student Responses

Students are expected to complete all evaluations in a highly professional manner. Comments submitted in evaluations are shared verbatim with faculty, so we expect them to be high quality, meaningful, constructive, and free of personal slurs.

Failure to Complete Assigned Evaluations

Student completion rates and timeliness of completion on all evaluations will be tracked by the OPEA. If a student does not complete an evaluation by the due date (7 days from assignment), he or she will receive an initial notification from the OPEA and the course/clerkship director(s) will be notified, at 14 days a second notification will be sent from OPEA and the Course/Clerkship Director(s) will be notified with a reminder to complete the assigned evaluation(s). If the student demonstrates a pattern of non-compliance with completing evaluations, the student's final course/clerkship/rotation professionalism grade may be negatively impacted, he or she will be referred to the Student Competency Review Committee (SCRC) for formative support, or referred to MSPPSC for further disciplinary actions and professionalism violations.

Academic Honors in Year 1 & 2 and AOA

Academic Honors in Year 1 & 2

Students who demonstrate consistently outstanding academic performance throughout the first two years of medical school may be eligible for an Honors commendation that will be included in their permanent records and their Medical Student Performance Evaluations (MSPE) for residency applications.

The final Knowledge for Practice (Medical Knowledge) scores in each M1/M2 course will be used to determine student eligibility for Academic Honors in Year 1 and 2. The final numerical Knowledge for Practice (Medical Knowledge) score earned in each course will be weighted based on course credits (which reflect contact time in the course). Though final Knowledge or Practice (Medical Knowledge) scores are rounded in determining final course competency and overall grade designations, these scores will not be rounded when used for determining Academic Honors.

Students will be eligible for consideration for "Academic Honors for Year 1 and 2" if they meet the following criterion:

- Total weighted numerical medical knowledge scores earned in all courses in the first two years are within the top 25% of the class.

Students will be notified of their selection for Academic Honors in Year 1 and 2 by the Associate Dean for Medical Education or designee. The student will receive a letter of notification which will become part of the student's permanent file, and this commendation and criteria will be included in the student's MSPE.

Alpha Omega Alpha

Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) is the honor society for medical students. FAU students are elected into AOA by a committee of FAU faculty members who are members of AOA. An unbiased, inclusive nomination and election process is followed by FAU based on the AOA Constitution. Selection committee members review de-identified materials on all eligible students whose academic performance is considered to be in the top 35% at the beginning of Year 4. This academic performance eligibility is determined based on the total weighted numerical Medical Knowledge scores earned in all courses in the first three years of medical school.

Academic performance alone does not determine eligibility. Aligned with the College of Medicine's desired attributes of its graduates, characteristics of excellent physicianship such as integrity, honesty, accountability, respect, compassion, collaboration, scholarship, leadership, altruism and servant leadership are considered. Students who have had one or more academic deficiencies or any professionalism violations documented by the Office of Student Affairs, the MSPPSC, or the Physicianship and Professionalism Advocacy Program (PPAP) may not be eligible for AOA.

From the group of eligible students, the AQA selection committee elects up to 20% of the projected number of students that will graduate in any given year. Those students selected are chosen not only for their high academic standing, but also for demonstrated leadership among their peers, professionalism, a firm sense of ethics, promise of future success in medicine, and a commitment to service. The AQA selection committee reviews each student's curriculum vitae as well as a personal statement submitted by the student describing an example of research, scholarship, service to the school and community at large, proficiency in the doctor-patient relationship, leadership, altruism, or servant leadership that they want to share with the committee.

Students will be notified of their selection by the AQA Councilor or designee; The AQA designation will be included in the student's MSPE. All questions about AQA should be directed to the chapter faculty councilor, Dr. Lisa Martinez at lmartinez@health.fau.edu.

Policy on Resident Orientation to the MD Program

All residents and fellows who teach, supervise, or assess medical students in required clerkships and rotations in the third- and fourth-year are expected to participate in orientation to the MD program, including objectives and assessment methods. The residency program administration is expected to provide documentation of their participation to the Office of Medical Education.

Medical Student Performance Evaluations (MSPE) Policy and Procedure

The Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE), formerly known as the "Dean's Letter", is prepared for all fourth-year medical students by the Associate Dean for Educational Affairs and Admissions (ADEAA), or designee and approved by Associate Dean for Medical Education (ADME) and/or designee in coordination with the College of Medicine Office of Student Affairs. The MSPE is written and compiled in a transparent and collaborative process between the student and the ADEAA. All information contained in the MSPE comes either directly from the student or from his/her official record at the College of Medicine. If for any reason, a student believes that the ADEAA cannot prepare the MSPE in an unbiased manner, he or she may request in writing to the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (SADSAA) or the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs (ADSA) or designee, that the MSPE not be completed by the ADEAA. The SADSAA, ADSA or the designee will then designate an appropriate author at the decanal level (outside the Office of Student Affairs) to complete the MSPE.

MSPE Content

The MSPE is not a recommendation letter but a comprehensive summary of the student's academic record and performance through the first three years of medical school. The MSPE is uploaded into the *Electronic Residency Application Service* (ERAS) by the deadline dictated by the National Residency Match Program (NRMP). The MSPE is part of the residency application process and is released through ERAS to all residency programs to which the student applies. The MSPE is intended to provide residency program directors with a summary assessment of a student's salient medical school experiences, attributes, and academic performance in comparison to other students within the student's medical school cohort. The MSPE is specialty-neutral and has largely been standardized across most medical schools, based on the recommendations of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), to include six sections:

- Identifying Information
- Noteworthy Characteristics - Maximum of three written by the student and can be done in consultation with the ADEAA, ADME, the SADSAA, ADSA and/or the designee.
- Academic History - This section includes information from the student's official record.
 - Date of initial matriculation
 - Date of expected graduation
 - Explanation of any extensions, leave(s) of absence, gap(s), or break(s) in the student's education (if applicable)
 - Information about prior, current, or expected enrollment in, and expected graduation from dual, joint, or combined degree programs (if applicable)
 - Explanation of any requirement to repeat or remediate any coursework (if applicable)
 - Explanation of any adverse action(s) by the medical school or parent institution (if applicable)

- Academic Progress - This section includes a statement regarding the student's attainment of professional standards, as defined by the Schmidt College of Medicine, and information from the student's summative evaluations.

- Professional Performance:

Professionalism-related concerns and violations that are referred to the Medical Student Promotion and Professional Standards Committee (MSPPSC) may be included in this section of the MSPE. The MSPPSC may make recommendations to the ADME as to whether or not any professionalism-related concerns and/or violations reviewed by the MSPPSC should be included in a student's MSPE. Such recommendations, which shall be made in the sole discretion of the MSPPSC, will be based on criteria that may include, but are not limited to, the following.

- Severity of the professionalism-related concern(s) and/or violation(s)
- Prior, recurrent or repeated unprofessional behavior
- Failure to remediate professionalism-related concerns and deficiencies

Any inclusion of such professionalism-related concerns or violations in the MSPE is ultimately at the discretion of the Associate Dean for Medical Education.

Professionalism-related commendations may also be included in this section of the MSPE per the policies of the Physicianship and Professionalism Advocacy Program (PPAP) under "exceptional professional behavior."

- Preclinical/Basic Science and Clinical Curriculum
- Core Clinical Clerkships
 - Overall grade (with comparative graph of grade distribution for student's cohort)
 - Medical knowledge grade
 - Patient care grade
 - Narrative evaluation of student's performance
- Summary - A brief concluding paragraph that sums up the student's overall performance, based upon the school's evaluation system, and compares the student's performance in medical school relative to his/her medical school cohort. Please see the "MSPE Grouping as a Candidate for Post Graduate Training" online.
- Medical school information – A description and history of the medical school.

MSPE Process

At the end of Year 3, the College of Medicine Office of Student Affairs presents information to students regarding the components of the MSPE and requests that students submit their Noteworthy Characteristics by the middle of May. This information is incorporated into the ADEAA's initial draft of the MSPE. In the summer of 4th year, the students meet in person (or through electronic communication if, for example, on away rotations during those months) with either the SADSAA, ADSA or the designee for advisement and to review the initial draft of the MSPE. Students have the opportunity to review the MSPE for factual accuracy and/or discrepancies from their academic record at two points in the MSPE process (after the first and final drafts).

MSPE Student Review Process

All students are required to review their MSPE for factual accuracy and/or discrepancies from their academic record. All students are required to submit any comments, questions, concerns or suggested edits in writing to the ADEAA. All proposed edits by the student to the content of the MSPE are reviewed by the ADEAA, who may consult in his/her discretion with the ADME, SADSAA, ADSA and/or the designee or relevant course director, but the ADME renders the final decision on any unresolved requests and the content of the final MSPE. The outcome of any unresolved request review is communicated to the student by the ADME.

MSPE Acceptance Process

- (A) Students must complete the Authorization for Release of Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) form and submit it to the Office of Medical Education (OME), along with a pdf of the final draft of their MSPE, as directed and no later than 15 days prior to MSPE release date in ERAS.

- (B) The MSPE and Authorization for Release of MSPE form become part of the student's permanent academic record. Any changes or additions requested by the student and approved by the ADME after the MSPE release date in ERAS are made by OME only as addenda to the original MSPE and not to the original MSPE itself. Addenda will only be added if a student is (re)applying to residency in a follow-up match cycle and will only include information that is new since the original submission. No addenda or changes to the MSPE are permitted for purposes of the Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program (SOAP).

STUDENT ADVANCEMENT PROCEDURES AND DUE PROCESS

REQUIREMENTS FOR MATRICULATION AND RETENTION

Prior to matriculating as medical students in the FAU College of Medicine, all admitted applicants must meet the contingencies listed in the Conditions of Acceptance document (See Appendix B) that they receive with their written offer of admission. In addition, students will be required to complete pre-matriculation preparatory material prior to beginning medical school. Details of matriculation policies and all forms that must be filled out and returned are posted at <http://faunursingcompliance.com/>. For more information, see Orientation website <https://www.fau.edu/medicine/students/orientation/>. **Students must meet the academic, professional, and technical standards as described in the Student Handbook and comply with all University and College of Medicine polices throughout their tenure as a student at the College of Medicine for retention and promotion.**

Matriculation and Retention Requirements

Students must meet certain requirements to matriculate and to reenroll annually. The requirements are summarized in the table below:

| REQUIREMENT | Pre-matriculation | YEAR 1 | YEAR 2 | YEAR 3 | YEAR 4 |
|---|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Medical History and Physical Examination | X | | X | X | X |
| Technical Standards Attestation | X | | X | X | X |
| Authorization Form regarding Criminal Background Checks, Drug Testing and Educational Records | X | | X | X | X |
| Disclosure of Misdemeanor and/or Felony Arrests and/or Convictions | X | | X | X | X |
| Immunizations | X | | X | X | X |
| Flu Vaccine | | X | X | X | X |
| Tuberculosis Screening | X | | X | X | X |
| Positive Hepatitis B Quantitative Titer | X | | | | |
| Health Insurance | X | | X | X | X |
| Disability Insurance | X | | X | X | X |
| Health & Safety Agreement | X | | X | X | X |
| Level 2 Criminal Background Check* | X | | X | X | X |
| Fingerprinting | X | | X | X | X |
| 10 - Panel Drug Test* | X | | X | X | X |
| N-95 Respirator Mask Fit Test | | | | X | X |
| BLS Certification | | X | | X | |
| ACLS Certification | | | | X | |
| Sexual Assault Prevention Training | | X | X | X | X |
| Training for OSHA | | X | X | X | X |
| Training for HIPAA | | X | | X | X |

*Additional testing and/or documentation may be required by the Schmidt College of Medicine or its clinical affiliates. These requirements may change without advance notice.

Once an applicant accepts an offer to enroll and matriculate at the Schmidt College of Medicine, he or she must comply with all pre-matriculation requirements. Each accepted student receives a welcome notification from the FAU Schmidt College of Medicine Office of Student Affairs with a link to Orientation information on the College's website; this information lists all pre-matriculation requirements and forms. Students are notified of annual reenrollment requirements prior to promotion to each subsequent year of study.

The Schmidt College of Medicine utilizes Complio by American Databank, an online screening service, to facilitate submission and verification of student requirements. Students access Complio at <http://faunursingcompliance.com/>. Students will create a personal account, download required health forms and confidentially submit scanned documents to comply with pre-matriculation health requirements included in their welcome notification. After processing, Complio and the Office of Student Affairs notify the student of his or her compliance with pre-matriculation requirements.

Failure to complete and submit the pre-matriculation requirements by the listed due dates may result in the following:

- A hold will be placed on your registration and your offer of admissions may be rescinded.
- Inability to attend orientation, classes or clinical activities.
- Financial aid disbursements will be delayed and may be revoked.
- Students who complete the compliance requirements past the listed deadlines will not be allowed to participate in the White Coat Ceremony.

Failure to complete and submit Year 1 and Year 2 requirements by the listed due dates may result in the following:

- Cancelling of registration and any financial aid disbursement for tuition and living expenses
- Assessment of late fees for re-registration and late payment of tuition (financial aid disbursement would be delayed)
- Inability to attend orientation, classes or clinical activities until re-registered and tuition is paid
- A professionalism violation will be filed by the Associate Dean for Educational Affairs and Admissions and the student may be required to appear before the Student Competency Review Committee (SCRC) and may be referred to the Medical Student Promotions and Professionalism Standards Committee (MSPPSC)
- MSPPSC sanctions may include a notation of a professionalism violation on the student's Medical Students Promotion Evaluation (MSPE) which is provided to residency directors as part of the student's ERAS application for residency

Failure to complete and submit Year 3 and Year 4 requirements by the listed due dates may result in the following:

- Cancelling of registration and any financial aid disbursement for tuition and living expenses
- Loss of lottery placement, assessment of late fees for re-registration and late payment of tuition (financial aid disbursement would be delayed)
- Inability to attend orientation, classes or clinical activities until re-registered and tuition is paid
- A professionalism violation will be filed by the Associate Dean for Educational Affairs and Admissions and the student may be required to appear before the Student Competency Review Committee (SCRC) and may be referred to the Medical Student Promotions and Professionalism Standards Committee (MSPPSC)
- MSPPSC sanctions may include a notation of a professionalism violation on the student's Medical Students Promotion Evaluation (MSPE) which is provided to residency directors as part of the student's ERAS application for residency

Medical History and Physical Examination

The Schmidt College of Medicine requires all medical students to visit a U.S. licensed physician or other appropriate U.S. licensed health care provider of their choice and undergo a medical history and physical examination prior to matriculation and Years 2, 3, and 4. In addition, students must receive all required immunizations, antibody titers, and screenings as described in the Compliance Requirements found in Complio.

Immunization and Screening Policy

The Schmidt College of Medicine is committed to protecting the health and well-being of all students, faculty, staff, patients, and the public. Pre-matriculation health evaluations are required for all students enrolled at the Schmidt College of Medicine; this allows the College to detect and prevent communicable diseases that may be a threat to others. All medical students are required to provide documentation of immunity, either by receiving the appropriate vaccinations or by providing evidence of positive blood antibody titers.

A completed Immunization Documentation Form must be submitted prior to enrollment. A physical examination, including tuberculosis (TB) skin testing, (also must be performed by a U.S. licensed physician or other appropriate U.S. licensed health care provider within three months prior to starting classes.) Medical students must maintain compliance with immunization requirements throughout the educational program. The Schmidt College of Medicine

follows immunization guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and regulations issued by the State University System of Florida Board of Governors that apply to all undergraduate, graduate, and professional students attending public universities in the state of Florida. Pre-matriculation immunization requirements will be provided to incoming students on the Orientation website. Current students are notified of annual immunization requirements prior to promotion to each subsequent period of study.

Monitoring Immunization Compliance

Medical students are required to maintain compliance with the Schmidt College of Medicine (COM) immunization requirements throughout their enrollment at the COM. Compliance management tools provided by Complio ensure confidentiality of student immunization records while allowing the COM Senior Coordinator for Medical Student Affairs and Compliance (SCMSAC) to monitor student compliance with immunization requirements. Each student scans and uploads his or her immunization forms directly to a personal, confidential Complio account. Complio provides the initial screening and notifies the COM SCMSAC with any concerns and, ultimately, indicates student compliance or itemizes any deficiencies prior to Orientation or the next academic year. Students should continue to check Complio to confirm that the item has been completed. Exceptions may be granted in the event of valid medical contraindications, for religious reasons, or if a student is in the process of receiving the complete vaccine series (e.g., hepatitis B, varicella).

Health Insurance

The Schmidt College of Medicine students are required to maintain current and adequate medical insurance to cover the cost of emergencies and common medical problems that might occur during their educational training period and are outside of the scope of services provided on campus (e.g., specialty care, diagnostic testing, and hospitalization).

Health insurance for medical students is available through the group student health insurance plan available at FAU and meets the minimum standards required by the Schmidt College of Medicine.

The cost of medical insurance is borne by the student; fees vary according to the plan selected. Information pertaining to the insurance plan available at FAU may be obtained by contacting the Office of Student Affairs.

Alternatively, students may satisfy the medical insurance requirement with documentation of a valid medical insurance plan already in effect that meets the basic minimum standards described below. As part of the pre-matriculation and reenrollment process, all students must sign the Health Insurance Verification Form. The Health Insurance Verification Form will be provided along with pre-matriculation requirements and annual requirements.

Medical Student Health Insurance: Basic Minimum Benefits.

To meet the Schmidt College of Medicine requirements, a medical student health insurance policy must provide continuous coverage for the entire period the insured is enrolled as a medical student and must be renewable. Medical students are responsible to budget for the cost of renewal in order to meet the compliance deadline. The policy must provide in-network and out-of-network coverage for physician, hospital, diagnostic, and therapeutic coverage in local facilities for both emergency and nonemergency outpatient and inpatient services in the South Florida area (Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and/or Monroe counties). The policy must not unreasonably exclude coverage for perils inherent in the student's program of study, such as coverage for needlestick injuries and charges related to the post exposure diagnosis and treatment of bloodborne pathogens.

The policy must provide coverage for outpatient and inpatient mental health care, prescription drugs, and ambulance services. Students traveling to foreign countries as part of an FAU program must have evacuation and repatriation coverage.

Disability Insurance

Medical students are required to enroll in a disability insurance plan selected by The Schmidt College of Medicine to cover chronic disability that occurs as a result of injuries received during their educational training period. Students are responsible for payment and are informed about this requirement and annual fee prior to Orientation. Disability insurance must be renewed annually for the entire period the insured is enrolled as a medical student.

Criminal Background Checks

All applicants to the Schmidt College of Medicine undergo a Level 1 criminal background check administered by the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS). Upon acceptance to the Schmidt College of Medicine, and again prior to Years 2, 3 and 4, students are required to complete a Level 2 criminal background check with

fingerprinting. Criminal background checks are ordered online through Complio. Students pay a fee for this service. Additional background checks may be required by the Schmidt College of Medicine or its clinical affiliates. Findings in a criminal background check may affect a student's admission and ability to participate in clinical experiences, complete the medical degree program, or obtain a medical license.

The Schmidt College of Medicine reserves the right to rescind an offer of admission to a pre-matriculant who fails to complete a background check, who misreports a history of criminal activity, who is arrested after admission and prior to matriculation, or whose Level 1 or Level 2 criminal background checks identify a disqualifying offense. An enrolled student who fails to complete a required criminal background check is subject to dismissal from the Schmidt College of Medicine. Results of criminal background checks are reviewed by the Office of Student Affairs. Potential violations of Professionalism Standards arising out of criminal background checks at any time may be referred to the MSPPSC in accordance with the provisions of this handbook.

Criminal background check results may prevent a student from being able to participate in educational experiences, including clinical rotations. The Schmidt College of Medicine will report the results of a criminal background check to clinical affiliates, state licensing agencies, and other entities to comply with federal, state, or university policies. The Schmidt College of Medicine reserves the right to place a student on a leave of absence or withdraw, suspend or dismiss a student from the MD degree program based on the results of a criminal background check.

Drug Testing

Upon acceptance to the Schmidt College of Medicine, and again prior to Years 2, 3 and 4, students must undergo 10-panel drug testing. These tests are ordered online through Complio. Students must pay a fee for this service. Additional testing, including random or directed drug testing, may be required by the Schmidt College of Medicine or its clinical affiliates at any time. Drug testing may be ordered by the Office of Student Affairs or the MSPPSC, as applicable.

The Schmidt College of Medicine reserves the right to rescind an offer of admission to a pre-matriculant who fails to complete a required drug test or who has a positive finding. Drug test results may affect a student's admission or eligibility to participate in clinical experiences, to complete the medical degree program, or to obtain a medical license.

An enrolled student who fails to undergo a required 10-panel drug test is subject to dismissal from the Schmidt College of Medicine. Findings on any drug test are reviewed by the Office of Student Affairs and discussed with the student. A student with a positive drug test may be referred to the MSPPSC, the FAU Counseling and Psychological Services Center, Professionals Resource Network, or other health care agencies or organizations as deemed appropriate when they are in violation of the Schmidt College of Medicine Professionalism Standards. Positive drug test results are reported to the Office of Student Affairs and the MSPPSC for further investigation; disciplinary action may occur if a student is in violation of any the Schmidt College of Medicine Professionalism Standards. Findings may prevent a student from participating in educational experiences, including clinical rotations, and may result in a student losing eligibility to complete the medical degree program.

The Schmidt College of Medicine will report the results of drug testing to clinical affiliates, state licensing agencies, and other entities to comply with federal, state, or university policies. Students whose drug tests reveal the use of marijuana or other regulated substances, including prescribed medications, will be subject to the policies and restrictions of FAU and its clinical affiliates.

N-95 Respirator Mask Fit Test

During Years 3, and 4, medical students are required to undergo N-95 respirator mask fit testing. Testing sessions are scheduled by the Office of Medical Education. Students who fail mask fit testing may be precluded from participating in certain clinical experiences unless they sign a waiver.

ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Florida Atlantic University College of Medicine has an obligation to evaluate students pursuing the M.D. degree as thoroughly as possible for their cognitive and non-cognitive abilities, their academic and professional knowledge and skills, their integrity, and their suitability for the practice of medicine.

This Policy on Academic, Professional and Behavioral Requirements and Standards is limited to students pursuing the M.D. degree at Florida Atlantic University. Where applicable, Florida Atlantic University Regulations [4.001](#) (*Code of Academic Integrity*), [4.002](#) (*Student Academic Grievance Procedures for Grade Reviews*) and [4.007](#) (*Student Code of Conduct*) are incorporated by reference and shall apply to students in the College of Medicine. <https://www.fau.edu/regulations/> Definitions and examples of conduct and behavior relating to and/or affecting the professional practice of medicine may be found in some or all of the following documents: this policy, the College of Medicine website, University and College of Medicine regulations and policies, admission materials, the student handbook, course syllabi, course materials, and lectures. This policy addresses conduct and performance that is academic or professional in nature, as well as conduct that is subject to University Regulation 4.007.

All references in this policy to the Dean of the College of Medicine, and Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (referred to throughout as the "SADSAA"), and the Director of Program Evaluation and Assessment shall refer to those individuals within the College of Medicine and shall be deemed to include their designees.

Oath of Academic and Professional Conduct for Students in the College of Medicine

The practice of the art and science of medicine must be based on reverence for life, compassion and respect for the patient, competence, and integrity. Hence, the College of Medicine expects its students to exhibit compassion; to be considerate and respectful towards patients, their families, instructors, staff, and each other; to grow in knowledge and clinical skill; and to act honourably at all times.

Each matriculating class of students in the Florida Atlantic University College of Medicine shall recite their Class Oath at the White Coat Ceremony during Orientation, before they begin their first courses of study for the M.D. degree. This Oath will be written by the students themselves, based on small group exercises and discussions of appropriate academic and professional conduct for students of medicine. The exercise and discussions will be facilitated by College of Medicine faculty. The Oath will serve as a guide for student behaviour throughout their studies in the College of Medicine. By writing and reciting their own Oath, students will pledge to adhere to the tenets of their Oath throughout medical school, in all settings that reflect upon the integrity and suitability of the student to practice medicine. Successful progression through the curriculum and graduation with the M.D. degree is contingent upon the student's adherence to the Oath of their class and to the AMA Principles of Conduct for medical students.

Academic and Professional Standards Required for the Doctorate of Medicine Degree

This Section describes the academic and professional conduct and performance standards expected of medical students in lectures, examinations, laboratories, clinical rotations, and all other academic settings. The academic and professional conduct and performance of medical students will be subject to review by the MSPPSC as described in Section II above. Behavioral misconduct of medical students that is subject to University Regulation 4.007 (Student Code of Conduct) is addressed in Section IV below.

Requirements for Academic and Professional Conduct

The Florida Atlantic University College of Medicine requires of all enrolled students that they meet all academic requirements as delineated in the "Academic Evaluation and the College of Medicine's Competency-Based Grading System" section of the Student Handbook and work to achieve an integrative mastery of the discipline of medicine, maintain the motivation to gain such mastery, and develop the academic and clinical skills required for the M.D. degree; More specifically, but not limited to, all students must adhere to the following expectations with regard to professionalism:

- **Attendance:**
Being personally responsible for attending all mandatory educational. Any pattern of unexcused absences will result in a Satisfactory with Concern or Unsatisfactory.
- **Timeliness:**
Arriving to educational activities on time or before the activity starts.
Any pattern of tardiness will result in a Satisfactory with Concern or Unsatisfactory.

- **Attentiveness:**
Minimizing disruptions and distractions during all educational activities e.g. using iPads and laptop computers only for course work during all educational sessions. This includes having cameras on for virtual sessions. Any pattern of inattention or disruption will result in a Satisfactory with Concern or Unsatisfactory.
- **Confidentiality, Privacy and Ethical Behavior:**
Demonstrating a commitment to ethical principles such as maintaining confidentiality on exams and other assessments, and demonstrating respect for patient privacy and autonomy in clinical settings. Any breach of confidentiality, privacy or unethical behavior will result in a Satisfactory with Concern or Unsatisfactory and referral to the MSPSPSC.
- **Meeting Deadlines:**
Completing all assignments and requirements in a timely manner. Any late or missing assignments or requirements may result in a Satisfactory with Concern or Unsatisfactory.
- **Responsibility and Accountability:**
Demonstrating accountability and fulfilling all responsibilities related to educational activities with a commitment to excellence e.g., Checking OwlMed on a daily basis to stay apprised of schedule changes. Any pattern of irresponsibility or poor accountability will result in a Satisfactory with Concern or Unsatisfactory.
- **Responsiveness and Sensitivity:**
Answering emails from all faculty and staff in a respectful, sensitive, and polite manner within 24 hours of receipt. Any pattern of untimely, poor or disrespectful responses will result in a Satisfactory with Concern or Unsatisfactory.
- **Appropriate, Respectful, & Timely Communication:**
Demonstrating respect, compassion, and integrity for others. Unless life threatening injury, hospital admission, or event of similar seriousness, notice of absence or tardiness MUST be given to at least one Course Director prior to the start time of the activity for which the student will be late or absent as per the Attendance Policy. Any pattern of poor or disrespectful communication will result in a Satisfactory with Concern or Unsatisfactory.
- **Evaluation Completion:**
Completing assigned course evaluations in a thorough, meaningful, and timely manner, as per the Evaluation Completion Policy in the Student Handbook. Any pattern of late or incomplete evaluations will result in a Satisfactory with Concern or Unsatisfactory.

BEHAVIORAL REQUIREMENTS & STANDARDS

Students are expected (1) to abide by federal, state, and local statutes and ordinances, both on and off campus; (2) to refrain from behavior incompatible with the responsibilities of the medical profession; and (3) to follow the Student Code of Conduct established by Florida Atlantic University Regulation 4.007 (*Student Code of Conduct*) <https://www.fau.edu/regulations/documents/chapter4/reg-4-007-6-8-21.pdf> and all other applicable University and College regulations and policies. <https://www.fau.edu/regulations/>

By enrolling in the Florida Atlantic University College of Medicine, a student accepts these behavioral standards and requirements as a prerequisite for continued enrollment in the medical curriculum and graduation. It is the student's responsibility to know and meet these standards and requirements. Failure to meet these standards and

requirements may subject the student to expulsion, disciplinary dismissal, disciplinary suspension, disciplinary probation, or other sanctions, in addition to those sanctions imposed by the Florida Atlantic University Office of Student Affairs. The determination of whether a student is “responsible” or “not responsible” for a violation of University Regulation 4.007 shall be governed by the process described in University Regulation 4.007 and administered by the Florida Atlantic University Office of Student Affairs. The MSPPSC may, however, impose additional sanctions on the student, according to the severity of the violation. The student may appeal any such sanctions as described below.

Additionally, because of the serious responsibilities of the medical profession and the necessity to maintain public trust in the profession, students face disciplinary action by the Florida Atlantic University College of Medicine if they abuse alcohol or drugs, consume illegal drugs, or possess, distribute or sell drugs illegally.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PROMOTION AND GRADUATION

Promotion

The grades, narrative evaluations, USMLE scores and other academic or performance measures of each student are routinely reviewed by the MSPPSC in order to assess a student’s academic progress. The MSPPSC also conducts ad hoc reviews when necessary to address unsatisfactory academic performance or professional or behavioral misconduct. In those cases, students will be provided with notice and an opportunity to be heard (as described in The Policy on Academic, Professional, and Behavioral Requirements and Standards), and may appeal MSPPSC decisions as described in Sections IV, VII and VIII of the policy.

Promotion will be determined for each successive year of study by the Medical Student Promotions and Professional Standards Committee (MSPPSC), which will make a formal determination of promotion based on whether the student has satisfied the following requirements:

- Passed all required courses, clerkships and rotations in the year under review with a grade of at least Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory/Satisfactory Remediation (U/S) in all competencies.
- Passed the end of year Institutional Competency Assessment
- Demonstrated acceptable professional behavior

For promotion to Year 3, the student must also receive a passing score on the USMLE Step 1 examination. A student will be permitted to start the first clerkship module if the USMLE Step 1 score is pending but will be withdrawn if a passing score is not received.

Requirements for the Doctorate of Medicine Degree

Students must complete all College of Medicine requirements within a six (6) year period from the time of matriculation in order to receive the Doctorate of Medicine (M.D.) degree. The foregoing requirement shall not apply to joint (1) MD/PhD students, who will have a separate timetable as determined by the College of Medicine and the Scripps Research Institute, Scripps Florida or (2) circumstances approved in writing by the MSPPSC.

Prior to graduation and the receipt of the M.D. degree from the Florida Atlantic University College of Medicine, students must demonstrate proficiency and compliance in, and satisfy the requirements of, each of the following six areas:

1. Courses, Clerkships and Rotations:
 - Students must complete the required core courses, clerkships and rotations and the designated minimum number of elective and selective courses with Satisfactory (passing level) performance.
2. Licensing Exams:
 - Students must pass the USMLE Step 1 examination before beginning the third academic year.

- Students must pass the USMLE Step 2 Clinical Knowledge examination by the deadlines listed in the USMLE policy in this handbook.
3. Competency Assessments:
 - Students must pass all FAU College of Medicine Institutional Competency Assessments.
 - Students must earn certification for Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and Basic Life Support (BLS).
 4. Professional Performance:
 - Students must demonstrate consistent evidence of professionalism as assessed by the MSPPSC per the competency-based grading system and the Physicianship and Professionalism Advocacy Program (PPAP).
 5. Review and approval of academic and professional record by the Medical Student Promotions and Professional Standards Committee prior to graduation:
 - Students must receive the MSPPSC's recommendation for graduation and receipt of the Doctorate of Medicine degree.
 6. Follow the standards set forth in University Regulation 4.001, 4.007 and other applicable University and College of Medicine Regulations, policies and procedures.

Failure to meet all the foregoing requirements will jeopardize a student's status as a student "in good standing" with the College of Medicine.

The Medical Student Promotions and Professional Standards Committee's recommendation for graduation and receipt of the M.D. degree must be approved by the Dean of the FAU College of Medicine.

MEDICAL STUDENT PROMOTIONS AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE (MSPPSC) AND THE STUDENT COMPETENCY REVIEW COMMITTEE (SCRC)

Medical Student Promotions and Professional Standards Committee

The Medical Student Promotions and Professional Standards Committee (referred to as the "MSPPSC") is a standing faculty committee composed of a variety of course directors and faculty from the College of Medicine. The Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions, the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, the Director for Student Success Services and other officials from the College of Medicine may serve on the MSPPSC as non-voting ex officio members. Any voting members of the MSPPSC who have had extensive direct involvement in a matter under review by the MSPPSC, which involvement could constitute a conflict for such member, or who have previously taken an action (e.g., awarded a failing grade) that contributes to the adverse academic action being proposed against a student, shall recuse him/herself from voting on such a matter at the MSPPSC level or in any appeals process. The Medical Student Promotions and Professional Standards Committee is charged with the responsibility of reviewing the cumulative performance of all medical students and shall make determinations in regards to student standing, advancement, graduation, and disciplinary action including dismissal. Performance in Physician Competency Reference Set (PCRS) competencies will be used to determine advancement and graduation. These competencies will be evaluated by a variety of methods approved by faculty committees governing the curriculum, described in each course, clerkship or rotation syllabus, and will include not only formal examinations but also assessments based on observation of student performance in lectures, examinations, laboratories, and all other clinical and academic settings.

Coordination between the MSPPSC and the Florida Atlantic University Office of Student Affairs

In addition to the activities described below, the MSPPSC will review situations involving medical students who have been adjudicated through the University procedure for violations of University Regulations 4.001 (*Code of Academic Integrity*) and 4.007 (*Student Code of Conduct*).

University officials in the Florida Atlantic University Office of Student Affairs (or other University officials, as applicable) and the members of the MSPPSC will coordinate and keep one another informed of pertinent violations by medical students under this policy, under Regulations 4.001 and 4.007 and any other violations of University regulation, rule or policy. Specifically, any University officials adjudicating a medical student violation under Regulations 4.001 or 4.007 will promptly inform the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs of the College of Medicine of such outcome so that the case may then go to the MSPPSC as part of its student review. The MSPPSC may impose additional disciplinary or academic sanctions on such student, in accordance with the policies and practices of the College of Medicine as well as customary practices among medical schools. Similarly, officials from the College of Medicine will keep the Florida Atlantic University Office of Student Affairs informed of occurrences involving medical students that potentially violate University Regulation 4.007.

The Florida Atlantic University Office of Student Affairs will recruit members of the MSPPSC, whenever possible, to staff the hearing boards and/or councils involved in adjudicating medical student violations under University Regulation 4.007.

In circumstances where it is unclear whether student conduct is subject to Regulation 4.007 or is more appropriately subject to this policy, the University Office of Student Affairs and the College of Medicine Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs will discuss the situation in order to determine the appropriate process to apply in reaching an appropriate resolution.

Review of Academic and Professional Performance and Sanctioning of Behavioral Misconduct by the MSPPSC

The MSPPSC reviews the academic and professional performance of every student enrolled in the College of Medicine. The MSPPSC also reviews findings of behavioral misconduct under University Regulation 4.007 by the Florida Atlantic University Office of Student Affairs, for purposes of imposing additional sanctions when appropriate.

The MSPPSC 1) conducts routine reviews of all medical students at least once every year, and 2) schedules monthly standing meetings to review ongoing and new student concerns, including professionalism violations, professional and academic deficiencies, and other matters as necessary that have been referred to the Committee, and 3) schedules ad hoc reviews to review time-sensitive issues that need to be addressed sooner than the scheduled monthly standing meetings.

Every student subject to any review of concern by the MSPPSC will be informed in advance of the time and place of the review and will have the opportunity to appear before the MSPPSC and/or present or submit any relevant information to the MSPPSC verbally or in writing for its consideration. This constitutes notice to the student, and the student's opportunity to be heard shall be in his/her appearance and/or written submission to the MSPPSC. The purpose of the MSPPSC's meeting is to conduct an initial review, hear the presentation by the student and/or review any additional information presented by the student, deliberate, and render a decision. Once a decision is rendered, should the student decide to appeal such decision, the MSPPSC will conduct a hearing in accordance with the appeals process described in the Appeals Policy.

For its reviews, the MSPPSC will have access to each student's file including, but not limited to, (1) grades as recorded on the grade transcript; (2) written narrative evaluations submitted by the faculty, which may include overall assessments of performance; (3) reports about academic performance and professional behavior; (4) findings and conclusions by the Florida Atlantic University Office of Student Affairs and College of Medicine officials adjudicating medical student violations of University Regulations, policies or procedures; (5) scores from United States Medical Licensing Examinations (USMLE); (6) reports for other requirements including Institutional Competency Assessments, Portfolio and Thread assignments, and formative assessments; and (7) interim reports from course directors solicited by the Director for Student Success and Wellness and the Director of Program Evaluation and Assessment.

MSPPSC decisions about continued enrollment and promotion to the next year of the curriculum, graduation, remedial changes in a student's curriculum, probation, suspension or dismissal from the College of Medicine and other consequences as described in Section V of this policy, are based on a comprehensive review of a student's academic performance and professional behavior, as well as any behavioral misconduct.

Findings of fact and conclusions resulting from the procedures described in University Regulations 4.001 and 4.007 or in this policy will be submitted in a written report to the MSPPSC. The MSPPSC may review such report, as well as other pertinent information relating to the student, and make and impose appropriate determinations and sanctions. The MSPPSC will inform the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and the Director for Student Success and Wellness of its decisions so that they may be effectively implemented. This does not preclude the review and imposition of penalties for other failures to meet academic and professional standards while a matter is pending.

Student Competency Review Committee

The Student Competency Review Committee (referred to as the “SCRC”) is a student success committee composed of the Senior Coordinator for Medical Student Affairs and Compliance, Director of Student Success Services, Director of Program Evaluation and Assessment, COM Registrar, Associate Director of Medical Student Financial Aid and Records, and all the competency directors, curriculum directors and OSA and OME deans. Relevant course or clerkship directors, and/or the student may be invited as needed, and in the discretion of the SCRC, to present information to the SCRC. The role of the committee is to monitor student course-level and competency-based performance, including first-time PIRs and professionalism violations, and provide a formative support plans which will be coordinated by, and in some cases delivered by, the competency director(s) and/or Director of Student Success Services in conjunction with course or clerkship director(s). The student will be notified if and when a formative support plan is recommended or required. The SCRC will meet monthly and be responsible for monitoring all student course performance, active formative support plans and the status of off-cycle students. Because the SCRC provides formative guidance to students to help them improve performance in all competencies, rather than summative adjudications which are issued by the MSPPSC, students are not entitled to appear before, or submit information or appeals to, the SCRC except in the discretion of the SCRC. Should the SCRC determine that a student has a repeated pattern of “satisfactory with concern” final grades, has failed to improve in any competencies of concern, or whose first-time PIR or professional violation is deemed to require a formal review then the student may be referred by the SCRC to the MSPPSC for review and action, as appropriate.

UNSATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE

Academic Deficiencies Policy

The MSPPSC expects every student to meet the requirements and standards stated in this policy. For the purposes of this policy, academic deficiencies refer to either an Unsatisfactory (U), more than one Satisfactory with Concern (SWC), or a SWC at any point subsequent to a prior U grade for a course, clerkship, or rotation. With respect to Year 3 grading, SWC and U grades received for completion of selective and all core clerkships within a LIC are not considered an additional academic deficiency to the overall LIC grade. Consequences of academic deficiencies are described below. However, even without an academic deficiency, a student with poor academic performance may incur consequences as severe as dismissal for failure to meet these requirements and standards. A student’s promotion to the next academic year and/or graduation from the College of Medicine is contingent upon the successful remediation of all academic deficiencies and completion of all academic requirements.

(1) One Deficiency in an Academic Year

(A) Unsatisfactory (U):

A student who has one Unsatisfactory grade (U) in a given academic year will be required to remediate or complete the course, clerkship, or rotation successfully prior to promotion to the next year. If the final grade earned in a course, clerkship, or rotation is Unsatisfactory (U) a formal academic remediation plan will be developed in accordance with the Academic Remediation Policy below. Any student that receives an Unsatisfactory (U) grade will also be notified as to which competency(ies) was deficient, and such information will also be included in the final grade report and in a written explanation included in the MSPE, but not on the student’s transcript.

If the student fails to successfully remediate and achieve an Unsatisfactory/Satisfactory Remediation (U/S) final grade, the student will receive a U in the course, clerkship or rotation and further remediation, if allowed, must be by repetition of the course, clerkship or rotation. A second grade of Unsatisfactory in the same repeated course, clerkship or rotation may result in dismissal of the student from the College of Medicine M.D. program. A student who has an Unsatisfactory grade in a semester-long course in a given academic year may be required to repeat the entire semester and demonstrate satisfactory performances in all components of the curriculum, including repeating any concurrent courses that were previously satisfactorily completed. For example, a student who fails FBS in a given academic year will, at a minimum, be required to repeat FBS as well as FOM1, even if the student had passed FOM1 previously.

Any student who receives an Unsatisfactory grade in a course, clerkship, or rotation will be referred to the MSPPSC and will be placed on probation for at least 12 months while enrolled in coursework, at which time the MSPPSC will re-evaluate the student's academic progress and determine whether or not the probation will be continued.

(B) Satisfactory with Concern (SWC):

Any student who receives more than one SWC grade or a SWC grade at any point subsequent to a prior U will be reviewed by the MSPPSC and an appropriate remediation plan may be required of the student before promotion to the next phase of the curriculum.

(2) Two or More Deficiencies within an Academic Year

A student who has two or more academic deficiencies within an academic year will be reviewed by the MSPPSC and may be dismissed from the program, or be required to repeat the entire year or a part of the year.

(3) Two or More Deficiencies Across Academic Years

A student who has had two or more academic deficiencies across academic years will be reviewed by the MSPPSC and may be dismissed from the College of Medicine.

Referrals to Tutorial and Study Skills Services

Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning and will be provided with formative assessment results throughout the M.D. program. All students are encouraged to avail themselves of tutorial and study skills services without referral. However, when students are presented as having difficulty at an SCRC or MSPPSC meeting, they are strongly encouraged to avail themselves of these services, and in some instances, will be directed to do so in writing. If a student is repeatedly urged to arrange tutoring or study skills help, but does not do so and subsequently fails a course, clerkship or rotation, this will be made known to, and taken into consideration by, the MSPPSC to assist in evaluation of the student's overall performance and professional attitudes.

If a student is directed to seek these referral services, the student will be offered the services of the COM but may request in writing to the Chair of the respective committee to utilize comparable FAU services or private resources. In addition to the COM Office of Student Affairs, course/clerkship representatives to the MSPPSC are responsible for providing the committee with reports of referrals made by course/clerkship faculty as well as the student's utilization of referral services. Verification that the student has utilized these referral services may be required. In addition, the MSPPSC may require that the student have his/her tutor submit information and/or a recommendation to the MSPPSC relating to the student's academic program.

Consequences of Failure to Meet Academic, Professional and Behavioral Requirements and Standards

This section describes the consequences for medical students who fail to meet the academic, professional and behavioral requirements and standards described above and are subject to a review of concern by the MSPPSC. Medical students may be subject to one or more of the following consequences imposed by the MSPPSC, in addition to those consequences imposed under University Regulations, policies or procedures, including, but not limited to, Regulations 4.001 and 4.007.

(a) Emergency Measures

The Dean of the College of Medicine or the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or their designees) has the authority to take appropriate immediate action when a student poses a danger of imminent or serious physical harm to others at the College of Medicine or the University or in an affiliated clinical site, or where the Dean or Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or their designees) determines that an emergency exists which affects the health, safety or welfare of a student, the University community or a patient.

