



Policy on Separation of Academic Assessment and Provision of Health Services to Students

Policy #

3-111

Category:	3-Assessment and Evaluation
Curriculum Phase:	All Phases
Author/Authoring Body:	Curricular Affairs
Responsible Unit:	Curricular Affairs
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Next Review Year:	2029

Summary

This policy prohibits dual relationships where Health Professionals both provide Healthcare Services to medical students and participate in those same students' academic assessment or promotion decisions, with exceptions for large class lectures and emergency care situations.

Related LCME Standards

12.5 Non-Involvement of Providers of Student Health Services in Student Assessment/Location of Student Health Records

The health professionals who provide health services, including psychiatric/psychological counseling, to a medical student have no involvement in the academic assessment or promotion of the medical student receiving those services, excluding exceptional circumstances. A medical school ensures that medical student health records are maintained in accordance with legal requirements for security, privacy, confidentiality, and accessibility.

Applicability & Scope

This policy applies to College of Medicine – Tucson medical students and all Health Professionals who interact with COM-T medical students, including Health Professionals from University of Arizona Campus Health Service and partner clinical sites. The policy covers all forms of academic assessment and promotion activities as well as small-group facilitation, clinical precepting, course/block/clerkship direction, and service on student progress and appeals committees.

Definitions

Healthcare Services – Includes psychiatric/psychological counseling, medical care, or other health services.

Health Professional – Any individual who provides Healthcare Services. This includes Health Professionals from the University of Arizona Campus Health Service and partner clinical sites.

Policy Statement

I. Health Professional Restrictions in Academic Settings

- A. Health Professionals and College of Medicine – Tucson (COM-T) medical students cannot have dual relationships where the Health Professional both provides, or previously provided, Healthcare Services to a student and participates in academic assessment or promotion decisions for the student.
- B. Health Professionals who provide or previously provided Healthcare Services to a medical student may not:
 - 1) facilitate small-group discussions that include the student,
 - 2) serve as clinical preceptors or course/block/clerkship directors for the student, and
 - 3) serve on student progress or appeals committees when reviewing or making decisions about the student.
- C. Health Professionals who provide or previously provided Healthcare Services to a medical student may give lectures in large class settings that include the student.

II. Implementation Requirements

- A. At the beginning of each block of small-group sessions, each faculty member who serves as a facilitator will be asked to review the students assigned to their group and confirm they have not provided Healthcare Services to any of these students. If a faculty facilitator has provided such services, the block/course/clerkship director will reassign the student or the faculty member to a different group.
- B. Students who determine that a faculty member from whom they have received Healthcare Services might be involved in assessment of their performance should notify the block/course/clerkship director or the Office of Curricular Affairs immediately; the director will reassign the student or the faculty member.
- C. When a COM-T student requires urgent or emergency health services, the student must be referred to another physician who is not involved in the academic assessment or promotion of the student. For students in distant preceptorships or rural placements, preceptors must refer to another competent physician in the practice, community, or neighboring community.
 - 1) This referral requirement may be overridden only when a delay in referral would cause harm to the student or no other healthcare provider is available to provide such care.
- D. If a Health Professional receives a student performance assessment form to complete regarding a student to whom they have provided Healthcare Services, they will indicate on the form that they are unable to assess the student and leave the rest of the form incomplete.

Procedures

None

Related Information

None

Revision History

2026/01/14: The Tucson Educational Policy Committee approved revisions to added definitions and consolidate and clarify policy language.

2023/03/22: The Tucson Educational Policy Committee approved revisions to the policy.

2021/07/26: Policy revised.

2013/06/19: Policy revised.

2012/12/12: Policy approved.