

USF Health Professional Conduct Policy

I. POLICY STATEMENT

USF Health believes as educators, researchers, and health care providers, the USF Health Faculty have the obligation to provide a welcoming environment for the students, patients, staff and colleagues that make our endeavors possible and when serving as representatives of the University and USF Health conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the values of the medical profession. USF Health strives to provide high quality service to the patients who visit USF clinics or affiliated hospitals/clinics seeking medical services from the USF Health Faculty.

USF Health Faculty are committed to serving the interest of our patients, maintaining professional competence, upholding patient confidentiality, and establishing appropriate and respectful relationships with patients, students and colleagues. As educators, the USF Health Faculty will strive to impart the ideals and standards of the practice of medicine to our students. Towards that end unprofessional conduct or behavior has no place within USF Health and cannot be accepted or tolerated. In order to accomplish our goals, all members of the USF Health Faculty are expected to lead by example and demonstrate the professional behavior and attributes that are appropriate for the University, USF Health, and the medical profession.

II. SCOPE OF POLICY

A. This Policy applies to all members of USF Health who hold Faculty appointments (including voluntary and courtesy faculty) representing the University and USF Health. An individual is representing the University and USF Health at all times when they are:

- acting as the University's representative in its business operations; or
- teaching students (undergraduate, graduate, students of the health professions) or residents (in classrooms, in any USF Health clinics or affiliated institutions or any other pedagogical settings); or
- teaching continuing professional education students engaged in life-long learning or similar activities, or
- representing the University in performing any service component of their assigned duties; or
- engaged in any research activity; or
- engaged in any patient care activity; or
- presenting at or attending a professional conference or engaged in any other professional development activity.

B. A member of the Faculty is considered to be representing the University and USF Health at all times when they are performing assigned duties:

- on any of the University's campuses; or
- at any of the University's clinics maintained and operated through the USFPG; or
- at any of the University's affiliated hospitals or other health care entities; or
- at any location away from its campuses when assigned duties by the University at such a location; or
- when attending professional conferences or engaged in other professional development activity.

III. PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

The University expects collegial and professional behavior when faculty members are engaged in performing their assigned duties whether teaching, researching, performing clinical or patient care activities, performing any administrative activities, engaged in service activities or professional development at whatever location such duties are performed. USF Health will work cooperatively with affiliated institutions which provide staff privileges to USF Health Faculty to strive for the highest levels of professional conduct and courtesy at their locations. USF Health expects that its faculty members will adhere to the USF Vision and Mission Statement, the University's Regulations, Policies and Procedures, the USF Health Code of Conduct maintained by the USF Health Professional Integrity Office as well as the Mission and Values statements of the respective Colleges that comprise USF Health.

USF Health also expects that as licensed health care professionals USF Faculty Members will adhere to all the applicable licensing and professions requirements or obligations established by the respective licensing boards of the State of Florida and professional boards in any other state in which a USF Faculty Member maintains a professional license.

Professional conduct requires that our Faculty Members will treat patients, students, patients, staff and their colleagues with fairness, patience, respect and dignity. Professional conduct also requires that a faculty member will report to work in a fit condition and ready to perform their duties in a safe manner.

A faculty member who is unable to conduct him or herself in a professional manner or who appears for work in a condition that will not allow them to perform their duties in a safe manner will be considered in breach of this Policy and actions may be taken in accordance with this and any other applicable University Policy.

DRAFT: Date 4/2/10

Links to the USF Health Code of Conduct and all Mission/Values Statements are provided below. [Links to be inserted later to ensure most up-to-date addresses]

Links to the University's Regulations, Policies and Procedures are available through the Office of Faculty Affairs website located at:
<http://health.usf.edu/facultyaffairs/index.htm>

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