Emergency Measures include but are not limited to, one or more of the following:

- A. Interim Suspension. A student under interim suspension may not attend classes, may not be on or come onto University property or an affiliated clinical site (where such student may be participating in a clerkship), may not participate in any University activities or organizations, and may not use University facilities, equipment or resources.
- B. Interim Removal from University Housing. A student under interim removal from University Housing may not reside in University Housing and may not come into University Housing facilities and/or adjacent areas of University Housing.
- C. If the Dean of the College of Medicine or the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or their designees) determines that other interim measures are appropriate to protect the health, safety or welfare of a student, the University community, or a patient, the Dean or Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or their designees) may:
 - A. Restrict or bar attendance of any or all classes or participation in clinical education;
 - B. Restrict or bar access or contact with individuals in the University community or affiliated clinical sites or patients;
 - C. Restrict or bar access to University property, places, facilities or equipment or affiliated clerkship or rotation sites;
 - D. Restrict or ban participation in University activities or organizations or clinical education; or
 - E. otherwise restrict conduct or ban access to University resources.
- D. If a student's privileges are temporarily revoked as described herein, but the student is subsequently found not responsible for the violation, the University will:
 - A. Correct any record of the change in enrollment status in the student's permanent records and reports in a manner compliant with state and federal laws; and
 - B. Refund to the student, a pro-rated portion of any charges for tuition and out-of-state fees, as appropriate, if the temporary revocation or suspension of the student's ability to attend classes or participate in clinical education lasts for more than 10 school days.
- E. A hold on registration may immediately be placed on all students who have Emergency Measures taken against them, which prevents the student from accessing, changing or altering his/her course registration and/or admission status.

A student subject to Emergency Measures shall be furnished:

- Written notice of the Emergency Measure and the reason(s) for the action.
- The opportunity to participate in student conduct proceedings or MSPPSC proceedings or to present relevant information for consideration of his/her case.

Emergency Measures may be taken at any time prior to the conclusion of the University student conduct proceedings or MSPPSC proceedings, including during the appeal process.

(b) Academic Deficiencies. Consequences of academic deficiencies are described in the Academic Deficiencies Policy herein.

(c) Other Consequences

In addition to the consequences described in the Academic Deficiencies Policy, other consequences of failing to meet the academic, professional and behavioral requirements and standards may include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Probation

Probationary status (probation) may be imposed by the MSPPSC under various circumstances including, but not limited to, circumstances described in the Academic Deficiencies Policy or professionalism and behavioral violations. The notification to the student of probationary status may be accompanied by a plan for remedial action and specific performance requirements specified by the MSPPSC. A successful conclusion of any remedial work may end the probationary status following the recommendation to do so by the MSPPSC. However, the fact that the student was placed on probation will be included in the student's MSPE or other information transmitted to outside entities (e.g., certifications of training) and will remain in the student's permanent records in the College of Medicine.

Remedial interventions in a student's curriculum by the MSPPSC are designed to fit particular academic deficiencies and may include, but not be limited to, the following: a specific study or reading program, remedial work and reexamination, changes in the student's curriculum, additional training in a set of clinical skills, assignment to clinical sub-internships, repetition of all or part of the curriculum, reorganization of the student's curriculum (especially during the fourth year), and supervision by an advisor from the MSPPSC.

(2) Suspension

The MSPPSC may conclude that the student should be suspended from the Florida Atlantic University College of Medicine for a period of time to be determined in its reasonable discretion.

Reinstatement to the FAU College of Medicine is contingent upon completion of all requirements stipulated under the suspension. The Dean of the College of Medicine will either determine that these requirements have been met or seek a recommendation from the MSPPSC on the matter. If a recommendation from the MSPPSC is sought, the MSPPSC shall review the circumstances surrounding the suspension and potential reinstatement, make a determination as to whether the terms and conditions of the suspension have been met, make a determination as to whether the student possesses the potential to pursue the MD degree successfully, and recommend whether the student should be reinstated.

(3) Dismissal

The MSPPSC may determine that a student be dismissed in the following circumstances including, but not limited to, the following: (1) failure to remediate deficiencies as described above; (2) an accumulation of narrative evaluations indicating serious gaps in knowledge and clinical skills and/or inadequate integration of the content of the curriculum; (3) a specific academic deficiency in a required competency (e.g., an important clinical skill has not been mastered); (4) a failing performance on either Step 1 or Step 2 of the USMLE examinations as listed in the USMLE policy; (5) failure to assume appropriate professional responsibility; (6) failure to meet professional standards, including those of demeanor and

conduct; and (7) a violation of University Regulations, policies or procedures (including, but not limited to, Regulations 4.001 and 4.007) or College of Medicine policies or procedures.

Under appropriate circumstances, the MSPPSC may dismiss a student without prior probation or other sanction. Failure to pass either Step 1 or Step 2 of the USMLE licensing examination, after three attempts, shall result in dismissal from the College of Medicine.

Students must complete all College of Medicine requirements within a six (6) year period from the time of matriculation in order to receive the Doctorate of Medicine (M.D.) degree. Except as described below, failure to complete all College of Medicine requirements within such 6-year period will result in the student's automatic dismissal from the M.D. program. The foregoing requirement shall not apply (1) to joint MD/PhD students, who will have a separate timetable as determined by the College of Medicine and the Scripps Research Institute, Scripps Florida or (2) under circumstances approved by the MSPPSC.

After academic dismissal, a student may apply for readmission to the Florida Atlantic University College of Medicine through the standard admissions process.

ACADEMIC REMEDIATION

Students who receive an Unsatisfactory grade, more than one Satisfactory with Concern (SWC) grade, or a SWC at any point subsequent to a prior U will be referred to the Medical Student Promotions and Professional Standards Committee (MSPPSC) for review based on the Academic Deficiencies Policy. If the MSPPSC determines that the student may remediate his/her academic deficiency/deficiencies, the student will meet with the Course, Clerkship, or Curriculum Director and in some cases with the Competency Director to develop an academic remediation plan. This plan will include expectations for the work to be performed, method of student re-assessment, and time period for the remediation. The plan will be reviewed with the student by the Course, Clerkship, or Curriculum Director, and will be documented on the "Academic Remediation Plan" form outlining the following:

- Domain(s) of competence requiring remediation
- Description of need for remediation
- Overall goal(s) of remediation
- Expected time frame for remediation
- Remediation requirements
- Criteria for a successful remediation

The remediation plan will then be submitted to the Lead Basic Science Course Director, Lead Clinical Science Course Director, Year 3 Associate Director, or Year 4 Associate Director accordingly or designee who will submit it to the Medical Student Promotions and Professional Standards Committee (MSPPSC). All academic remediation plans are designed to address the area(s) of competency-based deficiency/deficiencies as described in the course, clerkship, or rotation syllabus.

Academic remediation plans should be developed and finalized as soon as practicable. The student's remediation performance will be communicated to the student by the course, clerkship, or curriculum director and documented on the "Academic Remediation Plan" form which will be uploaded to the student's record in Academic Portrait in OwlMed. Upon completion of the remediation, the course, clerkship, or rotation director will report the final outcome for the course to the SADSAA, ADSA, or the designee, and the Lead Basic Science Course Director, Lead Clinical Science Course Director, Year 3 Associate Director or Year 4 Associate Director as appropriate, who will then inform the MSPPSC and the registrar. The registrar will record the final grade.

In the event that a student is required to remediate more than one course, clerkship, or rotation, the order and timing of such remediation plans will be at the discretion of the Associate Dean for Medical Education or designee.

ACADEMIC GRIEVANCES

Students who have questions or concerns regarding their grades should first contact the course, clerkship, or rotation director for discussion. Students who wish to proceed with an academic grievance with respect to a final course, clerkship, or rotation grade are subject to FAU Regulation 4.002 (Student Academic Grievance Procedures for Grade Reviews).

<https://www.fau.edu/regulations/documents/chapter4/reg-4-002-6-23-10-final.pdf>

This procedure is intended to provide additional detail, specific to the medical program, to assist students in following FAU Regulation 4.002.

Students at the College of Medicine are strongly encouraged to raise any questions or concerns about a grade within 5 business days after the receipt of such grade, since final grades are typically officially submitted to the registrar one week after the grade is released to the student. If a timely academic grievance is not filed by the student, any ramifications related to transcript generation, determination of AOA status or academic awards, and residency/away rotation applications will be the responsibility of the student and may be irreversibly or negatively impacted.

For purposes of implementing FAU Regulation 4.002, references to the “instructor” shall be replaced with (i) Course or Clerkship Grading Committee for years 1, 2 and 3, and (ii) the Rotation Director for year 4. Under Step 1 of FAU Regulation 4.002, the meeting between the student and the Course or Clerkship Grading Committee for years 1, 2, and 3 will be convened by the Course or Clerkship Director; and the meeting between the student and the Rotation Director for year 4 will be convened by the Year 4 Director(s).

For purposes of implementing FAU Regulation 4.002, references to the “chair/director” shall be replaced with the Associate Dean for Medical Education, or designee. Any questions about the academic grievance procedure for grade reviews at the College of Medicine can be directed to the Office of Medical Education, the Office of Student Affairs, the Year 1, 2, 3, or 4 Curriculum Directors, or the Associate Dean for Medical Education.

APPEALS POLICY

The student may appeal penalties (except for grades, narrative evaluations and exclusions from courses, which are addressed above) imposed by the MSPPSC based on the student’s failure to meet academic or professional standards, by submitting an appeal in writing to the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, or designee within five (5) business days of receiving notice of the decision from the MSPPSC. The appeal process for sanctions imposed as a result of behavioral misconduct under University Regulation 4.007 is described below under “Appeal of Sanctions Imposed for Behavioral Misconduct under University Regulation 4.007.”

The first step to be taken by the student in the appeal is to inform the MSPPSC in writing that he/she wishes to appeal its decision through a MSPPSC hearing. Such a request for appeal or reconsideration, however, reopens the review and may lead to a new decision by the MSPPSC. If the student prefers to appeal directly to the Appeals Committee (see below regarding the Appeals Committee), rather than participate in a hearing with the MSPPSC, the student may do so, provided he or she satisfies the requirements of the following paragraph. If the student does not elect to bypass the MSPPSC hearing, the MSPPSC will conduct a hearing to review the appeal and will notify the student of its decision within five (5) business days of the hearing. The hearing procedures are provided below.

If the student remains dissatisfied with the outcome of the MSPPSC hearing, or wishes to bypass the MSPPSC hearing in favor of a hearing by the Appeals Committee, the student may appeal to the Dean of the College of Medicine. The student must submit this appeal in writing to the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, or designee (who will communicate the appeals request with the Dean’s Office) within five (5) business days of receiving notice of the final decision by the MSPPSC hearing or the original determination by the MSPPSC (in the event that the student elects to bypass the MSPPSC hearing in favor of a hearing by the Appeals Committee). The student must provide a justification for the appeal, which basis will be limited to the following: 1) failure to receive the minimum requirements of due process, as described in this Handbook; 2) severity of the penalty; or 3) new material or information that could not be discovered at the time of the MSPPSC hearing or the original determination by the MSPPSC, as the case may be.

The Dean will convene an Appeals Committee. The Appeals Committee will consist of five FAU faculty members, chosen by the Dean of the College of Medicine, one of whom will serve as Chair. The Dean may not select faculty to serve on the Appeals Committee who have (i) served on the MSPPSC during the student's tenure at the College of Medicine, (ii) had direct involvement in the matter under review by the MSPPSC, (iii) previously taken an action (e.g., awarded a failing grade) that contributed to the adverse academic action being proposed against a student, or (iv) whose involvement could constitute a conflict for such faculty member.

The Appeals Committee will conduct a hearing in order to determine whether the MSPPSC decision was made in a manner consistent with the requirements and standards of the College of Medicine, the rights and obligations of the student, and the rights and obligations of the faculty. The Appeals Committee will make a recommendation to the Dean of the College of Medicine to accept, reject or modify the decision of the MSPPSC. The Committee's recommendation may include the imposition of additional or more severe sanctions. The Dean, in turn, will review the recommendations of the Appeals Committee, and decide whether to accept, reject or modify such recommendations. The Dean may also impose additional or more severe sanctions. The decision of the Dean of the College of Medicine is final agency action and will be communicated to the student in a timely manner. The student has a right to appeal the Dean's final decision to an external judicial forum.

Hearing Procedures

This paragraph describes the procedures for all appeal hearings described above. The primary purpose of the appeal hearing is to ascertain whether the penalty under appeal was imposed in a manner consistent with the requirements and standards of the Florida Atlantic University College of Medicine, the rights and obligations of the student, and the rights and obligations of the faculty.

All hearings are closed to the public and the press. The appeal hearing is not adversarial in nature, and the formal rules of evidence do not apply. The student and all other interested parties will be invited to attend and participate in the hearings. The student may choose to have an advisor present. The advisor may consult with the student but may not participate in the hearing directly. If the student's advisor is an attorney, the University will have an attorney present as well. Either party to the appeal may call witnesses. Summary minutes of the appeal and relevant attachments shall be provided to either party upon request.

Appeal of Sanctions Imposed for Behavioral Misconduct under University Regulation 4.007

The student may appeal the severity of any sanctions imposed by the MSPPSC for behavioral misconduct in violation of University Regulation 4.007, as described above, by submitting an appeal in writing to the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions or designee within five (5) business days of receiving notice of the MSPPSC sanctions.

The first step to be taken by the student in the appeal is to inform the MSPPSC in writing that he/she wishes to appeal its decision through a MSPPSC hearing. Such a request for appeal or reconsideration, however, reopens the review and may lead to a new decision by the MSPPSC. If the student prefers to appeal directly to the Appeals Committee (see below regarding the Appeals Committee), rather than participate in a hearing with the MSPPSC, the student may do so, provided he or she satisfies the requirements of the following paragraph. If the student does not elect to bypass the MSPPSC hearing, the MSPPSC will conduct a hearing to review the appeal and will notify the student of its decision within five (5) business days of the hearing. The hearing procedures are provided below.

If the student remains dissatisfied with the outcome of the MSPPSC hearing, or wishes to bypass the MSPPSC hearing in favor of a hearing by the Appeals Committee, the student may appeal to the Dean of the College of Medicine. The student must submit this appeal in writing to the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, or designee (who will communicate the appeals request with the Dean's Office) within five (5) business days of receiving notice of the final decision by the MSPPSC hearing or the original determination by the MSPPSC (in the event that the student elects to bypass the MSPPSC hearing in favor of a hearing by the Appeals Committee). The student must provide a justification for the appeal, which basis will be limited to the following: 1) failure to receive the minimum requirements of due process, as described in this Handbook; 2) severity of the penalty; or 3) new material or information that could not be discovered at the time of the MSPPSC hearing or the original determination by the MSPPSC, as the case may be.

The Dean will convene an Appeals Committee. The Appeals Committee will consist of five FAU faculty members, chosen by the Dean of the College of Medicine, one of whom will serve as Chair. The Dean may not select faculty to serve on the Appeals Committee who have (i) served on the MSPPSC during the student's tenure at the College of Medicine, (ii) had direct involvement in the matter under review by the MSPPSC, (iii) previously taken an action (e.g., awarded a failing grade) that contributed to the adverse academic action being proposed against a student, or (iv) whose involvement could constitute a conflict for such faculty member.

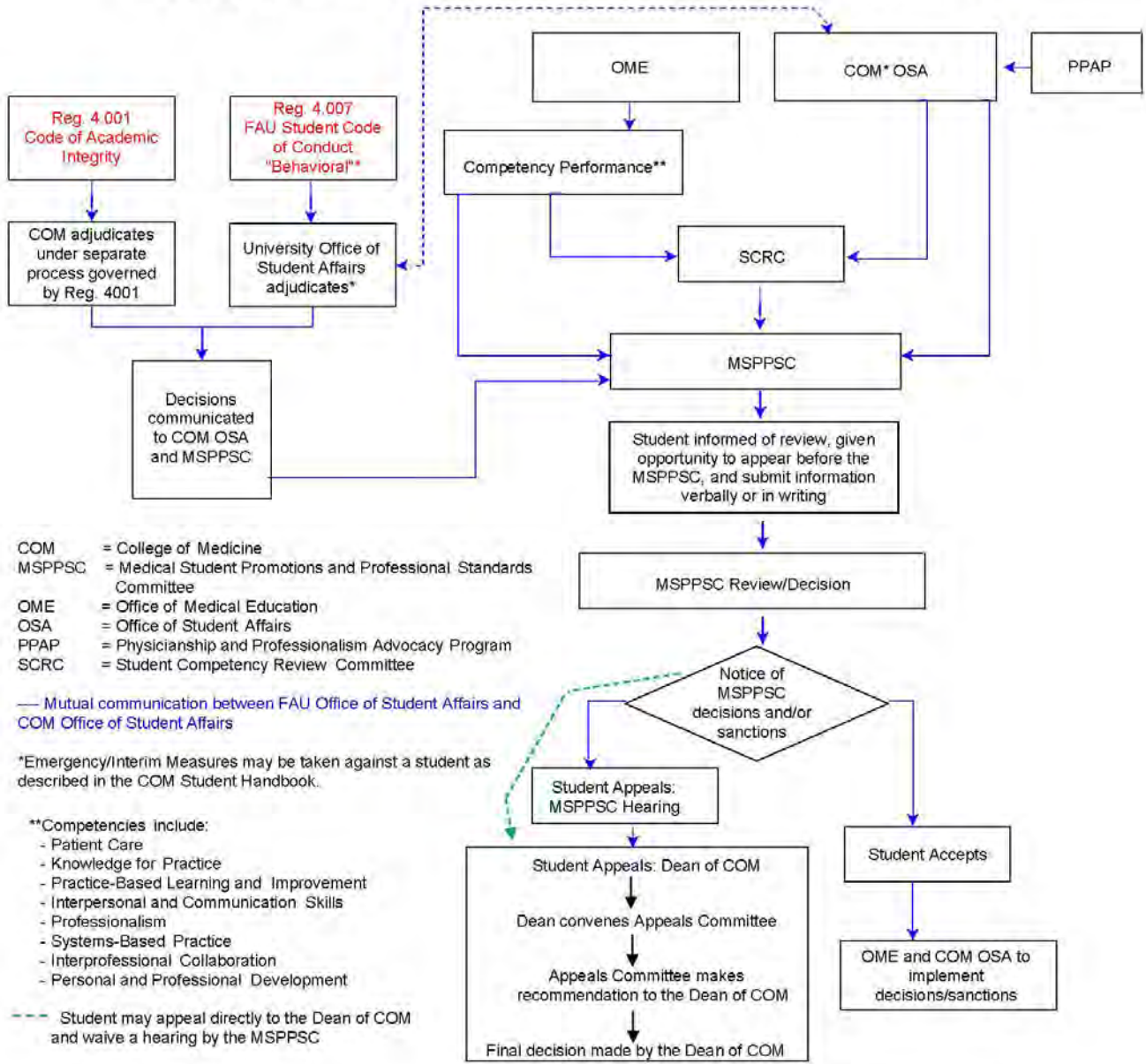
The Appeals Committee will conduct a hearing in order to determine whether the MSPPSC decision was made in a manner consistent with the requirements and standards of the College of Medicine, the rights and obligations of the student, and the rights and obligations of the faculty. The Appeals Committee will make a recommendation to the Dean of the College of Medicine to accept, reject or modify the decision of the MSPPSC. The Committee's recommendation may include the imposition of additional or more severe sanctions. The Dean, in turn, will review the recommendations of the Appeals Committee, and decide whether to accept, reject or modify such recommendations. The Dean may also impose additional or more severe sanctions. The decision of the Dean of the College of Medicine is final agency action and will be communicated to the student in a timely manner. The student has a right to appeal the Dean's final decision to an external judicial forum.

Hearing Procedures

This paragraph describes the procedures for all appeal hearings described above. The primary purpose of the appeal hearing is to ascertain whether the penalty under appeal was imposed in a manner consistent with the requirements and standards of the Florida Atlantic University College of Medicine, the rights and obligations of the student, and the rights and obligations of the faculty.

All hearings are closed to the public and the press. The appeal hearing is not adversarial in nature, and the formal rules of evidence do not apply. The student and all other interested parties will be invited to attend and participate in the hearings. The student may choose to have an advisor present. The advisor may consult with the student but may not participate in the hearing directly. If the student's advisor is an attorney, the University will have an attorney present as well. Either party to the appeal may call witnesses. Summary minutes of the appeal and relevant attachments shall be provided to either party upon request.

The Policy on Academic, Professional and Behavioral Requirements and Standards



VOLUNTARY LEAVE OF ABSENCE POLICY

The Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine (the “College of Medicine” or the “College”) cares deeply about the physical, emotional and mental well-being of its students. At times, a student may experience serious medical, emotional or psychological conditions that affect his/her ability to satisfy the rigorous academic, disciplinary, or professional requirements applicable to all FAU medical students. Students are encouraged to prioritize their health and safety and take steps toward necessary treatment and recovery, even if academic progress must be delayed or paused during a leave of absence. Additionally, in certain circumstances, due to exigent financial, personal, academic or other factors and circumstances, such as desirable internship or research opportunities, a student may wish to take a voluntary leave of absence from the College. A leave of absence (LOA) or withdrawal is a temporary period of non-enrollment or separation from the MD degree program. A LOA may be voluntary or involuntary (as described in University Regulation 4.014 and the College of Medicine Involuntary Withdrawal policy. The College’s Office of

Student Affairs (OSA) is available to meet with students and assist them in making an informed choice regarding leaves of absence appropriate to their individual circumstances.

