Policy Title
Expectation of Personal & Professional Conduct

Identifier
USCSOMG – STAF – 5.1

Prepared by: Office of Student Affairs  Date: 05/17/2018
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Communicated to: USCSOMG Students  Date: 07/16/2018
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LCME Standards
3.5 – Learning Environment/Professionalism
7.7 – Medical Ethics
7.8 – Communication Skills
7.9 – Interprofessional Collaborative Skills

Scope
University of South Carolina (USC) School of Medicine Greenville students

Policy Statement
Students at the USC School of Medicine Greenville have the responsibility to maintain the highest levels of personal and professional integrity and to show compassion and respect for themselves, colleagues, faculty, staff, and, most important, the patients who participate in their education.

Reason for Policy
To provide USC School of Medicine students clarity on the standards by which personal and professional conduct is expected of our medical students.

Procedures
As a student, expectations of the personal and professional conduct for the USC School of Medicine Greenville include the following general and specific considerations:

1. The student will show concern for the welfare of patients. He or she will:
   - display a professional attitude in obtaining medical histories and physical examinations;
   - act appropriately and respectfully in all verbal and nonverbal interactions with patients;
   - treat patients with respect and dignity, both in the presence of patients and in discussions with professional colleagues; and
   - display concern for the patient.

2. The student will show concern for the rights of others. He or she will:
   - demonstrate a considerate manner and cooperative spirit in dealing with professional staff, colleagues, and members of the health-care team;
   - treat all persons encountered in a professional capacity with equality regardless of race, religion, sex, handicap, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status; and
• assume an appropriate and equitable share of duties among peers and colleagues.

3. The student will show evidence of responsibility to duty. He or she will:
• effectively and promptly undertake duties, follow through until their completion, and notify appropriate persons in authority of problems;
• be punctual and present at rounds, conferences, and all academic and clinical obligations;
• notify course and clinical clerkship directors (or other appropriate persons) of absence or inability to attend to duties;
• see assigned patients regularly and, with appropriate supervision, assume responsibility for their care; and
• ensure that he or she can be promptly located at all times when on duty.

4. The student will be trustworthy. He or she will:
• be truthful and intellectually honest in all communications;
• accept responsibility and establish priorities for meeting multiple professional demands and for completing work necessary for the optimal care of patients;
• accurately discern when supervision or advice is needed before acting; and
• maintain confidentiality of all patient information.

5. The student will maintain a professional demeanor. He or she will:
• maintain appropriate standards of personal appearance, attire, and hygiene for the patient population served;
• maintain emotional stability and equilibrium under the pressures of emergencies, fatigue, professional stress, or personal problems; and
• be responsible in the use of alcohol and prescription drugs and avoid their effects while on duty.

6. The student will possess those individual characteristics required for the practice of medicine. He or she will:
• be capable of making logical diagnostic and therapeutic judgments;
• communicate effectively with patients, supervisors, and peers;
• establish appropriate professional relationships with faculty, colleagues, and patients; and
• show evidence of the ability to be perceptive, introspective, and insightful in professional relationships.

Sanctions
Violations of the standards for Personal and Professional Conduct are subject to review by the Honor and Professionalism Council (HPC) and/or the Student evaluation and Promotions Committee, and disciplinary action which may include suspension or expulsion.

Additional Contacts
Office of Student Affairs
Honor and Professionalism Council (HPC)
Student Evaluation and Promotion Committee (SEPC)

Related Information
USC School of Medicine Greenville Student Handbook
USCSOMG-STAF-1.0-Carolinian Creed

History
• Date of Change: 06/04/2018
• Change: Move to standardized template
• Reason for Change: LCME CQI