



Policy Title

Conflict of Interest in Student Assessment

Identifier

USCSOMG – ACAF – 3.04

Prepared by: Office for Academic Affairs	
Reviewed by: Curriculum Committee	Review Date: 10/09/2025
Approved by: USCSOMG Policy Committee	Approval Date: 11/17/2025
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LCME Standards

12.5- Non-Involvement of Providers of Student Health Services in Student Assessment

Scope

University of South Carolina (USC) School of Medicine Greenville students and faculty/residents responsible for assessing students

Policy Statement

A clinician who has provided medical or psychological services for a medical student will not serve in an evaluative capacity for the student or supervise educational activities that result in evaluation or assessment. In addition, if an assigned assessor cannot provide an objective assessment of a student due to a personal or familial relationship, then they will not serve in an evaluative capacity for the student or supervise educational activities that result in evaluation or assessment. In addition, faculty members with a conflict of interest in assessing a student will recuse themselves from voting on Student Evaluation Promotion Committee (SEPC) decisions.

Reason for Policy

LCME requires that 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.

Procedures

Faculty or residents with a conflict of interest must not assess students.

1. A health care provider who has provided medical or psychological services for a medical student or has a personal or familial relationship will not serve in an evaluative capacity for the student or supervise educational activities that result in evaluation or assessment.

2. If a student is assigned to an educational environment where the supervising faculty member previously has provided health care to the student or has a prior personal or familial relationship, the faculty member must advise the course/clerkship director of the need to re-assign the student, based on a conflict of interest, to a different evaluating supervisor.
3. It is the responsibility of the course/clerkship director to make sure that faculty, residents, and students are aware of this policy. Faculty and residents attest to reviewing this policy in annual computer-based training.
4. Evaluation forms include an option for declining evaluation.

Sanctions

NA

Additional Contacts

Office for Academic Affairs

Related Information

USC School of Medicine Greenville Student Handbook

USCSOMG – ACAF – 3.06 Request Alternative Clinical Site

History

Date of Change	Change
Oct 2025	Updated branding and titles, removed redundant language
May 2019	Clarified language, updated title of policy. Editorial changes made due to branding updates and titles.
Dec 2018	Policy formalized into standardized template, LCME CQI