Types of Voluntary Leaves of Absence

Medical. This policy affirms the College's commitment to caring for the health and well-being of its students and its willingness to support student-initiated care plans. Health and counseling services are available on campus through University Student Health Services and Counseling and Psychological Services, and students are encouraged to use those resources. Students are also encouraged to request a voluntary medical leave of absence when they believe their physical, emotional or mental health condition(s), including pregnancy-related condition(s), prevents them from engaging in or completing their academic work, when safety is in question, or when the demands of their academic program are interfering with their ability to recover or adjust to a physical or mental health challenge. In most cases, a voluntary medical leave of absence can address the need confronting a student to take a "pause" from their academic demands in order to address a physical or mental health challenge. Involuntary withdrawals are described in University Regulation 4.014 and the College of Medicine Involuntary Withdrawal policy.

A student requesting a LOA must meet or otherwise have a discussion with one of the deans in the OSA and complete the Leave of Absence Request Form available through the Office of Student Affairs. The student also must obtain a written statement from his or her treating licensed healthcare provider delineating the medical or psychological need for the absence, the diagnosis and prognosis of the illness, the expected duration of treatment, and the specific range of dates during which the student is required to miss classes or clinical rotations. The statement must be submitted to the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or designee).

Reinstatement after the LOA must be approved by the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or designee) upon receipt of written clearance from a treating licensed healthcare provider that the student is medically fit to return to medical school. The College of Medicine reserves the right to require a second opinion regarding a student's physical or psychological readiness to return to classes and clinical rotations. In the event that a second consultation is required, the provider must be approved by the College of Medicine and any cost incurred borne by the College.

Personal. A student may request a personal leave of absence, including a parental leave of absence, when necessary to dedicate primary attention and effort to personal circumstances or situations that inhibit or interfere with his or her academic performance or progress. A student may not request this type of leave more than once in an academic year. The College of Medicine will review numerous factors when considering a request for a personal LOA, including whether or not the student is in good academic standing. The student must meet with one of the deans in the OSA and complete the Leave of Absence Request Form. A student returning from a personal leave of absence may be required to meet certain stipulations set by the College of Medicine or, if appropriate under the circumstances, to submit proof of successful resolution of the circumstances necessitating the leave.

Academic Enrichment. A student may request a leave of absence to pursue academic enrichment opportunities such as research, an advanced degree, or a medically related fellowship. The student must be in good academic standing. The student must meet with one of the deans in the OSA and complete the Leave of Absence Request Form.

Academic Enhancement. A student may request a leave of absence to address academic deficiencies that are preventing academic progression. The student must meet with one of the deans in the OSA and complete the Leave of Absence Request Form.

Financial. A student may request a financial leave of absence if he or she is unable to pay tuition or meet other educational financial obligations for all or part of an academic period. The student must meet with the College of Medicine Director of Financial Aid and complete the Leave of Absence Request Form.

General Guidelines for Voluntary Leaves of Absence

A voluntary LOA, as well as a return from a LOA, must be approved in writing by the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or designee); however, the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or designee) may refer the request for a LOA or a return from (or extension of) a LOA to the Medical Student Promotions and Professional Standards Committee (MSPPSC) for its review and determination.

While most voluntary leaves will be for no longer than one (1) year, requests for longer leaves may be referred by the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or designee) to the MSPPSC for its consideration. The MSPPSC will consider requests for longer leaves based on the requirements of the medical curriculum and an individualized assessment of the student's circumstances and previous academic performance. Because of unique differences in curricular design and implementation, the College of Medicine follows an academic calendar different from the rest of the University. As a result, any University requirement that a student not enrolled at the University for more than three (3) consecutive semesters must apply for readmission will not automatically apply to the College of Medicine. For all LOAs, the College of Medicine will articulate the required timeframe for return from a LOA, as well as any additional academic work that may be deemed necessary upon return from a LOA, based on the individual assessment of the student's circumstances, previous academic performance and the requirements of the medical curriculum.

Students returning from a voluntary leave may be required to meet certain conditions before being allowed to return and to demonstrate satisfaction of such conditions prior to return. In general, those conditions are outlined at the time the leave is approved but may also be developed during a student's leave. Before a student is scheduled to return from a voluntary leave, he or she is required to contact the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or designee) to ensure compliance with the process required for return, demonstrate satisfaction of the conditions required for return, and provide sufficient notice to OSA of the return date for planning and coordinating academic and clinical schedules. A student who wishes to request an extension of a LOA for any reason (e.g., he or she is unable to meet the conditions to return by a given deadline) must consult with the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or designee) as early as possible before the scheduled return date. At that time, the student must outline the reasons for requesting an extension and present a timeline for returning to the College of Medicine. The extension request may be presented to the MSPPSC at the discretion of the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or designee). Requests to extend a voluntary LOA may or may not be granted, based on the individual assessment of the student's circumstances, previous academic performance and the requirements of the medical curriculum. If the request for extension is not granted, the student must return by the end of the leave; otherwise, the student will be deemed to have withdrawn from the College of Medicine.

Students should be aware that taking a voluntary leave may have significant impact on academic progress, cost of attendance, financial aid, student loan deferment/repayment status, housing, health and disability insurance coverage, and competitiveness for residency training. Prior to applying for a leave, students should consider these implications carefully as they pertain to their personal circumstances. If a student wishes to pursue a voluntary leave, he or she must meet with both the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or designee) and the Director of Financial Aid.

Students should be aware that they are expected to complete all course requirements within a six (6) year period from the time of matriculation in order to receive the M.D. degree, and that unless specifically excluded by the College of Medicine in writing, time spent on a Leave of Absence will be counted within that six-year period.

While on a leave of absence, students must maintain health and disability insurance. Students should be aware that they will not be covered by the College of Medicine Self Insurance Program, and therefore, it is their responsibility to ensure appropriate insurance coverage for professional and general liability for any clinical or other activities they pursue during their leave of absence.

INVOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Florida Atlantic University Regulation 4.014 (Involuntary Withdrawal) shall apply to students in the College of Medicine; however, for purposes of implementing such regulation, the following modifications shall apply to the College of Medicine:

The composition of the advisory group described in section (3) of FAU Regulation 4.014 will consist of the College of Medicine MSPPSC, and all references to the "SIT" will be replaced with the "MSPPSC". All references to the "Dean of Students or designee" will be replaced with the "College of Medicine Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or designee)". References to the "Vice President of Student Affairs" shall be replaced with the "Dean of the College of Medicine". When imposing conditions for return under Section (7) of FAU Regulation 4.014, the College of Medicine may take into account the specific and/or unique academic and professional requirements and standards of the College of Medicine.

Because of unique differences in curricular design and implementation, the College of Medicine follows an academic calendar different from the rest of the University. As a result, Section 7(D) of FAU Regulation 4.014, which reads “In cases where a student is not enrolled at the University for more than three (3) consecutive semesters, the student will be required to apply for readmission” will not automatically apply to the College of Medicine. The College of Medicine will articulate the required timeframe for return from an involuntary withdrawal based on the individual assessment of the student’s circumstances, previous academic performance and the requirements of the medical curriculum.

The emergency measures described in Florida Atlantic University Regulation 4.007(9) shall apply to students in the College of Medicine; however, references contained therein to the “Dean of Students or designee” shall be replaced with the “College of Medicine Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (or designee).”

STUDENT & FACULTY CONDUCT & RESPONSIBILITY

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY GUIDELINES

The students and faculty of the Schmidt College of Medicine shall adhere to an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect, fostering honorable and ethical behavior. Matters regarding violations of academic integrity shall be subject to [FAU Regulation 4.001](#), Code of Academic Integrity and the process under [“Coordination between the MSPPSC and the Florida Atlantic University Office of Student Affairs”](#) shall apply.

PROFESSIONALISM EXPECTATIONS

Physicianship and Professionalism Advocacy Program (PPAP)

Professionalism is an attribute and competency required of all physicians and an important component of the College of Medicine at Florida Atlantic University. Medical schools have a responsibility for the initial professional education of their students and for assisting in the development of professional attitudes and attributes among these students. The basic components of professional behavior are clearly defined and monitored during the medical education experience.

The Physicianship and Professionalism Advocacy Program (referred to as “PPAP”) establishes a process used to monitor, evaluate, improve, and promote the professional behavior of medical students at the College of Medicine. It outlines the process for reporting concerns about medical student professionalism and sets forth the outcomes that may result from that process. It also provides the opportunity to commend students that demonstrate exemplary professionalism. The forms used to document the concerns and commendations to students about their professional behavior are posted on the FAU College of Medicine website.

Student professionalism violations may be addressed under University Regulation 4.001, 4.007 and by the MSPPSC. The foundation underlying the prescription of student standards at the College of Medicine is the conviction that the exercise of individual rights must be accompanied by related responsibilities. By accepting membership in the University community, a student acquires rights in, as well as responsibilities to, the whole University community. These rights and responsibilities are defined within this policy. All students are subject to the policies and procedures described herein.

(a) Reporting Process

(i) Physicianship Incident Report (PIR)

A PIR may be generated anytime a student’s behavior raises concerns regarding the medical student’s professional and/or ethical conduct. PIRs can be generated by anyone, including but not limited to, course coordinators, instructors, the College of Medicine administration, faculty, staff and other students. All PIRs must be submitted via the College of Medicine’s Office of Student Affairs’ online PPAP Reporting System. These incident reports must include the name of the student being reported, the date of the incident being reported, the location of the incident, and a narrative description of the student’s behavior. Anyone submitting a PIR may also provide suggestions for corrective actions.

(ii) Physicianship Commendation Report (PCR)

A PCR is the mechanism for reporting a student professionalism commendation. A PCR can be generated anytime a student demonstrates such exemplary professional behavior that formal recognition is warranted. PCRs can be generated by anyone, including but not limited to, course coordinators, instructors, the College of Medicine administration, faculty, staff and other students. PCRs must be submitted via the College of Medicine's Office of Student Affairs' online PPAP Reporting System.

Student commendations through a PCR submission will be brought by the Office of Student Affairs to the Student Competency Review Committee (SCRC) for discussion. Should the student commendation rise to an exceptional level the SCRC may request that a written reflection of the commendation be included in the student's Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE). Any inclusion of such commendation in the MSPE is ultimately at the discretion of the Associate Dean for Medical Education.

(b) Consequences of PIRs

Students may be subject to disciplinary actions because of professionalism violations. Any misconduct that is addressed under University Regulations 4.001 or 4.007 will be governed by the procedures described in such Regulations and by the MSPPSC.

When a PIR is submitted about an individual student, the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions (SADSAA) or Assistant Dean for Student Affairs (ADSA) will review the PIR and present the PIR to the SCRC (if it is an initial PIR against the student) or to the MSPPSC (if it is a subsequent PIR against the student) for review and action, as appropriate. When presented to the SCRC, the SCRC will review and discuss the PIR and determine if further action needs to be taken, including but not limited to, a required formative support plan, referral to the SADSAA or ADSA to meet with the student to gather more information or to provide support or other resources, referral to the MSPPSC, or no further action.

(c) Appeals Process and Hearing Procedures

Students may appeal any sanctions imposed by the MSPPSC as a result of a PIR by following the same process described under Appeals Policy, which appeals process and hearing procedures shall also apply to the PPAP.

STUDENT MISTREATMENT POLICY

I. Goals of Policy

1. To define standards of conduct among all members of the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine community generally, and specifically within the teacher/learner relationship.
2. To specify a procedure for reporting potential student mistreatment or abuse.
3. To create an administrative mechanism for handling alleged incidents of mistreatment or abuse.
4. To develop a monitoring system to identify individuals or departments whose abusive behavior persists despite intervention.
5. This policy shall supplement existing University policies or regulations which otherwise might apply to situations addressed herein.

II. Preamble

The Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine is committed to providing and maintaining a positive environment for study and training, in which individuals are judged solely on relevant factors such as ability and performance, and can pursue their educational and professional activities in an atmosphere that is humane, respectful and safe.

Our students are exceptionally talented individuals, dedicated to becoming outstanding physicians, who have selected this medical school for their training. Effective learning is possible only in an environment where students can trust their teachers to treat them fairly and with respect. The teacher may be a faculty member, resident, student, or other member of the health care team. One manner in which the teacher/learner relationship is unique is that students are vulnerable, depending on many of their teachers for evaluations and recommendations. In addition,

medical education includes mastering not just pathophysiology but also the essentials of professional behavior. Students learn professional behavior primarily by observing the actions of their teacher role models. Unprofessional, disrespectful or abusive behavior by teachers is antithetical to standards of professional conduct that medical students are expected to master. These behaviors by teachers may also be self-perpetuating, as students come to believe that such behavior is appropriate when they assume the role of teacher.

III. Responsibilities of Teachers and Learners

The College has adopted the AAMC Compact between Teachers and Learners of Medicine. 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 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.
- 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.

IV. Unprofessional and Abusive Behaviors

The responsibilities of teachers and students listed above constitute examples of respectful and professional behaviors. These are our standards. Mistreatment of students can occur in a variety of forms and may seriously impair learning. Types of abuse include verbal, power, ethnic, physical, and sexual harassment. Examples of mistreatment of students include, but are not limited to repeated instances or single egregious instances of:

- Yelling or shouting at a student in public or private
- Criticism or other actions that reasonably can be interpreted as demeaning or humiliating
- Assigning duties as punishment rather than education
- Unwarranted exclusion from reasonable learning opportunities
- Threats to fail, give lower grades, or give a poor evaluation for inappropriate reasons
- Asking students to carry out personal chores
- Unwelcome repeated sexual comments, jokes, innuendos, or taunting remarks about one's body, attire, age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or marital status
- Comments about stereotypical behavior or ethnic jokes
- Intentional physical contact such as pushing, shoving, slapping, hitting, tripping, throwing objects at, or aggressive violation of personal space

V. What to do if you believe you have been abused or mistreated

First, carefully examine the circumstances of the incident or incidents which occurred. Discuss the event with someone else who witnessed it, or with another student or individual whose judgment you trust. Discuss the event or your concerns with any responsible administrator or faculty member at the College of Medicine with whom you feel comfortable. Ask yourself whether the incident falls under the behaviors listed in Section IV above. If so there are two processes available for addressing the incident – informal resolution and complaint. Often, concerns can be resolved informally or through consultation with appropriate faculty or administrators. If the matter is not satisfactorily resolved through the informal resolution process, then the person who made the allegation of mistreatment (whether a medical student or otherwise) or the person against whom the allegation was made may initiate a complaint. The goal of these processes is to foster your educational experience by minimizing behaviors which detract from it. Please note that with respect to discrimination and harassment, the College of Medicine will comply with applicable federal, state and local laws as described in FAU Regulation 7.008 (Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Regulation). See Regulation 7.008 for more information.

INFORMAL RESOLUTION - You may do this by directly approaching the person whom you feel mistreated you and expressing your concern. Alternatively, you may file a complaint.

COMPLAINT –You may submit a complaint to your course/clerkship director, or any senior administrator or College of Medicine faculty member. If the course/clerkship director, or such senior administrator or College of Medicine faculty member, takes action to settle the complaint, he/she will communicate these actions to the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions, the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, or designee. If you are not satisfied with your interaction with the person whom you feel mistreated you or your course/clerkship director or other senior administrator or faculty member, or you do not feel comfortable approaching these individuals, you may meet with the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, or designee to discuss other appropriate steps or available remedies.

Alternatively, you may submit a complaint directly to the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, or designee in person or through the online reporting system. See <https://www.fau.edu/medicine/students/reporting/>. You may also submit a complaint to the University ombudsperson, the Office of Civil Rights and Title IX, or any other staff or faculty member at the College of Medicine or the University.

You may submit your complaint anonymously. See <https://www.fau.edu/medicine/students/reporting/>. Please note that the College takes all complaints seriously and will investigate as appropriate. However, recourse may be limited in circumstances where the complainant remains anonymous.

VI. Procedures for handling complaints of student abuse or mistreatment

Complaints of student mistreatment by another student will be handled by the Office of Student Affairs following the Policy on Academic, Professional and Behavioral Requirements and Standards for all students.

Complaints of student mistreatment by faculty, residents, or staff will be handled in accordance with other applicable College of Medicine policies and procedures, as well as University practices.

In the event that an allegation of abuse or mistreatment is made against an individual at an affiliated clinical site, the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, or designee will meet directly with the student. The Associate Dean for Medical Education, Assistant Dean for or designee will meet with officials at such site. Together, the College of Medicine officials will address and remediate the situation. In the interim, provisions will be made to reassign or remove the student from interaction with the person against whom the complaint is made.

In all complaints, the responding official will confer with the person against whom the complaint is made and allow an opportunity for such person to be heard and to share their perspective as part of the resolution by the responding official.

DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT POLICY

The Schmidt College of Medicine shall comply with applicable federal, state and local discrimination/harassment laws to provide an educational, employment, and business environment free of all forms of discrimination or harassment as described in **FAU Regulation 7.008** (Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Regulation). Unlawful discrimination or harassment based upon an individual's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or other protected status is prohibited.

In addition, the Schmidt College of Medicine abides by the FAU University Policy on Prohibited Sexual Conduct, <https://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter-7/>.

PROFESSIONAL DRESS GUIDELINES

As representatives of the medical profession, all medical students at the COM are expected to maintain an image that inspires credibility, trust, respect, and confidence in one's colleagues and patients. Appropriate dress is also essential to enhance patient safety in the clinical setting.

When students are assigned to clinical activities in any of the COM's participating institutions, they should consider themselves as representatives of the FAU College of Medicine. Attire and behavior should promote a positive impression for the individual student, the specific course, and the institution. In addition to the guidelines outlined below, certain departments and some affiliate clinical institutions may require alternate dress guidelines which must be followed. These requirements typically will be included in written course materials, but if any doubt exists, it is the responsibility of the student to inquire. The following are expectations concerning appropriate dress and personal appearance.

1. General Standards

- a. All clothing must be clean, neat, professionally styled, and in good repair.
 - Professional attire includes dresses, skirts, dress slacks, and collared shirts, blouses or sweaters. Ties are optional.
- b. Good personal hygiene and grooming should be maintained at all times.
- c. Excessive use of fragrances should be avoided, as some people may be sensitive to scented chemicals.
- d. Hair should be neat and clean. Hairstyle and/or color should not interfere with assigned duties or present a physical hazard to the patient, to the student, or to another person.
- e. Fingernails should be clean and of short to medium length. Students may not have acrylic nails while providing patient care services.

2. Standards in the classroom setting

- a. Shirts and blouses must extend to the waistband of the student's pants or skirt.
- b. Students are permitted to wear casual slacks, jeans, and T-shirts, provided they are clean, in good repair, and do not contain any offensive language or pictures. Shorts are not permitted.

3. Standards in the laboratory setting

- a. Students should follow the guidelines as established for the classroom setting.
- b. OSHA regulations prohibit open-toed shoes.

4. Standards in the clinical care setting

- a) Professional attire and physician-identifying clothing:
 - Students should wear dresses, skirts, or dress slacks, and collared shirts or blouses. Ties should be worn with collared shirts for students who wear them, and dresses or skirts should be of medium length.
 - A white coat with the FAU College of Medicine embroidered logo and a name badge are required.
 - Shoes must be comfortable, clean, in good repair and appropriate to the job and duties. In addition, specific footwear requirements, such as steel-toed shoes, may be defined in areas with special safety concerns. Beach-type shoes (such as thongs or flip-flops) and bedroom slippers are not appropriate.
 - Students should not chew gum.
- b) Jewelry (e.g., necklaces, rings, earrings, bracelets, etc.) and other fashion accessories should be appropriate and not interfere with assigned duties. Jewelry represents a potential for infection and loose jewelry can be grabbed, causing a potential physical hazard to the student or the patient.
- c) Tattoos and body art with wording or images that may be perceived as offensive should be covered during the time of professional contact with patients and families. Some examples of such offensive art or images include racial slurs, swear words, symbols of death, or inappropriate revealing of body parts in a way that a reasonable person could perceive as inappropriate.
- d) Visible body piercing should be minimal. Multiple earlobe piercings should be removed.

Note: While wearing a white coat in the clinical setting, medical students are expected to identify themselves as students at all times and must assume responsibility to clarify their role to patients.

5. Standards for home visits

- a. The same as the guidelines for the clinical care setting, except students should not wear white coats or badges when making home visits.
- b. In general, the dress should be casual professional attire that fits in with community standards and does not draw attention to the student.
- c. The dress guidelines for the home visits will be reviewed in more detail as a part of the coursework in preparation for the first home visits.

6. Hospital attire (scrubs)

- a. In general, medical students should wear their own clothes (rather than scrubs) for patient care assignments in clinics and when performing inpatient services.
- b. Scrubs must be worn in compliance with the policies of the institution in which the medical student is assigned for patient care rotations. They should never be worn in public places outside of the clinical care facility.

- c. Scrubs may be worn in specific patient care areas only. If scrubs must be worn outside of the designated clinical area, they should be covered with a white coat.
 - d. Hair covers, masks, shoe covers, and gowns should be removed before leaving the designated clinical areas and should not be worn while in the outpatient clinics or when making rounds on the inpatient services.
7. Examples of inappropriate attire in the clinical setting include, but are not limited to, the following:
- a. Shorts
 - b. Blue denim jean pants of any length
 - c. Pants or slacks that are not in good condition (e.g., have holes, ragged hems, or patches)
 - d. Exercise or workout clothing, including sweatpants, spandex, or leggings
 - e. Sandals or bedroom slippers
 - f. Caps or hats, unless worn for medical or religious reasons or for nature of specific duties
 - g. Shirts or other apparel with images, wording, or logos that may be perceived as offensive to patients, families, or others
 - h. Tank tops, halter tops, translucent tops, tops with plunging necklines, or tops that leave the midriff or back exposed
 - i. Clothing that exposes undergarments
 - j. Sunglasses when indoors
 - k. Any attire that could be perceived as sexually provocative to a reasonable person

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

The administration of the College of Medicine recognizes that social media websites and applications, including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Tumblr, Twitter, Pinterest, LinkedIn and YouTube, are an important and timely means of communication. However, faculty, staff, employees, residents, fellows, volunteers, and students should be aware that posting certain information may be illegal or unprofessional. Violation of existing statutes and administrative regulations may expose the offender to criminal and civil liability, and the punishment for violations may include fines and imprisonment. Offenders also may be subject to adverse employment actions, disciplinary sanctions and/or academic actions that may include, but not be limited to, a verbal or written reprimand, probation, suspension or dismissal from employment, school and/or resident training. All faculty, staff, employees, residents, fellows, volunteers and students in the College are also subject to University policies and/or regulations on social media, (i.e., <http://www.fau.edu/policies/files/9.2%20Social%20Media.pdf>) as well as all other applicable University policies and regulations.

The following actions are strictly forbidden:

- Any violation of University Office of Information Technology and/or College of Medicine IT policies.
- In your professional role as a caregiver, you may not disclose the personal health information of other individuals. Removal of an individual's name does not necessarily constitute proper de-identification of protected health information. Inclusion of data such as age, gender, race, diagnosis, date of evaluation, or type of treatment or the use of a highly specific medical photograph (such as a before/after photograph of a patient having surgery or a photograph of a patient from a medical outreach trip) may still allow the reader to recognize the identity of a specific individual, and therefore is prohibited.
- You may not disclose private (protected) academic information of another student or trainee. Such information might include, but is not limited to: course, clerkship or rotation grades, narrative evaluations, examination scores, or adverse academic actions.
- For students, sharing PBL/IQ information within a class is acceptable, but sharing material between classes or outside Florida Atlantic University is not. Many of our cases have been generously provided to us by other medical schools with the stipulation that they would be used only by our students. In addition, it would defeat the purpose of problem-based learning if the learning objectives, study materials, etc. were available to students encountering cases for the first time. Therefore, the use of Facebook or other social media sites by students for any PBL or IQ materials is strictly prohibited. All postings for PBL and IQ are limited to established practices and tools set by course directors, the Office of Medical Education and College of Medicine IT.

- In posting information on social media sites, you may not present yourself as an official representative or spokesperson for FAU or its College of Medicine, unless authorized to do so by the President or Dean of the College of Medicine, respectively.
- You may not represent yourself as another person, real or fictitious, or otherwise attempt to obscure your identity as a means to circumvent the provisions of this policy.
- You must respect limited personal use permissions, when applicable, and may not utilize websites and/or applications in a manner that interferes with your official work and/or academic commitments. That is, do not consume university, hospital or clinic technology resources with personal use when others need access for patient or business-related matters. Moreover, do not delay completion of assigned clinical responsibilities in order to engage in social media activities.

In addition to the absolute prohibitions listed above, the actions listed below are strongly discouraged. Violations of these suggested guidelines may be considered unprofessional behavior and may be the basis for employment and/or academic disciplinary action.

Specifically, students who fail to adhere to the standards of professionalism regarding social media will be subject to the Policy on Academic, Professional and Behavioral Requirements and Standards Governing the Florida Atlantic University College of Medicine and/or other applicable University policies and regulations. Those students may be referred to the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions, and a Professionalism Incident Report (or other appropriate academic disciplinary action) may be made and presented to the Medical Student Promotions and Professional Standards Committee.

Residents and fellows who fail to adhere to the standards of professionalism regarding social media will be subject to the Graduate Medical Education Policy & Procedure Policy Statement "Disciplinary, Appeal and Dismissal Process". Residents and fellows may be referred to the residency program director or the Designated Institutional Official for sanctions, depending on the severity of the action. Engaging in the following activities (or similar conduct) by faculty, staff, employees, residents, fellows, students, and volunteers in the College may result in employment and/or academic disciplinary action:

- Display of vulgar language
- Display of language or photographs that imply disrespect for any individual or group because of age, race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation or other legally protected status.
- Presentation of personal photographs or photographs of others that may reasonably be interpreted as condoning irresponsible use of alcohol, substance abuse, or sexual promiscuity.
- Posting of potentially inflammatory or unflattering material on another individual's website or "tagging" another individual in an inflammatory or unflattering demeanor using a blog, social media or other web service.
- Fraternalization between faculty (including affiliate faculty), staff, employees, residents, fellows, students, and volunteers in an inappropriate manner of a personal nature, in violation of the Florida Atlantic University policy and/or College policy on Consensual Relations.

When using social media websites/applications, faculty (including affiliate faculty), staff, employees, residents, fellows,), and students are strongly encouraged to use a personal e-mail address, rather than their fau.edu address, as their primary means of identification (see <https://www.fau.edu/nit/it/policies/>) Individuals also should make every effort to present themselves in a mature, responsible, and professional manner. Discourse should be civil and respectful.

Please be aware that no privatization measure is perfect and that undesignated persons may still gain access to your social media sites. A site such as YouTube, of course, is completely open to the public. Future employers (residency or fellowship program directors, department chairs, or private practice partners) often review these social media sites when considering potential candidates for employment.

Finally, although once-posted information can be removed from the original social media site, exported information cannot be recovered. Any digital exposure can "live on" beyond its removal from the original website or social media service and continue to circulate in other venues. Therefore, think carefully before you post any information which may negatively impact your standing with the University or future employers. Always be respectful, and professional in your actions.

RECORDING OF CLASS LECTURES BY STUDENTS POLICY

Under a new law recently enacted by the Florida Legislature, a state university student may, without prior notice, audio or video record a class lecture for a course in which the student is enrolled if the recording is for one of the following purposes:

- (a) personal educational use of the student;
- (b) in connection with a complaint to the university where the recording is made; or
- (c) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding.

A recording of a class lecture may not be published without the consent of the lecturer, except it may be shared with university officials in connection with a complaint to the university or as evidence in a criminal or civil proceeding. Violation of this provision may subject the student to disciplinary action by the university and/or to legal action by a person injured by the publication.

A class lecture is defined as a formal or methodical oral presentation as part of a university course intended to present information or teach students about a particular subject. Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to student presentations (whether individually or as part of a group), class discussion (except when incidental to and incorporated within a class lecture), labs, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving student participation, test or examination administrations, field trips, and private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the lecturer, is prohibited. Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation or class attendance. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of the University's Student Code of Conduct and/or the Code of Academic Integrity.

For purposes of the College of Medicine, class lectures do not include Problem-Based Learning (PBL)/Inquiry Cases (IQ)/Student-Led Inquiry (SLIQ) groups, Service Learning Projects, student and/or patient panels, Clinical Learning Groups (CLG) or clinical skills and simulation activities. Additionally, failure to adhere to these requirements may result in disciplinary action by the MSPPSC, up to and including dismissal from the College of Medicine.

To publish means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute or otherwise provide access to the recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or other persons), including but not limited to another student in the class. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of the recording, is published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, picket signs, or any mode of print.

One of the objectives of College of Medicine courses is to facilitate critical thinking and debate around topics, theories, and concepts where disagreement is not only anticipated, but encouraged. The ability to think critically, express your ideas clearly, and respond to the professor and other students civilly is the keystone of the academic experience. In College of Medicine courses, the professor may articulate positions and make statements for the purpose of accomplishing this objective and enhancing the learning environment. As a result, students should keep in mind that, at times, the ideas conveyed during class may not necessarily reflect the professor's personal beliefs or opinions on the subject matter.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

The COM adheres to the FAU Policy on a Drug Free Environment. Medical students who have a known or suspected abuse problem will be referred to seek professional care at Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). This will include mandatory education and possible referral to agencies that specialize in substance abuse and alcohol treatment and rehabilitation. If a medical student fails to attend an evaluation consultation at CAPS, or if abuse interferes with the student's academic work or performance in the clinical setting, a mandatory referral may be made to the Physician's Recovery Network for evaluation and treatment, prior to return to the classroom or clinical setting. The matter will also be referred to the MSPPSC. Students who refuse professional treatment and/or violate the provisions of the FAU Policy on a Drug Free Environment may be subject to dismissal from the FAU COM in accordance with the procedures in this Handbook.

Prevention, Treatment, and Assistance Resources for Medical Students

- COM Office of Student Affairs **Phone: 561-297-2219**
- FAU Counseling and Psychological Services Location SSB #8, Room 229 **Phone: 561-297-3540**
- FAU Student Accessibility Services, Location SU 133 **Phone: 561-297-3880**

ALCOHOL POLICY

As an institution of higher education, Florida Atlantic University is committed to providing a campus environment free of the abuse and illegal use of alcohol. Alcohol will only be permitted in settings that do not inhibit the full participation of those who choose not to drink alcohol and that comply with all federal, state, municipal and county laws and ordinances, all university regulations and policies, including this alcoholic beverages policy, and all health and safety regulations. All members of the Schmidt College of Medicine must abide by the **FAU Alcohol Policy 1.2**.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN ACADEMIC EVALUATION OF STUDENTS BY FACULTY POLICY

Conflicts of Interest Related to Student as a Patient

Faculty members and residents or fellows with academic assessment/evaluation responsibilities for students are precluded from evaluating any students who are also their patients, because of dual relationship and conflict of interest issues. The conflict created by this dual role could affect both the quality of medical care and the content of such evaluations in the following way:

- A student-patient might be less likely to report a sensitive medical issue (e.g., drug abuse) to his/her physician if that physician will be providing an evaluation or grade for the student; and
- A faculty member's evaluation or grade (which could include some subjective elements) could potentially be, despite the evaluator's commitment to neutrality, positively or negatively affected as a result of the therapeutic relationship.

In instances of pre-existing doctor-patient/student relationships, the physician must discuss with the student the potential for a dual relationship and inform the student that he/she will recuse him/herself from any situation in which a formal evaluation is required.

In emergent situations or other instances in which an appropriate referral is not available, a student can seek the care of any faculty member or resident. In this circumstance as well, the physician must discuss with the student the potential for a dual relationship and recuse him/ herself from any situation in which a formal evaluation is required.

Conflict of Interest Related to Student in an Official Mentoring Relationship with Evaluating Faculty

The College of Medicine supports an active advising program for students in every year of medical school. This program supports faculty members, who are selected and trained by the College of Medicine, to counsel students regarding academic progress, career direction, and personal well-being. In order to preserve the integrity of the assessment system and protect students from either real or perceived bias, faculty members who serve in formal advisory roles and who have a conflict of interest related to their student mentees, will not assign summative course or clerkship grades to such student mentees without the participation of a faculty grading committee. Such faculty members may, however, provide formative feedback to their student mentees. Any faculty member contributing to the summative assessment process of a student with whom he/she has a conflict of interest must disclose the conflict of interest to the pertinent course, clerkship, rotation or curriculum director or grading committee.

Conflicts of Interest Related to Student with a Close or Personal Relationship with Evaluating Faculty

In addition to conflicts due to a pre-existing doctor-patient/student relationship (as described above), other conflicts might exist as a result of familial relationships, close personal relationships, or other circumstances which might create a conflict of interest, or the perception of a conflict within the evaluation process of a student. It is a professional obligation of the student to choose objective learning environments that are free of bias or perceived

bias, so that they can be evaluated fairly. When the potential for nepotism, or any other bias or perception of bias exists, it is required that the students and faculty notify the course and curriculum directors so that changes in assignments can be made.

Notification and Scheduling

At the beginning of each course, clerkship, or rotation at the College of Medicine, the Office for Medical Education provides students and faculty with small group facilitator, preceptor, attending, and/or clinical site assignments as a routine part of the scheduling process. Students and faculty must report any potential and/or actual conflicts of interest with one another that might necessitate a change in assignments.

Regarding the psychiatry clerkship, information about potential teacher/physician dual relationship will be provided to the medical students on the first day. Students are told that if they have seen a clinician at the facility as a patient, they should notify the curriculum coordinator who will modify the schedule to avoid activities with the clinician in question, without alerting the site director as to the purpose of the schedule change.

If a change in assignment needs to be made as a result of any of the conflicts mentioned above, the type of conflict will generally not be disclosed to the individuals involved, in the interest of privacy. The course administrator(s) will be instructed to facilitate such requests without inquiring as to the nature of the conflict of interest. Students have the obligation to avoid small groups, preceptor assignments, clinical sites, as well as specific clerkship and elective rotations where evaluating faculty have a close or personal relationship with the student. Final schedules and assignments remain at the discretion of the College of Medicine.

MEDICAL STUDENT ROLES AND SUPERVISION POLICY

It is the policy of Florida Atlantic University Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine that medical students must have appropriate clinical supervision while participating in all required and elective clerkships and rotations. In keeping with the statutes of the State of Florida and the requirements and standards of the Liaison Committee on Medical Education [LCME], all medical student trainees will function under the supervision of a faculty member or designee, with such designees including resident physicians (e.g. interns, residents, and fellows) and licensed independent practitioners (e.g., nurse, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, nurse midwife, nurse anesthetists), who are ultimately responsible for that patient's care.

LCME Standard 9.3 (Clinical Supervision of Medical Students)

"A medical school ensures that medical students in clinical learning situations involving patient care are appropriately supervised at all times in order to ensure patient and student safety, that the level of responsibility delegated to the student is appropriate to the student's level of training, and that the activities supervised are within the scope of practice of the supervising health professional." [LCME Functions and Structure of a Medical School: Standards for Accreditation of Medical Education Programs Leading to the MD Degree, Effective July 1, 2024]

PURPOSE:

To provide guidelines and procedures for the supervision of medical students participating in clinical rotations and clerkships with members of the medical staff who hold approved clinical privileges at the College of Medicine and/or its affiliated clinical sites.

SUPERVISION:

Qualified physicians in good standing on the medical staff of the College of Medicine or an FAU approved clinical site and holding an FAU College of Medicine Faculty appointment may serve as clinical supervisors and engage in the teaching, clinical supervision, and evaluation of students.

Medical students are defined as students actively enrolled in the FAU College of Medicine as candidates for the MD degree who are participating in approved clinical rotations and clerkships, as well as students accepted through the Visiting Student Application Service (VSAS) or other approved FAU College of Medicine medical student exchange programs. Medical students participating in away rotations shall be subject to, and must adhere to, the supervision policy of the host institution.

All medical students will be directly responsible to and supervised by designated faculty supervisor(s) with College of Medicine Faculty appointments during each clerkship/rotation. Supervising faculty members may, when they deem appropriate, delegate teaching and supervisory responsibilities to designees, including residents, fellows, or licensed independent practitioners who serve as healthcare extenders and are capable of providing the appropriate level of medical student supervision for patient care within the scope of their licensed practice. FAU approved clinical sites are responsible, consistent with applicable regulations and industry standards, for assuring that the healthcare providers employed at their site are appropriately trained, certified, and credentialed.

The supervising faculty member who is responsible for the care of the patient shall determine the appropriate level of student involvement/participation in patient care and the degree of supervision required, and should do so within the guidelines of this policy. Medical students are expected to assume developmentally appropriate, graduated levels of responsibility during their training all while being directly and/or indirectly supervised (as appropriate). It is the supervising faculty member's responsibility to determine the appropriate level of involvement/participation by the student and level of supervision that each student should have when providing patient care in a clinical learning environment. The degree of involvement/participation of students when providing patient care will be determined by the supervising faculty member based on a number of factors, including but not limited to:

- the developmental level of the student
- the complexity of the care or procedure
- the potential for adverse effects
- the demonstrated competence, maturity and responsibility of each student
- the consent of the patient to have a student involved in their care

Medical students are also always expected to take responsibility for their actions and be accountable for prioritizing the best interest of the patient. Students must recognize their own limitations and request assistance or decline participation in any aspect of patient care that they do not feel comfortable or competent in. Students should always use their best judgement to discern what is safest and best for the patient without fear of any consequences related to their evaluation, assessment, or advancement.

Levels of Supervision:

Direct: The supervising faculty member or designee is physically present with the medical student and the patient. (Required for all procedures)

Indirect Supervision with Direct Supervision Immediately Available: The supervising faculty member or designee is physically present at the clinical site and is immediately available to provide Direct Supervision. The supervisor may not be engaged in activities which would delay his/her response to a student requiring direct supervision. (Faculty supervisor may consider allowing a student to be involved in history taking, physical exam, data gathering, chart review, data analysis, and counseling under indirect supervision. Some 3rd and 4th year students may progress to be allowed to perform venipuncture and IV placement under indirect supervision with direct supervision immediately available.)

Oversight: The supervising faculty member is available to provide review of encounters and provide feedback after care is delivered. (Faculty supervisor would likely consider this only for experienced 4th year medical students performing history and physical exams.)

MEDICAL STUDENT ROLES:

Medical Students in Years One (1) and Two (2) of the MD program:

- Must clearly identify and introduce themselves to the patient and all members of the healthcare team as a medical student.
- Must be under the direct, indirect, or oversight supervision, as outlined in this policy, of a physician at all times who is a member of the clinical site's Medical Staff with an FAU faculty appointment. Student supervision may be delegated to a resident, fellow, or a licensed independent practitioner serving as a healthcare extender.

- May participate in history taking, physical exam, data analysis and have access to medical records with Oversight Supervision from the faculty supervisor and with patient consent that the student may be involved in this level of care.
- May observe in surgery with appropriate consent from the patient and surgeon of record.
- May assist in minor procedures **always under Direct Supervision** when the supervising faculty member agrees that the student has achieved the required level of competence and consent is granted by the patient. (e.g., immunizations, venipuncture and IV placement).
- May not document: progress notes, history and physicals, operative notes, or discharge summaries in the patient's permanent medical record.
- May not write or give verbal orders.

Medical Students Years Three (3) and Four (4) of the MD program:

- Must clearly identify and introduce themselves to the patient and all members of the healthcare team as a medical student.
- Must be under the direct, indirect, or oversight supervision of a physician at all times who is a member of the Facility's Medical Staff with an FAU faculty appointment. Student supervision may be delegated to a resident, fellow, or a licensed independent practitioner serving as a healthcare extender.
- May participate in care and management of the patient under the direct, indirect, or oversight supervision of the supervising physician or designee depending on the situation as defined above.
- May assist in procedures **always under Direct Supervision** when the attending physician agrees that the student has achieved the required level of competence and consent is granted by the patient. (See Procedures section of this policy)
- Third year (M3) students may not call consults to other physicians but may, under the direction of their supervising faculty member, call non-physician consults and schedule appointments.
- Fourth year (M4) students may under direct supervision call consults to other physicians.
- May not write orders or give verbal orders independently. May "scribe" orders only if the supervising faculty member is present and immediately reviews and countersigns the entry.
- May document in the medical record the following: progress notes, history and physicals, operative notes, discharge summaries provided that all student charting in the medical record is clearly indicated as a Medical Student Note. The supervising faculty member will remain directly responsible for the history and physical, progress notes, discharge summary, operative reports and daily visits, as well as compliance with CMS guidelines for student documentation in the medical record.

PROCEDURES:

1. A procedure is defined as any activity that is invasive to the patient, performed in an operating room, requiring a procedure note, or requiring informed consent of the patient.
2. Except as provided in item 3 below, all medical students must be under **Direct Supervision** for all procedures by a faculty supervisor for whom that procedure is within his/her scope of practice. The faculty supervisor must determine the extent to which that student is competent to participate in the procedure, and the patient must provide prior consent to the student's involvement in the procedure.
3. Medical students are expected to assume developmentally appropriate, graduated levels of involvement/participation in procedures during their training. Procedures that medical students should be proficient in when completing medical school, defined by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) for entering residency, include venipuncture and inserting an intravenous line. Third and fourth year students may develop competency in these technical skills under direct supervision such that their clinical supervisor may decide to allow a student to perform

these minor procedures under **Indirect Supervision with Direct Supervision Immediately Available** with the consent of the patient. These are the only procedures that may proceed to indirect supervision at the discretion of the supervising faculty member who is ultimately responsible for the care of the patient.

4. As with all clinical encounters, students must ask for assistance as needed if faced with any circumstance beyond their skill level or comfort. It is the professional expectation that each medical student know the limits of his/her capabilities and request assistance in the interest of patient safety without regard for his/her assessment or fear of reprisal.
5. It is the supervising faculty member and medical student's responsibility to ensure compliance with this policy. Ultimately, the supervising faculty member shall make the determination of the level of involvement/participation each student should have when providing patient care in a clinical learning environment.
6. Medical student activities may not be billed for except as permitted by CMS regulations. It is the responsibility of the supervising health professional to assure compliance with all local, state and federal guidelines regarding the provision of care, as well as documentation, and billing for services provided by the appropriately licensed and/or credentialed professional.

DUTY HOURS POLICY FOR CLINICAL ROTATIONS

Duty hours for FAU medical students while on clinical rotations will conform to the same restrictions mandated by the ACGME for PGY-1 residents:

Maximum Hours of Clinical and Educational Work per Week:

- Clinical and educational work hours for medical students must be limited to no more than 80 hours per week, averaged over a four-week period, and students must have one day off free of clinical work and required education in seven.

Mandatory Time Free of Clinical Work and Education:

- Medical Students should have eight hours off between scheduled clinical work and education periods.
- There may be circumstances when students choose to stay to care for their patients or return to the hospital with fewer than eight hours free of clinical experience and education. This must occur within the context of the 80- hour and the one-day-off-in-seven requirements.
- Medical students must have at least 14 hours free of clinical work and education after 24 hours of in-house call.

Maximum Clinical Work and Education Period Length:

- Clinical and educational work periods for medical students must not exceed 24 hours of continuous scheduled clinical assignments.
- Up to four hours of additional time may be used for activities related to patient safety, such as providing effective transitions of care, and/or student education.
- Additional patient care responsibilities must not be assigned to a medical student during this time.

Clinical and Educational Work Hour Exceptions

- In rare circumstances, after handing off all other responsibilities, a medical student, on their own initiative, may elect to remain or return to the clinical site in the following circumstances:
 - to continue to provide care to a single severely ill or unstable patient
 - humanistic attention to the needs of a patient or family
 - attend unique educational events.

These additional hours of care or education will be counted toward the 80 hour weekly limit.

If a student encounters a violation of the Duty Hours Policy, the student may report it to his/her attending, the clerkship or rotation director, the Third or Fourth Year Directors, the Office of Student Affairs or any FAU faculty or staff member with whom he/she feels comfortable discussing it. If a student prefers to report anonymously, he/she can file an anonymous report on the Student Affairs page of the College of Medicine website under the Reporting tab. Click this link for [Anonymous Reporting](#).

POLICY ON COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

General Infections

Students, including all visiting students, with communicable diseases or conditions will not be permitted to engage in patient contact until such conditions have resolved as documented by a physician. This restriction is necessary to protect the health and safety of FAU patients and staff. Persons with the following medical conditions will not be allowed patient contact without prior medical clearance: 1) active chickenpox, measles, German measles, herpes zoster (shingles), acute hepatitis, and tuberculosis; 2) oral herpes with draining lesions; 3) group A streptococcal disease (i.e., strep throat) until 24 hours after treatment has been received; 4) draining or infected skin lesions (e.g. Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA); or 5) HIV/AIDS (refer to the HIV/AIDS Information and COM Policy below).

A student who has a communicable disease and is unsure whether he/she should participate in patient care should seek medical care by a private physician or a physician on staff at FAU Student Health Services. All students with a communicable disease must receive written medical clearance by a physician prior to returning to clinical care activities. A case-by-case evaluation of each infected student will be done by his/her physician to determine eligibility to perform the duties required on the clinical rotation. Based on the recommendations of his/her physician, it is the responsibility of each infected medical student to notify the College of Medicine Office of Student Affairs if he/she is unable to perform clinical work. Appropriate documentation is required. All such notifications will be kept strictly confidential.

Prior to the start of clinical experiences, a student who has chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV), chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) or HIV/AIDS is required to notify the Office of Student Affairs of his/her status. All such notifications will be kept strictly confidential. Prior to the start of any clinical experiences, infected students are required to seek medical consultation by a physician to determine his/her ability to perform the duties required of the clinical rotation. Medical students are not obligated to answer patient questions related to their own HBV/ HCV/HIV/AIDS status, nor shall they answer such questions related to other students, other health care personnel, or patients. Serologic testing of medical students for HBV/HCV/HIV antibody will not be performed routinely unless the person is seropositive. Testing is recommended when there has been a documented needle or sharp instrument puncture or mucous membrane exposure to the blood or body fluids of patients, or when there has been a medical student-to-patient exposure. Refer to the "Exposure at FAU," "Exposure at a College of Medicine Affiliate Site Not Located on the Campus of FAU" and other policies and procedures in this Handbook.

Students who are at high risk of infection from patients or other personnel because of their immune status or any other reason are encouraged to discuss their work responsibilities and educational activities with their personal health care provider. If the health care provider believes that there are certain assignments the individual should not accept for personal health reasons, this should be discussed with the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs or designee. Accommodations may be available under the Technical Standards. Students should contact the FAU Office for Students with Disabilities to see whether such accommodations are available. Medical students with HBV/HCV/HIV seropositivity shall have periodic physical examinations by their private physician or a physician on staff at FAU Student Health Services. Written health clearance will be provided to the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs or designee, who will notify the student's clerkship/rotation director of his/her ability to return to practice direct patient care. All correspondence will be kept confidential and will not be used as a basis for discrimination.

The greatest theoretical risk of medical student-to-patient transmission of HBV, HCV or HIV/AIDS involves invasive or exposure-prone procedures with manipulation of needles or other sharp objects not under direct visualization. Medical students who have HBV/HCV/HIV seropositivity may not perform invasive or exposure-prone procedures unless such activity is approved in writing by: 1) an expert panel duly constituted to guide and review performance of such procedures (see <https://www.cdc.gov> for more information regarding exposure-prone procedures and recommendations for expert panel oversight); 2) the student's personal physician (who may be a physician from FAU Student Health Services); 3) the clinical clerkship/rotation director; and 4) the Associate Dean for Medical Education or designee.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines for the Management of Hepatitis B virus-Infected Health-Care Providers and Students (<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/hepb.html>) and the

Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (Henderson DK et al. Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology, 2010; 31 (3): 203-232.) suggest that medical students with HBV, HCV and HIV seropositivity can continue to attend classes and participate in clinical clerkships, rotations and preceptorships. For chronically infected HBV/HCV or HIV positive health-care providers and students who plan on performing exposure-prone procedures, an expert panel will be duly constituted to guide and review performance of such procedures. Chronically infected HBV-infected health-care providers and students are NOT required to: 1) repeatedly demonstrate non-detectable HBV viral loads on a greater than semiannual frequency; 2) pre-notify patients of his/her HBV-infection status; or 3) submit to mandatory antiviral therapy. Standard Precautions should be adhered to rigorously in all health care settings for the protection of both patient and provider.

Education and Training

All students initially receive general information pertaining to the prevention and transmission of occupational exposures during the orientation to the College of Medicine. During this time, students will be required to receive immunizations against hepatitis B, meningitis & varicella, and tuberculosis screening if not documented on the history and physical exam form submitted prior to registration. More formal clinical information about the prevention and pathophysiology of all infectious diseases that might potentially be transmitted in a clinical care setting is provided prior to the start of clinical clerkships. This would include education regarding hepatitis A, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, varicella, influenza, meningitis, tuberculosis, and HIV.

Students will be provided with education on universal blood and body fluid precautions during orientation sessions for first year students, and prior to the start of the clinical clerkships. Students will also receive information on infection control and prevention of the spread of communicable disease. During the first day students are assigned to work at a clinical rotation site, the faculty at the affiliate site will provide information regarding the policies and procedures at their respective site that students must follow in the event of exposure, as described below in "Needlestick Injury and Other Potential Blood-borne Pathogen Exposure". **All students are required to complete training in OSHA and HIPAA:**

OSHA

Students are required to complete two modules: Blood Borne Pathogens and Formaldehyde Use. Successful completion of these modules is monitored via the website by the Office of Student Affairs.

HIPAA

HIPAA training is provided to first year medical students during the Fall semester. Additional HIPAA training is provided during orientation to the third year of medical school.

Standard Precautions

Infection control policies are established for the surveillance, prevention, and control of infection caused by a variety of microorganisms. Blood, semen, and vaginal fluids are the three most potentially infectious body fluids, but other body fluids such as cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, and unfixed body tissues should be considered potentially infectious, especially if contaminated with blood. Universal precautions should always be followed, even when handling fluids and tissues that are not normally infectious such as saliva, feces, urine, sweat, sputum, vomitus, and tears; it should be noted that these body fluids carry a greater risk of infection if contaminated with visible blood, which can result from an accidental occurrence or complication of patient contact and procedures.

Students are required to follow appropriate infection control procedures, including the use of personal protective equipment, whenever there is a risk of parenteral, cutaneous, or mucous membrane exposure to blood, body fluids, or aerosolized secretions from any patient, irrespective of the perceived risk of a blood borne or airborne pathogen. Regardless of the real or perceived communicable disease status of the patient, all students and staff should follow standard universal precautions when providing patient care. The basic precautions include:

- Always wash hands before and after patient contact, according to the policy of the clinical site, even if gloves are used.
- Always wear gloves when exposure to blood, body fluids, and other body excretions is likely.
- Use gloves appropriately according to aseptic and/or sterile techniques and always change gloves between patients.
- Wear gowns/aprons when soiling of clothing with blood or body fluids is likely.
- Wear masks, face shields, and eye protection when aerosolization of blood or body fluids may occur.
- Dispose of sharps in designated rigid sharp containers. Never recap needles by hand.
- Dispose of waste saturated with blood or body fluids in designated red biohazardous waste containers.

Exposures to Blood and Other Potentially Hazardous Biological Fluids (Including Needlestick Injuries)

The FAU Department of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) handles cases of occupational exposure for students and staff in FAU clinical and laboratory settings. The FAU policies and procedures pertaining to occupational exposure to contaminated body fluids (e.g., a needlestick injury) in both laboratory and clinical care settings owned or operated by FAU or on the FAU campus for both students and staff are described in the FAU Exposure Control Plan (<https://www.fau.edu/ehs/safety/ecpv2.pdf> also available on FAU's Environmental Health & Safety Manuals and Programs Page: <https://www.fau.edu/ehs/safety/safety-manuals/>). The plan provides for appropriate post-exposure treatment and addresses the key aspects of OSHA Directive 29 CFR Part 1910.1030, Post-exposure Evaluation and Follow-up, located at https://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/data_BloodborneFacts/bbfact04.pdf

Students who become exposed to contaminated body fluids while at a clinic or lab site owned or operated by FAU or on the FAU campus will follow the established follow-up protocols at FAU in order to receive diagnostic and therapeutic care post-exposure. Depending on the level of complexity, diagnostic testing and treatment may be provided at FAU Student Health Services during normal business hours; if complex services are required or exposure takes place when FAU Student Health Services is closed, the student will be referred to obtain care at an outpatient facility in the community.

A student who becomes exposed to contaminated body fluids while at a clinic or lab site that is not owned or operated by FAU or located at the FAU Campus is required to contact his/her supervising faculty member at the affiliate site. This physician will ensure that the student follows the appropriate needlestick protocols (and other appropriate protocols and policies) established at the specific affiliate site in order to receive immediate diagnostic and therapeutic care post-exposure incident. All clinical care sites that are affiliated with the COM are required to have established bio-safety protocols to provide follow-up diagnostic, preventive, and therapeutic care for medical students who sustain needlestick injuries and/or other exposures.

Regardless of the Facility at which the exposure occurs, the FAU College of Medicine provides (and requires of all its affiliated clinical care sites) a system in which all medical students, including visiting students, must report all accidental exposures to blood and other potentially hazardous biological fluids that occur including, but not limited to, accidental needlestick injuries. This process is necessary for the following reasons:

- to quickly evaluate the risk of infection
- to inform the exposed student about treatments available to help prevent infection
- to monitor for side effects of treatments
- to determine if infection subsequently occurs

This process initially involves the immediate provision of appropriate first aid, including ample washing of the exposed area that was punctured by the needle, or otherwise exposed, with soap and water. The subsequent steps are determined based on whether the exposure occurred at a FAU laboratory or clinical setting on a FAU campus or if the exposure occurred at a FAU affiliate hospital or clinical setting not located on a FAU campus or owned or operated by FAU. The below flow-chart below describes the protocol that must be followed by any student who has an exposure to blood and other potentially hazardous biological fluids.

Exposures to Blood & Other Potentially Hazardous Biological Fluids (Includes Needlestick Injuries)



WHERE did the exposure occur?



FAU Laboratory or Clinical Setting on FAU Campus?

Step 1
Immediate provision of appropriate first aid

Step 2
Contact supervisor to report the incident

Step 3
Follow the established Exposure Control Plan per the supervisor in order to receive immediate diagnostic and therapeutic care

Step 4
If unable to follow the Exposure Control Plan, report immediately to the nearest FAU affiliate hospital emergency room for evaluation

Step 5
Contact the FAU Department of Environmental Health & Safety for post-exposure evaluation & follow-up within 24 hours at 561-297-3129

Step 6
Contact the deans of the COM Student Affairs at 561-297-2219 & complete the FAU 'Medical Student Exposure Incident Report Form' online within 24 hours of exposure

FAU Affiliate Hospital or Clinical Setting Not Located on Campus or Owned/Operated by FAU?

Step 1
Immediate provision of appropriate first aid

Step 2
Contact supervising physician to report incident

Step 3
Follow the established hospital or clinical site exposure protocol per the supervising physician in order to receive immediate diagnostic & therapeutic care

Step 4
If unable to follow the hospital or clinical site exposure protocol, report immediately to the nearest FAU affiliate hospital ER for evaluation

Step 5
Contact the deans of the COM Office of Student Affairs at 561-297-2219 and complete the FAU 'Medical Student Exposure Incident Report Form' online within 24 hours of exposure

FAU Affiliate Hospitals/Clinics

- Bethesda Hospital East - Baptist Health
- Bethesda Hospital West – Baptist Health
- Boca Raton Regional Hospital - Baptist Health
- Broward Health
- Caridad Center
- Cleveland Clinic Florida
- Delray Medical Center - Tenet Healthcare
- Joe DiMaggio Children’s Hospital
- Memorial Regional Hospital
- St. Mary’s Medical Center - Tenet Healthcare
- Mission Medical Clinic
- Veterans Administration Hospital Miami
- West Boca Medical Center - Tenet Healthcare

The student will need to contact the Deans of the COM Office of Student Affairs and complete the FAU "[Medical Student Exposure Incident Report Form](https://www.fau.edu/medicine/students/reporting/)" available on the Office of Student Affairs webpage (<https://www.fau.edu/medicine/students/reporting/>). The Deans of the COM Office of Student Affairs must be notified of the exposure and the form must be submitted **within 24 hours of the exposure incident**. Subsequently, the student may require blood testing to rule out the presence of hepatitis B, hepatitis C, HIV, and/or other infectious agents in both the index patient as well as the student. Any student identified as a candidate for post-exposure HIV prophylaxis as a result of this protocol is to be immediately referred to one of the College of Medicine's hospital affiliates or local ambulatory care centers for initiation of medications as prescribed by the medical staff. It should be noted that locating and testing the source individual is critical for appropriate management, including immediate and follow-up testing of the student and/or source and, if medically indicated (e.g., HIV infection), for the student to receive prophylactic antiretroviral medication as soon as possible, preferably within two hours of exposure. More information is available at the Centers for Disease Control web site: <https://www.cdc.gov/>. ***Upon exposure to blood and/or body fluid, the student assumes the responsibility for all charges associated with diagnosis and treatment that are not covered by his/her health insurance plan.***

Confidentiality and Testing

As with any blood-borne exposure, appropriate documentation is necessary. The affiliated clinical site and the COM require that a formal report of the exposure incident or unusual occurrence be filed. The student will need to complete the FAU "Medical Student Exposure Incident Form" as discussed above. The COM shall respect the confidentiality of individuals with blood-borne or airborne pathogens to the extent permitted by state and federal law. Students and personnel will not be tested for HIV without their knowledge or consent, except that in certain circumstances testing may be a condition of employment or may be required by occupational exposure incident protocols. In cases of non-occupational exposure, confidential testing is available through FAU Student Health Services, the Office of Health and Wellness Education (HIV testing only), the student's private health insurance plan, or the Palm Beach County Health Department.

HIV/AIDS Information and COM Policy

It is the policy of the COM to assess the needs of students and faculty with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection on a case-by-case basis. If any such infection occurs in a medical student, any recommendations made or actions taken by the COM will respect the confidentiality and welfare of the student, while also recognizing and responding to issues regarding the welfare of patients, the COM and affiliated hospitals/clinical sites. Each student's situation will be evaluated by the COM on a case-by-case basis.

Students of the COM who are or may become infected with the HIV virus will not be excluded from enrollment or employment, or restricted in their access to university services or facilities, unless individual medical evaluation establishes that such exclusion or restrictions are necessary for the welfare of the student, patients and/or other members of the university community.

Students and members of the COM community who may be at risk for HIV infection are encouraged to get tested. Free HIV counseling and testing is available at FAU Student Health Services and the Office of Health and Wellness Education (<http://www.fau.edu/wellness/#>). For more information concerning these services offered by FAU Student Health Services, please visit <http://www.fau.edu/wellness/hivtesting.php>

Students with Blood-Borne and Airborne Infections

Acquisition of infection from patients and staff, particularly due to respiratory pathogens, is an all too frequent and avoidable event. To help protect students from this risk of nosocomial-acquired infection, the COM has implemented an educational program on respiratory pathogens. Students are taught about blood-borne and respiratory pathogens and protection guidelines during their first week of orientation. A second presentation on blood-borne and respiratory pathogens and guidelines for prevention is given preceding the beginning of clinical rotations in the third year. In addition, all third-year medical students undergo N-95 Respirator Fit Testing before the beginning of clinical rotations. Instruction on the technique of using this personal protective equipment is taught.

Participation in Clinical Care Activities

Students infected with blood-borne or other pathogens shall not, solely because of such infection, be excluded from participation in any phase of medical school life, including educational opportunities, employment, and extra-curricular activities, except as otherwise required by applicable federal, state, or local law or unless their health care condition

presents a direct threat to the health and safety of themselves or others. Students infected with airborne pathogens may be excluded from participation in such activities during the infectious stage of their disease.

Students who know or who have reasonable basis for believing that they are infected with blood-borne or airborne pathogens are expected to seek expert advice regarding their health circumstances to have a clear understanding of the medical issues presented by these infections. See the “Policy on Communicable Disease” above in this Handbook. Supportive, confidential, and individualized counseling is available at FAU Student Health Services.

Students who are at high risk of infection from patients or other personnel because of their immune status or any other reason are encouraged to discuss their work responsibilities and educational activities with their personal health care provider. If the health care provider believes that there are certain assignments the individual should not accept due to personal health reasons, this should be discussed with his/her faculty supervisor. In some cases, students may be unable to participate fully in medical school life or meet the technical standards of the FAU College of Medicine because of their disease. In these cases, the individual should contact the OSA and the FAU Office of Student Accessibility Services to discuss the existence and nature of the disability and whether reasonable accommodations are available. For more information, see the policy on “Students with Disabilities” contained in this Handbook. If a student’s exposure results in the contraction of a disease or disability, the student will be allowed to continue in the education program with as little disruption and as safely as possible depending on the circumstances. The student’s specific medical circumstances will be confidentially evaluated on a case-by-case basis and appropriate recommendations regarding the student’s progress through medical school may be submitted to the MSPPSC for appropriate action, if necessary.

FAU COLLEGE OF MEDICINE SELF-INSURANCE PROGRAM (FAU SIP): REQUIRED REPORTING

Employees of the FAU Board of Trustees, students, residents and healthcare providers have an individual responsibility to report to the FAU SIP any *event* that you reasonably believe may have caused or resulted in an *injury to a patient*.

A reportable event is:

- Any occurrence that has produced an actual, potential, or perceived injury.
- A practice, situation, premise, or product defect that may produce an injury if left uncorrected.
- Any other unexpected or untoward outcome or event where established policy or procedure was not followed.
- Any other conditions you feel may give rise to a malpractice claim.

Medical students must notify their supervisors (clinical preceptor/course director, clerkship attending/clerkship director and the COM Office of Student Affairs) of any reportable event. Residents must also notify their attending and department residency program director of any reportable event.

How to Report: Immediately upon the occurrence of a reportable event, call the FAU SIP representatives at (352) 273-7006. When in doubt regarding an event – **ALWAYS REPORT**.

For more detailed information and examples of reportable events, go to the SIP website located at <http://www.myfispip.org/>, and under “Participant Resources” click on “Incident Reporting Guide.”

INDUSTRY RELATIONS

The Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine (COM) at Florida Atlantic University (FAU) recognizes the possibility of conflict of interest or apparent conflict of interest in interactions with corporations, representatives of corporations and other individuals supported by medically-related industries. At the same time COM recognizes that several medically-related industries provide appropriate and legitimate support for educational and patient care activities. This policy serves to describe an acceptable learning environment where faculty, students and residents are shielded from industry bias. This policy incorporates standards of practice comparable to those adopted by medical schools

nationwide. Please refer to the following link for the complete Industry Relations Policy.
<https://www.fau.edu/medicine/documents/industry-relations-policy.pdf>
<https://www.fau.edu/compliance/conflict-of-interest/>

RESEARCH COMPLIANCE POLICY

All medical students planning to participate in any type of research during their tenure at the College of Medicine, including during the summer and holiday breaks, must comply with all regulatory and training requirements for the research project prior to the start of any activity. The COM Research Office (<https://www.fau.edu/medicine/research/contact/>) can provide guidance if needed.

STUDENT SERVICES

TUITION AND FINANCIAL AID

Financial Aid Counseling

Office of Medical Student Financial Aid

The Office of Medical Student Financial Aid is located in Room 228C and 228D. Both the Director of Medical Student Financial Aid and Associate Director of Medical Student Financial Aid and Student Records are available to meet with students regarding aid eligibility, budgeting, planning for Federal Student Loan Repayment, institutional scholarships and any other financial topic of interest or concern to students. Meetings may be scheduled Monday through Friday, virtually or in-person, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Types of aid

There are several financial aid and scholarship options available to medical students, such as the FAU Graduate Grant, institutional and private scholarships, and federal and private student loans. Financial aid includes:

- FAU Graduate Grant: These awards are based on financial need and are not repaid.
- College of Medicine Scholarships: These awards may be based on merit, financial need, and/or other considerations, and are not repaid.
- External Grants and/or Scholarships: These are grants and scholarships awarded to students by outside agencies, and must be reported to the Medical Student Financial Aid Office.
- Federal Student Loans: These loans offer the option to defer repayment until after graduation or withdrawal from school. They are available to help meet students' cost of attendance after grant and scholarship options have been exhausted. Federal Student Loans are considered a form of financial aid,
 - Unsubsidized Federal Direct Student Loan: Students do not have to demonstrate financial need to receive this loan and interest payments are not subsidized by the government. Because these loans are federally guaranteed, they do not require a credit check. All students are eligible provided they are not in default or own a repayment on a Federal Grant or existing Federal Student Loan, and/or have not exceeded the federal aggregate loan limit. Students may either pay the accrued interest while in school or allow it to be added to the principal balance upon entering repayment. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) must be filed to borrow through this program.
 - Federal Graduate PLUS Loan: This loan is available to students enrolled in graduate programs. The FAFSA must be filed to first determine eligibility through the lower cost Federal Direct Loan program. The student borrower must be credit-worthy, as determined by a mandatory credit check. Students may also apply or reapply with a credit worthy co-borrower.

- **Alternative (Private) Student Loans:** Alternative student loans are credit based and available through multiple lending institutions. The terms of these loans can differ significantly from those of the Federal Loan Programs. Look at items such as deferment, forbearance and repayment provisions, to include what happens to the loan balance in the event of death or permanent disability. These loans are not eligible for forgiveness through the Federal government, to include Public Service Loan Forgiveness, and are seldom used by our students.

FAU College of Medicine Scholarships

There are several College of Medicine Scholarships for which students may apply. Satisfactory academic progress standards must be maintained and all coursework must be passed on the first attempt to maintain eligibility for scholarships that continue in future years. Students who take an approved leave of absence may continue to apply for and receive scholarships upon their return to the College, provided the leave was not granted due to an academic or professional deficiency. Students who fail to maintain satisfactory academic standing or who do not pass all coursework on the first attempt will lose their eligibility for new or renewable scholarships.

Debt Management and Loan Exit Counseling

Debt management counseling is provided to College of Medicine students throughout all four years of the curriculum. Counseling is also available for students seeking additional information about financial aid, personal budgeting, debt management, or other financial issues. Every first-year medical student who receives financial aid is required to schedule an appointment with the Office of Medical Student Financial Aid to discuss Cost of Attendance, Budgeting, and Student Loan Provisions, before the second disbursement of funds in January. In addition, all students are required to participate in financial aid presentations and/or complete online modules covering a broad range of financial literacy topics regarding debt and money management, found on the AAMC's FIRST website.

Graduating seniors will attend exit interviews conducted by the Office of Medical Student Financial Aid. Individual loan summary sheets for student borrowers indicating types of loans, total loan debt and the name(s) and contact information of the loan servicers will be provided. Loan repayment strategies including loan consolidation, loan forgiveness, as well as loan deferment and forbearance options will also be discussed. Students will be encouraged to address any other issues or concerns they may have regarding their student loan debt.

Visit the Office of Medical Student Financial Aid website at <https://www.fau.edu/medicine/students/financial-aid/> for more detailed information about Financial Aid at the College of Medicine. Please feel free to contact the FAU Office of Medical Student Financial Aid at mdfinancialaid@fau.edu for additional information.

Tuition Refund Policy

The COM adheres to the FAU policy on tuition refunds. Withdrawal or dismissal will result in a graded refund of tuition and fees as indicated below, consistent with Florida Atlantic University Regulations 8.002, "Fee Assessment and Remittance", 8.003, "Special Fees, Fines and Penalties", and 8.006, "Waiver of Tuition and Other Fees". The date of withdrawal is determined by the date that a written application for withdrawal is received by the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions for that semester. See <https://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter-8/>

1. Students who withdraw from the University before the end of the first week of classes will receive a full refund, less nonrefundable fees.
2. Students who withdraw from the University during the second through fourth weeks of the current semester for purposes other than exceptional circumstances will receive a 25 percent refund, less nonrefundable fees.
3. Students who withdraw after the fourth week of classes will not receive a refund, unless the withdrawal takes place due to exceptional circumstances, such as illness, military conscription, or death of an immediate family member (see http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.013_Exceptional_Circumstances_Withdrawal.pdf). Situations such as employment changes, relocation of home, transportation problems, dislike for the instructor/course, etc. are not considered "exceptional circumstances." For more information, see <https://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter-8/>

4. All third-party charges, including health and disability insurance, must be negotiated directly with the carrier or plan. If enrolled in the Florida Atlantic University Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) through Insurance for Students (IFS), you remain enrolled until the end of the coverage period for which you have paid. There is no option to terminate your coverage unless you enter the armed forces. In that case, you will be refunded a prorated share of your premium. If enrolled in the Insurance for Students (IFS) Disability Insurance Program offered by FAU, the policy allows a prorated return of unearned premiums.

STUDENT RECORDS AND REGISTRATION

Student Academic Records Policy

The College will adhere to The Florida Atlantic University Board of Trustees regulation 4.008 (Access to Student Education Records) <https://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter-4/>

A student, by written request to the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions or Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, may examine his or her official academic record. The record shall be made available for review by the student within 30 days of the request. The academic record shall be examined, under observation of the College of Medicine Office of Student Affairs designated personnel, and shall not be altered, destroyed, or removed from the office.

Enrollment in Other Degree Programs

Students who would like to apply to other certificate or degree programs while they are attending medical school must obtain approval from the Office of Student Affairs prior to applying.

ACADEMIC ADVISING AND ASSISTANCE

Academic Societies

Academic Societies at the College of Medicine serve to support student engagement in and out of the classroom by creating a supportive, reflective, learner-centered environment for the personal and professional development and to enrich the foundation towards a successful transition into medical school and beyond for each student. The Academic Societies were named by the College's inaugural class of 2015 after two impactful and prominent physicians, Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell and Dr. Charles Drew. Each student is assigned to one of the two Societies at the start of medical school. The societies also help in building a sense of community by developing long-term personal relationships among peers, including supporting self-care strategies including physical and emotional wellbeing.

Student Affairs Deans and Director of Student Success Services: The Deans for Student Affairs and the Director of Student Success Services present students with information on the resources available to them to support student success and wellbeing. These sessions are delivered in large group as well as through individually scheduled meetings. During the beginning of medical school, the Student Affairs Deans and the Director of Student Success schedule "check-in" meetings with the students to discuss their transition into medical school and to encourage the use of resources that promote student success. Student Affairs Dean also begin conversation in career interests during these Year 1 meetings. Throughout a students' tenure through medical school, the Deans for Student Affairs provide sessions on professional developed and career advising through lecture, workshops, and individual meetings.

Medical Student Peer Mentoring: Second year medical students are paired with incoming first year students to serve as mentors. Responsibilities of the peer mentors include:

- Help the incoming student acclimate and adjust to the new physical and academic environment at the College of Medicine.
- Provide support and guidance from the medical student perspective
- Reiterate resources available to student at the College and University
- Engage in and foster a collegial environment for all students

MD CAREER ADVISING

The Office of Student Affairs sponsors many career development and advising activities. These activities include presentations of the AAMC Careers in Medicine curriculum, Careers in Medicine panel discussions, lunchtime conferences held by specialty interest groups, and individual meetings with Career Coaches and Deans for Student Affairs. The major purpose of these activities is to provide students with a framework for thinking through the important issues in selecting a career path that is a good fit both personally, professionally, and academically. The programs will also help to inform students on what it is like to practice within a given specialty.

The AAMC Careers in Medicine (CiM) is a career planning program designed to help students choose a medical specialty and select and apply to a residency program. This four-phase process guides students through the elements of career planning, including self-understanding, exploring a variety of medical careers, and choosing a specialty to meet their career objectives. As students work through the CiM program, they will gain the tools to make an informed decision. To access this program, student may go to the Careers in Medicine web page and enter their AAMC user name and password. For further information regarding CiM, please contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Residency Application Process

The Office of Student Affairs is dedicated to helping students with the entire residency application process. This includes assistance with the NRMP, San Francisco Match, the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS), CVs, personal statements, preparing for interviews, and individual mock interviews. Key activities include the following:

- Career Coaching Program consisting of longitudinal career coaching from an assigned faculty member from M2-M4 year
- Visioning Night held in January of the third year
- CiM presentations held in the third year and fourth year on various topics concerning the residency process
- Review of CVs and personal statements
- Issuance of ERAS tokens
- Review of the MSPE (Dean's letter)
- Upload of transcripts and MSPEs to ERAS
- Individual mock interviews
- Individualized Match preparation meetings with Career Coaches and Deans for Student Affairs
- Advice on residency process and general career advice

ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE

Tutoring, Study Skills, and Monitoring of Student Performance

FAU COM faculty members (course/clerkship directors and other course faculty) can provide students who request or need course/clerkship content-specific academic assistance and support. In addition, the Director of Student Success Services oversees tutorial services for first- and second-year students provided by upperclassmen. These tutoring sessions are free for all medical students. Tutoring sessions offered to the entire class are recorded and made available in the Student Success course along with associated session materials. When necessary, tutoring by upperclassmen may be provided on an individual and small group basis.

The Director of Student Success Services provides 1) group study skills sessions open to all students early in Year 1 and as needed in other years, and 2) individual meetings focused on study, test-taking, and other skills for students in all years. Students should contact COM faculty members (course/clerkship directors and other course faculty) directly with a request for content-specific academic assistance and support. Students may access tutoring services or assistance from the Director of Student Success Services or through any of the following means: self-referral; suggestion from course directors, faculty, advisors, and mentors; referral by the OSA; or recommendation or mandate of the SCRC or MSPPSC.

Course and clerkship directors and SCRC monitor student performance regularly. In Years 1 and 2, course directors review scores on all exams and faculty feedback on small group performance to identify students who are underperforming academically, professionally, or with any of the required competencies, and provide assistance, which may include course content-specific academic assistance and support they arrange and/or referral to SCRC

and/or the Director of Student Success Services. In Year 3, clerkship directors monitor all written assessments and patient/procedure logs and meet with each student assigned to them as a Feedback Mentor every two months throughout the year. Course and clerkship directors discuss academic difficulties with their students and can arrange referrals to SCRC and/or the Director of Student Success Services as needed.

Students who are concerned that they may be underperforming or concerned about potentially failing a course, clerkship or rotation are encouraged to self-refer by making an appointment with the Director of Student Success Services, Dr. Christine Woolf. This is an opportunity for a student to express their academic and personal concerns. Also, any student can make an appointment with the Director of Student Success Services to help them develop strategies to meet class or rotation expectations. Students are encouraged to have ongoing communication with course faculty to answer questions and obtain additional academic assistance.

In addition to COM tutoring services, FAU Academic Advising Services (<https://www.fau.edu/uas/>) offers the following individual and group programs: tutoring, study skill strategies, time management, improving organizational skills, and other special techniques designed to assist students with meeting the rigorous demands of the curriculum.

MEDICAL STUDENT WELLNESS

The University provides services to help medical students succeed academically and professionally. All students are encouraged to take care of themselves physically, emotionally, mentally, socially, and spiritually. Physical wellness is achieved by eating properly, exercising regularly, not smoking, avoiding excessive alcohol and the use of recreational substances, and adopting healthy sleep habits.

- Visit the campus Recreation Center to exercise with free weights, machines, or aerobics classes.
- Visit the FAU Student Health Service for minor illnesses, injuries, and regular preventive care (physical exams, screening tests, and immunizations).
- Visit the Office of Health and Wellness Education for a variety of health educational programs, personal consultations, computerized fitness testing, massage, and acupuncture, as well as workshops on wellness topics important for all young adults.

Emotional wellness can be maintained by becoming better organized, managing time well, keeping in touch with family and friends, managing stress well, knowing yourself, and developing meaningful personal relationships as well as collegial relationships with other students and faculty who could serve as tutors and mentors. Keeping well spiritually is not limited to your specific place of worship but can be defined as keeping in touch with your own inner source of strength, often through meditation, prayer, contemplation, and visualization. Finally, while it is recognized that time for extracurricular activities will often be limited, medical students are encouraged to continue their interests, hobbies, and personal relationships while in medical school.

Personal Counseling

Personal counseling services are provided by FAU Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) (<http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>). **The Counseling Center's records and information are considered confidential and are set apart from all other records at the University.** Together with the Office of Health and Wellness Education (<http://www.fau.edu/wellness/>), CAPS provides confidential psychological evaluations and consultations for students in individual and group sessions; psycho-educational and wellness programs on a variety of mental health topics, including stress management, time management, depression, personality profiles, identifying cognitive strengths, anger management, relationships, maintaining academic and social balance, study skills, test-taking skills, enhancing self-esteem, and leadership; seminars alerting the University community to the early-warning signs, recognition and follow-up of disruptive or troubled students; and neuropsychological evaluations designed to enhance academic performance and retention.

Student counseling services offered by CAPS include:

- Individual, group and relationship counseling provided by psychologists, clinical social workers, mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, and supervised graduate student trainees
- Psychiatric medication services
- Alcohol and drug assessment and counseling
- Counseling in life skills and life choices
- Workshops and seminars in interpersonal and wellness areas

As described on the CAPS website, good reasons for seeking counseling include “sad or nervous a lot; difficulty with alcohol or drugs; thinking about harming yourself or others; trouble adjusting to college life or studies; relationship problems; a recent trauma you can’t resolve; questions about career or identity; feeling lonely or homesick; roommate or friendship problems; body image or weight problems; feeling too much stress; difficulty with sex or intimacy; wanting assistance solving personal questions or life problems.”

You can visit or call CAPS and request a half-hour intake session with one of the counselors. At the first appointment, the counselor and student make decisions about what kind of help is needed and will be most beneficial. Students requiring immediate help can be seen on an emergency basis the same day. CAPS is located on the 2nd floor above the Breezeway Cafeteria, about a 5-minute walk from the Charles E. Schmidt Biomedical Science Center building. The contact information for CAPS is:

PHONE: (561) 297-3540

OFFICE HOURS: Mon and Thurs, 8:00 am - 6:00 pm; Tues, Wed and Fri, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

LOCATION: Student Services Building (SSB #8) Room 229

Medical students seeking personal counseling should call CAPS during normal business hours to make an appointment. Whenever possible, special appointments will be made to accommodate students’ schedules. Urgent or crisis matters will be triaged immediately with on-campus psychological services or referral to services in the community.

Support is also available on evening and weekends. **In an immediate emergency, call 911.** Otherwise, choose the option that best suits your needs:

- **CAPS Crisis Line 561-297-3540**
If you (or a friend) are experiencing distress and need someone to talk with in the middle of the night or on the weekend, call the CAPS main number, follow the prompts and you will be immediately connected to a licensed therapist.
- **2-1-1 United Way of Broward and Palm Beach Counties** - A local 24hr hotline that assists in suicide prevention as well as information and referrals to health, social, and human services. Dial 2-1-1
- **ULifeline**- A nationwide 24hr service that forwards your call to the nearest crisis hotline. 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- **FAU Victim Services** - A 24hr resource and support service for anyone in the University community who has been a victim of actual or threatened violence. (561) 297-0500

Faculty, course directors, mentors, and deans may also provide counseling for students’ personal issues that do not require the services of a psychologist. The COM recognizes that many physical and psychological health issues confronting medical students may be of a sensitive nature and that a doctor-patient relationship between FAU faculty members and students is inconsistent with an appropriate teacher-student relationship. FAU faculty members who provide health care services of a sensitive nature to any medical student may have no involvement in the academic evaluation or promotion of that student. **See *Policy on Recusal from Academic Evaluation of Students by Faculty in this Handbook***.

The College of Medicine has adopted the AAMC *COMPACT BETWEEN TEACHERS AND LEARNERS OF MEDICINE* to serve as a guide for appropriate relationships between faculty members and learners (students and residents). **See *Article III of the COM Student Mistreatment Policy in the COM Policies section of this Handbook and website link***. (<https://www.fau.edu/medicine/students/reporting/>). Incidents that violate appropriate teacher-learner relationships can be reported to the OSA or the University Ombudsperson (ombuds@fau.edu). Information will be treated as confidentially as possible and will be dealt with accordingly by the Dean or designee.

The Office of the Ombuds (<http://www.fau.edu/ombuds/index.php>) is an additional resource available to medical students. The Ombuds functions independently and serves as a neutral problem-solver, has access to all University offices, records and personnel. The Ombuds provides information on processes, refers to appropriate offices, investigates, recommends and mediates.

Professionals Resource Network (PRN)

PRN is a program designated as the State of Florida's Impaired Practitioners Program. The mission of PRN is to protect the health and safety of the citizens of Florida through early identification, referral for evaluation/appropriate treatment, and accurate monitoring techniques of impaired healthcare professionals. PRN's services are available to all licensed practitioners, those in the process of applying for a license, temporary license holders, residents, medical students and requests from other state Physician Health Programs. By enrolling at FAU COM, students consent to referral to PRN if deemed appropriate by FAU College of Medicine authorities. For more information about PRN, please visit their website (<http://www.flprn.org/>).

FAU STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

Preventive and Therapeutic Health Services

The Student Health Services (SHS) at FAU provides registered medical students with confidential, professional, culturally sensitive primary medical care and health education for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of routine illness and injuries. All students are required to pay a student health fee per academic year, which entitles them to unlimited office visits at no additional charge to see a licensed primary care physician, nurse practitioner, or registered nurse, as well as access to receive immunizations, lab tests, and office procedures. There is a nominal charge for ancillary services, such as vaccines, lab tests, medications, and office procedures, which is considerably lower than that charged by local urgent care centers and emergency rooms. The health fee is paid at the time of registration prior to the first day of class.

Students requesting clinical care services are expected to schedule an appointment whenever possible. Students without appointments are first triaged by a Registered Nurse and then referred to see a nurse practitioner or physician based on the type and severity of symptoms and/or urgency of the medical complaint. Appointments are required to access Office of Health and Wellness Education services and personal consultations. The following is an outline of services offered to registered, health-fee paying students through the SHS.

Clinical Care Services

- General Medical Clinic – primary care services, including physical examinations and screenings; diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic illness and injuries
- Women's Health Services – prevention and treatment, including pap and pelvic exams; colposcopy performed by a gynecologist
- Laboratory – CLIA-waived testing done on site. SHS has entered into an agreement with local community laboratories to provide services for a discount to FAU students. Typical tests include blood, urine, cultures, STD checks, pregnancy, mono, Strep, and others.

Office Procedures

- EKG, TB screenings, respiratory therapy, vision screening, audiology, pap smears, suturing, allergy injections (with allergist prescription), and IV hydration
- Immunizations: MMR (measles, mumps, rubella), hepatitis A and B, influenza, tetanus/diphtheria, varicella, meningitis, HPV, and others

Office of Health and Wellness Education

- Services: one-on-one consultations; Micro-Fit computerized fitness assessment; anonymous HIV testing and counseling;
- Special events: health screenings; theme weeks; health fairs
- Alternative therapies: massage therapy, aromatherapy, acupuncture
- Prescription medications
- Over-the-counter products, including vitamin and herbal supplements, first aid products, cold and flu products, aromatherapy, and more

Services Not Provided

- X rays and other sophisticated diagnostic testing
- Specialty physician care (i.e., obstetrics, surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology, cardiology, gastroenterology, etc.) and dental care
- Emergency care after clinic hours
- Overnight infirmary services

For the above services, referrals are made to several local hospitals, pharmacies and physicians. The student must assume financial responsibility, as the Student Health Fee only covers services that are performed at campus clinics.

EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

On campus: Call the FAU Police Department at (561) 297-3500. Off campus: Call 911 or (561) 297-3500 or go to the nearest hospital ER. A list of nearby hospitals is located on the Student Health Services web site:

<http://www.fau.edu/shs/>

For urgent, not life-threatening, situations, you may go to the FAU SHS during the hours of operation Monday through Friday. If healthcare services are required outside SHS Clinic hours, you may contact one of the nearby facilities listed below or your private physician. Please note that costs of all services provided outside the Student Health Center are the student's responsibility and are NOT covered by the health fee.

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Boca Raton Regional Hospital 800 Meadows Road, Boca Raton 561-395-7100 | CVS Minute Clinic 520 S. Federal Highway, Boca Raton 561-362-3240 | MD Now Medical Center 7035 Beracasa Way, Ste. 105, Boca Raton 561-361-1515 |
| West Boca Medical Center 21644 State Road 7, Boca Raton 561-488-8000 | US Healthworks 1786 NW 2nd Ave., Boca Raton 561-368-6920 | Boca Regional Urgent Care 20665 Lyons Road #A3, Boca Raton 561-883-6677 |

FAU Crisis Action and Victim Advocacy Center

The [FAU Crisis Action Guide](#) was developed by the University's safety committee to provide pertinent information for the FAU community in the event of an emergency or crisis.

The [FAU Victim Advocacy Center](#) provides free and confidential services to assist students, faculty, staff, and university visitors who have experienced actual or threatened violence. The Center is dedicated to providing advocacy and assisting students in overcoming traumatic events. Victim advocates provide comprehensive supportive services to aid in recovery from assault, battery, relationship abuse (physical, verbal or emotional), sexual and/or attempted sexual battery (acquaintance rape, date rape, stranger rape, molestation), stalking (repeated following or harassment), hate and/or property crimes. Clients are provided with information and options and are free to decide which, if any, course of action they will pursue.

Victims Services

The victim advocate can help you with information about your options in cases of rape, sexual harassment, stalking, cyber stalking, relationship violence, assault, battery and other crimes. **You DO NOT have to make a police report to utilize the services of a victim advocate.** The advocate can provide crisis intervention, emotional support, evaluation of options, and an explanation of the legal process.

- Crime victims have certain rights in the State of Florida such as possible restitution and/or compensation, to be present, informed and heard protection from intimidation, to submit an impact statement and the right to have an advocate present at depositions. It is the job of Victim Services to assure that victims obtain their rights.
- Other services include assistance filing Victim Compensation forms, assistance with the injunction process, referral to on-campus and local social service agencies, liaison with police departments, safety planning, accompaniment through the criminal and judicial system and documentation of victimization to employers or professors.
 - The Victim Advocacy Program is for all students, faculty, and staff who may become victims of crime either **off or on any FAU campus**. Victim Services is located in within the FAU Police/Traffic and Parking Department in Building CO 69. Contact victim services at (561) 297-0500 or visit www.fau.edu/police/victim.

FAU Police and Public Safety Department

The FAU Police Department (<http://www.fau.edu/police/>) is a full-service police department with a twenty-four hour dispatch. It is staffed with state certified police officers and a variety of civilian positions. It provides a variety of services including a full-time victim's advocate, crime prevention education, four certified Rape Aggression Defense (a women's self-defense course) instructors, three certified crime prevention practitioners, criminal investigations, and parking services. The department also has a Community Service Officer program staffed by FAU students. Other services provided to the FAU community include fingerprinting, providing extra police for special events, lost and found, and card access to buildings using OWL cards. The OWL CARD is swiped at the card reader and if the cardholder is authorized, access is granted and a log maintained of the transaction. **For problems or questions related to card access to the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine (BC-71), contact Debbie Bradley (561) 297-2503 or John Gabrielsen (561) 297-4079** Only these authorized staff add or remove people, clearances, or times.

Emergency Number: 24 hours a day – 7 days a week (561) 297-3500

- **Students on campus who need emergency assistance should call the FAU Police Department at (561)-297-3500.**
- **Students who need emergency services and are not currently on campus should call 911 or (561)-297-3500.**
- **Students can also contact the Victim Advocacy Center for free and confidential services if the student experiences actual or threatened violence.** The Victim Advocacy Program is for all students, faculty, and staff who may become victims of crime either **off or on any FAU campus**. Victim Services is located in within the FAU Police/Traffic and Parking Department in Building CO 69. Contact victim services at (561) 297-0500 or victimservices@fau.edu or visit at <http://www.fau.edu/police/victimservices/>.

POLICY REGARDING ACCESSING HEALTH SERVICES

Medical students may be excused from classes or clinical rotations in order to access health services as described in the College of Medicine Attendance Policy. Students should make every effort to schedule elective healthcare appointments during Independent Study Time or White Space Time. If this is not possible and students must miss mandatory activities, the course or clerkship director may require make-up coursework. In the event of urgent or

emergent medical issues that require an absence from class or clinical activities, students should contact the Office of Student Affairs, course and clerkship directors as soon as possible. Students are expected to follow all relevant College of Medicine policies governing communicable diseases and percutaneous exposure and should be excused from classes or clinical activities in a timely manner in order to adhere to these policies.

FAU CAMPUS RESOURCES & FACILITIES

Library Services

FAU's Medical Library collection is located digitally at <https://library.fau.edu/medical> and physically in the S.E. Wimberly Library is located on the Boca Raton campus. The S.E. Wimberly Library offers study spaces, computer workstations, wireless connection and a wide variety of library services. The latter includes copying, printing, interlibrary loans, reference service, and individual assistance in using databases and other virtual resources. The Library is a member of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. Hours of operation can be found at <https://library.fau.edu/hours>.

Transportation and Parking

Medical students are encouraged to review the University's Parking Rules and Regulations. Students will be provided a copy of the University's Parking Rules and Regulations when they purchase their virtual parking pass. The regulations are also posted on the Parking and Transportation website at <http://www.fau.edu/parking/>. It is the responsibility of each student to become familiar and comply with the University's Parking and Transportation Rules and Regulations. All questions may be answered by reviewing the website or calling Parking and Transportation at (561) 297-2771.

Contact Information for Accrediting and Governing Agencies

Students who wish to file a complaint with FAU's accrediting agencies or the Florida State University System Board of Governors may contact:

- Southern Association for Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges - <http://sacscoc.org>
- Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME): Any person concerned about the quality of an undergraduate medical education program accredited by the LCME may contact the [Secretariat](#) to discuss lodging a complaint. Only those complaints will be investigated that, if substantiated, may constitute noncompliance with accreditation standards. The LCME will not intervene on behalf of an individual complainant regarding, for example, matters of admission, appointment, promotion, or dismissal of faculty or students.
- Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME): Any person concerned about the quality of a graduate medical education program accredited by the ACGME may file a formal complaint through <https://www.acgme.org/Residents-and-Fellows/Report-an-Issue/Office-of-Complaints>
- Board of Governors - <http://www.flbog.edu/contact/>

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) POLICIES

All College of Medicine students who are granted access to FAU-issued computing and technology resources (desktops, laptops, tablets, mobile phones, printers, etc.), application systems or access to the FAU network must adhere to the requirements described in the [Information and Data Security Policies](#) manual. The manual details the mandatory standards and policies enforced by FAU and the COM IT Office to protect information systems and assets from internal and external threats. For more information, see <http://www.fau.edu/security/>

The privilege of using the computing and technology resources provided by FAU is not transferable or extendible by students to people or groups outside of the school and terminates when a student is no longer enrolled in the College of Medicine.

This policy is provided to make all users aware of the responsibilities associated with efficient, ethical, and lawful use of technology resources. If a student violates any of the terms and conditions named in this policy; privileges may be terminated, access to FAU technology resources may be denied, and appropriate disciplinary action may be applicable. Accordingly, this policy establishes the expectations for students regarding the utilization of technology devices provided by FAU for educational purposes.

iPads and Laptop Computers

All students must take personal responsibility for the security of the equipment, software and data in their care. iPads and laptop computers provided to students are the property of FAU and, as such, will be subject to inspection or log monitoring at any time. COM IT may also choose to remotely disable a student's iPad if the device or data has been compromised, is lost or stolen, or if a student is in non-compliance with established policy and/or directives.

All iPads and laptops are loaned for academic purposes and students should understand that there is no reasonable expectation of privacy concerning data or software on these devices.

Theft or damage to any device is the sole responsibility of the student who will bear all costs for replacing the parts or purchasing a new device. The student will provide payment for the replacement or repair of the device, which will be processed between the student, COM IT Office and COM Office of Student Affairs.

All students will coordinate the return their devices to the COM IT Office at the end of their medical education. Failure to return the devices will result in a delay of receipt of their graduate diploma.

Additional standards related to FAU-issued computing devices are as follows:

- Unauthorized or unlicensed software must not be installed or loaded on laptops. Students may choose to install Apps on the iPads if they are either educational-based, part of classroom exercises, or are of benefit to the learning process. No gaming software is permitted unless approved by the curriculum and CoM IT.
- Students must ensure that their device is not used by unauthorized persons.
- Students must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the device is not damaged through misuse.
- COM IT will maintain temporary "loaner" iPads and laptops in the event that the unit requires repair or maintenance. Theft or damage to any device is the sole responsibility of the student who will bear all costs for replacing the parts or purchasing a new device.
- All students are encouraged to regularly save all data to the network drives and a central cloud location, i.e., OneDrive, Blackboard, iCloud, etc. The COM will not be responsible for any loss of data on the devices.
- Devices should never be left unattended in public places (e.g., car, library, restaurant, restroom, etc.).
- Students must immediately report any possible security breaches to COM IT.
- Students must abide by all of the IT policies of FAU in addition to those specifically for the COM. This includes all HIPAA and FERPA regulations pertaining to security and privacy.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Students may choose to bring their own mobile, tablet or laptop device and connect to the FAU network for official business, educational or research purposes. COM IT is not responsible for either the physical or data security of the device or its contents and will not provide software installations, troubleshooting, service or maintenance for any personal device. The student is responsible for the proper care of their personal device, including any costs of repair, replacement or any modifications, software installations and other support needed to use the device at school.

Violations of any school policies, administrative procedures or school rules involving a student's personally owned device may result in the loss of use of the device in school and/or disciplinary action. Additionally, FAU and the College of Medicine reserve the right to contact the University Police Department or other law enforcement if there is any reason to believe that the student has used their personal device to violate federal, state or local laws, engaged in any criminal or unlawful behavior, or is involved in other misconduct while using their personal device while

connected to the FAU network. FAU's Office of Information Technology (OIT) and COM IT will provide all relevant information to law enforcement on the log activity of the personal device(s) connected to the FAU network.

The student may not use personal devices to record, transmit or post photos or videos of any information pertaining to HIPAA, confidential or sensitive information, or of any academic activities without the explicit permission of faculty during their coursework. The student, while connected to the secured FAU network, should only use their device to access relevant files and educational content on an as-needed basis.

Receiving and Returning Your Devices

Student iPads and laptops are and will remain property of FAU and all users shall adhere to this policy and acceptable use policy for technology. iPads will be distributed at M1 orientation upon signature of the COM iPad Agreement document and the Acceptable Use Policy.

Students who withdraw from FAU for any reason must return their individual school iPad or laptop on or before the date of termination. If a student fails to return the device at the end of the school year or upon termination of enrollment in the College of Medicine, the student will be subject to criminal prosecution or civil liability. The student will also pay the replacement cost of the iPad. Failure to return the iPad will result in a theft report filed with appropriate law enforcement. Random inspections of student iPads, which can be done in person or remotely, will be conducted to ensure compliance with provisions of this policy.

Lost or Stolen Devices

iPads or laptops that are stolen or lost must be reported immediately to the COM IT Office. iPads issued by the COM include internal tracking and security software. In the event the iPad is reported lost or stolen, this internal tracking security software will be used to locate the device and/or remotely disable the device.

Damaged or Malfunctioning Devices

There is a need/responsibility to protect the FAU-issued devices by the University and the student.

- Students are responsible for the general care of the iPad or laptop issued to them by FAU.
- Repair needs must be taken to the COM IT Office for an evaluation of the equipment.
- Devices that malfunction or are damaged must be reported to the office within 24 hours or sooner.

In the event there are repeated incidents of accidental damages to the iPad or laptop, the COM and student will develop an action plan to identify appropriate strategies to ensure the device is maintained and utilized in a safe manner.

Devices that have been intentionally damaged from student misuse or neglect will be repaired with the cost being borne by the student. In the event that a student's iPad or laptop needs repair, a loaner device will be provided as soon as possible while the device is being repaired.

Upkeep and Care of the Device

Students are responsible for:

- Keeping their device battery charged for school each day.
- Using a clean, soft or anti-static cloth to clean the screen, no cleansers of any type.
- Keeping their device in a secure location and never left in an unlocked locker, unlocked car or in any unsupervised or unsecure location.
- Not leaving the device in a place that is experiencing hot or cold conditions. (i.e. car in summer or winter). Extreme heat will damage the unit and extreme cold will cause severe screen damage.
- Not removing the protective case provided
- Not changing device settings
- Using their device in a responsible and ethical manner.
- Obeying all applicable rules and laws concerning behavior and communication that apply to iPad/computer use.

Originally Installed Software and/or Apps

The apps and operating system originally installed by FAU must remain on the device in usable condition and be easily accessible at all times. From time to time, the school may add additional apps and Operating System upgrades. The licenses for this software may require that the software be deleted at the end of the course. Upgrade versions of licensed software/apps are available from time to time.

FAU reserves the right to restrict content to be installed on the device. Students will be provided with purchase codes (at no charge) to download some basic apps. Throughout the school year, additional apps may be added by the school or the student.

In the event that significant or irreparable technical difficulties occur, the iPad will be restored from a backup or will be reset to factory settings in the event a home computer is not available. FAU does not accept responsibility for the loss of any apps or documents deleted due to the necessity of a re-format and/or re-image.

Students may install appropriate personal apps on their iPad via their personal iTunes account. FAU will, within reason, provide configuration settings that will not allow inappropriate content/apps/music to be installed on the iPad. This does not, however, limit what can be downloaded to the student's individual account or other personal device when they are not on the school's network.

Students will be expected to delete student music, photos, and apps in the event storage space becomes an issue. Students who have an Apple id should save work to the digital storage provided by iCloud or email documents to themselves. FAU reserves the right to inspect a student's iPad. This includes but is not limited to email, documents, pictures, music, or other components associated with all FAU technology and computing resources. The end user has no expectation of privacy.

EMAIL POLICY

FAU uses electronic mail (e-mail) to provide official information to students, and a student's FAU e-mail account is the official method the College of Medicine uses to communicate with students. Students must check their FAU e-mail accounts daily. Only the College's faculty, staff, students, and other persons who have received permission under the appropriate authority are authorized users of the FAU e-mail systems and resources. Use of e-mail is encouraged where such use supports the University's academic goals and facilitates communication between faculty and students. However, if a student uses email in an unacceptable manner, he/she is subject to sanctions, including but not limited to, having his/her campus e-mail account deactivated. The student will receive an initial warning and reports of any subsequent violations will be sent to the MSPPSC for final recommendations and action. Responding to emails from all faculty and staff in a respectful, sensitive, and polite manner within 24 hours of receipt is required of all students.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

The following University policies are of particular significance to the College of Medicine; students are expected to be aware of these policies and adhere to them.

FAU Policy on Consensual Relations:

<http://www.fau.edu/policies/files/1.10%20Consensual%20Relations.pdf>

FAU Policy on Drug-Free Environment:

<http://www.fau.edu/policies/files/1.6%20Drug-Free%20Environment.pdf>

FAU No Smoking Policy:

<https://www.fau.edu/healthycampus/tobaccofree/FAQs.php>

FAU Regulation 4.007 (Code of Conduct):

<https://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter-4/>

FAU Emergency Policies:

<http://www.fau.edu/policies/files/1.14%20Emergency%20Management.pdf>

FAU Regulation 7.008 (Anti-Harassment/Anti-Discrimination):

<https://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter-7/>

FAU Regulation 5.013: (Executive Service)

<https://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter-5/>

FAU Regulation 5.014 (University Support Personnel System Employee Performance Evaluations)

<https://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter-5/>

FAU Regulations and Policies: <http://www.fau.edu/regulations/>

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: The Hippocratic Oath

I do solemnly vow, to that which I value and hold most dear:

That I will honor the Profession of Medicine, be just and generous to its members, and help sustain them in their service to humanity;

That just as I have learned from those who preceded me, so I will instruct those who follow me in the science and the art of medicine;

That I will recognize the limits of my knowledge and pursue lifelong learning to better care for the sick and to prevent illness;

That I will seek the counsel of others when they are more expert so as to fulfill my obligation to those who are entrusted to my care;

That I will not withdraw from my patients in their time of need;

That I will lead my life and practice my art with integrity and honor, using my power wisely;

That whatsoever I shall see or hear of the lives of my patients that is not fitting to be spoken, I will keep in confidence;

That into whatever house I shall enter, it shall be for the good of the sick;

That I will maintain this sacred trust, holding myself far aloof from wrong, from corrupting, from the tempting of others to vice;

That above all else I will serve the highest interests of my patients through the practice of my science and my art;

That I will be an advocate for patients in need and strive for justice in the care of the sick.

I now turn to my calling, promising to preserve its finest traditions, with the reward of a long experience in the joy of healing.

I make this vow freely and upon my honor.

APPENDIX B: Conditions of Acceptance

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

Our offer of admission to the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine carries the following contingencies which must be met before you matriculate on XXX. You must:

1. Satisfactorily complete all coursework that you are taking now or will take between now and the start of medical school
2. Satisfactorily complete all prerequisite courses for entry to the College of Medicine
3. Provide evidence that you have received, or qualified for, a bachelor's degree or higher
4. Furnish official final transcripts from all institutions attended beyond high school by June 1, 2019

5. Provide a clear national criminal background check through Certiphi Screening, Inc. facilitated through AAMC. You will receive a notice from Certiphi Screening, Inc. asking for permission to run a background check after XXX. Follow the instructions provided by Certiphi Screening, Inc. and grant permission to run the background check. Information on the criminal background check can be found in the XXXX AMCAS Instruction Manual.
6. Complete an additional level 2 background check, including fingerprinting and drug testing, through Complio. You will receive information from the Office of Student Affairs with directions on how to create your Complio profile and complete the required level 2 background check.
7. Complete the immunization and health forms on Complio by the specified deadline. You will receive information from the Office of Student Affairs with directions on how to create your Complio profile and complete the required pre-orientation paperwork.
8. Complete ALL pre-orientation paperwork as specified by the Office of Student Affairs by the appropriate deadlines
9. Provide evidence that you have health and disability insurance (or are covered by another individual for both types of insurance)
10. Continue to maintain and exhibit the high moral character expected of individuals entrusted with the privilege of studying medicine

An informational website for new medical students will be available in April and will be emailed to you. The site will contain information about your requirements, transcripts, health and insurance, computers, parking, housing and orientation (***Orientation is mandatory and will start on XXX***).

Financial Aid information can be found at <https://www.fau.edu/medicine/students/financial-aid/>. The Financial Aid information will be located on the left hand side of the page. To contact the office of Financial Aid please call (561) 297-2591 or send a message to mdfinancialaid@health.fau.edu

If at any time your plans change and you wish to decline our offer of acceptance and withdraw, please send an email with your name and AAMC ID number to mdadmissions@health.fau.edu.

Most of our communications with you will be done by email so please make sure your contact information is updated in the AMCAS system when it changes. **DO NOT send changes to us by email and DO NOT add them as an update to your secondary application.**

APPENDIX C: Map

<http://www.fau.edu/about/boca-raton.php>

APPENDIX D: Definitions

Below is a list of definitions that are used in the College of Medicine Student Handbook.

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| AAMC | Association of American Medical Colleges, a non-profit organization that includes U.S. and Canadian medical schools, teaching hospitals, health systems, and academic and scientific societies; represents faculty, medical students and residents |
| ACGME | Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, the organization that accredits residency programs and institutions such as hospitals and medical schools that sponsor residency programs |
| ADSA | Assistant Dean for Student Affairs who also serves as the designee for the SADSAA |
| AMCAS | American Medical College Application Service |
| BMS | Biomedical Science Department |
| CAPS | Counseling and Psychological Services at Florida Atlantic University |
| CDC | Centers for Disease Control and Prevention |

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| CIPEC | Curriculum Integration and Program Evaluation Committee |
| CLG | Clinical Learning Group: a component of the Foundations of Medicine (FOM) course for year 1 and 2 students. These small group sessions provide a time for reflection and discussion of recent clinical experiences in their preceptors offices and with standardized patients; focus is oral case presentations, note writing, clinical reasoning, evidence based and patient centered practice, as well as integrating issues of ethics, cultural competency, geriatrics, and community advocacy. |
| COM | College of Medicine, refers to Florida Atlantic University Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine |
| COMCC | College of Medicine Curriculum Committee |
| ERAS | Electronic Residency Application Service |
| Faculty | Refers to members of the faculty of the COM |
| FAFSA | Free Application for Federal Student Aid |
| FAU | Florida Atlantic University |
| FBS | Fundamentals of Biomedical Science: The course name for the integrated basic science courses in Fall semester of year 1 which includes anatomy along with other core basic science disciplines such as biochemistry, immunology, histology, etc. |
| FCHS | Family and Community Health Sciences: One of two six-month longitudinal integrated clerkships in year three that integrates clerkships in psychiatry, obstetrics, gynecology, and pediatrics. |
| FERPA | Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, as amended from time to time |
| FOM | Foundations of Medicine: A three part, integrated patient-focused course that teaches students clinical skills longitudinally across years one and two. |
| GME | Graduate Medical Education, refers to residency programs that follow medical school |
| HIV | Human Immunodeficiency Virus |
| ICA | Institutional competency assessment: Clinical assessment of students to measure acquired proficiency in clinical skills used during competency weeks. |
| IPFC | Integrated patient-focused curriculum |
| PBL,IQ, SLIQ | Problem-based learning/Inquiry cases; small, student-directed, case-based learning groups in basic science courses in years one (PBL) and two (IQ) |
| LIC | Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship; refers to either of the two integrated clerkships in Year 3 – Medical and Surgical Sciences (MSS) or Family and Community Health Sciences (FCHS)) |
| LCME | Liaison Committee on Medical Education, the organization that accredits medical schools in the US and Canada |
| Medical Student | Refers to any person who is enrolled in or seeking an MD degree from the College of Medicine |
| Member of the University Community | Refers to Trustees, students, faculty, staff and all visitors, contractors and guests to the University or any of its campuses, facilities or events |
| MSACC | Medical Student Affairs Compliance Coordinator |
| MSPE | Medical Student Performance Evaluation or “Dean’s Letter” |
| MSPPSC | COM Medical Student Promotions and Professional Standards Committee |
| MSS | Medical and Surgical Sciences: One of two six-month longitudinal integrated clerkships in year three that contains inpatient and outpatient experiences in Medicine, Critical Care, Surgery, Anesthesiology, Emergency Medicine, Pathology, Radiology, Geriatrics, and Palliative care |
| Notice | Used in the context of delivering a notification to someone. Official correspondence will be sent to the student’s physical address on file with the registrar, or to the FAU email address if the student is a current student. The COM uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Students are responsible for the content of University and COM communications sent to their FAU email account and are required to activate that account and check it regularly. |
| NSB | Neuroscience and Behavior: Year 1 course using an integrated approach by combining lectures, problem-based learning, and anatomy laboratory. |
| OME | Office of Medical Education at the College of Medicine |
| OPEA | Office of Program Evaluation and Assessment at the College of Medicine |
| OSCE | Objective Structured Clinical Examination, A structured clinical standardized patient exam used to test clinical skills performance and competence |
| OSA | Office of Student Affairs at the College of Medicine |
| OSHA | Occupational Health and Safety Administration |
| PBL | Problem Based Learning; refers to the format of problem-based small group cases used in the COM during Year 1 basic science courses |
| PIR | Physicianship Incident Report; a report submitted to the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs; generated when a student's behavior raises some concern regarding his/her professional and ethical conduct |

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| PT1-4 | Pathophysiology and Therapeutics Courses in years 1 and 2: GI and Human Nutrition (PT1), Cardiovascular, Pulmonary, Related Hematology (PT2), Renal, Endocrine, and Reproductive Systems (PT3), Immunologic, Hematologic, Infectious Disease (PT4). |
| S & T | Synthesis and Transition: A two-week course at the beginning of year 3 that focuses on differential diagnosis, treatment decisions, and integrated simulation sessions as students prepare for their clerkships. |
| SADSAA | Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions |
| SCP | Science of Clinical Practice: a component of the Foundations of Medicine (FOM) course for year 1 and 2 students. These small group sessions provide a time for reflection and discussion of physicianship and doctoring topics including difficult conversations, ethics, cultural competency, geriatrics, and public health, as well as time to practice humanistic communication skills. |
| SCRC | Student Competency Review Committee |
| SHS | Student Health Services at Florida Atlantic University |
| SP | Standardized patient: professional patient used during OSCEs, ICAs, and clinical teaching sessions |
| TTR | Transition to Residency: a two-week capstone course at the end of year four. |
| University | Florida Atlantic University |
| UME | Undergraduate Medical Education |
| USMLE | United States Medical Licensing Examination, a series of national exams administered by the National Board of Medical Examiners |