
DEPARTMENT: Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine
NAME: Recusal
POLICY NUMBER:
OWNER: Office of Clinical Education
EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/25

SCOPE

This policy applies to Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine students, staff, and faculty.

PURPOSE

To establish protocols for health professionals providing health services through a clinician-patient relationship with Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine students.

POLICY

- A. Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine (MSOM) students are encouraged to seek medical care from trusted health professionals who are not actively engaged in their educational program as current or anticipated supervisors or evaluators and to communicate with healthcare providers involved in their academic assessment or promotion to identify possible academic conflicts.
- B. In the event that a MSOM faculty or staff member is providing health services, through a clinician-patient relationship, to any MSOM student, such faculty member must recuse themselves from the following activities:
 - 1. Decisions related to the academic or clinical assessment of the student,
 - 2. Decisions related to the advancement or graduation of the student,
 - 3. MSOM committee reviews of the student's academic assessment or professional performance and
 - 4. All other decisions related to the academic assessment or promotion of the student receiving health services by the faculty or staff member.
- C. Faculty and members are expected to notify the Office of Clinical Education of the need to recuse as soon as the potential conflict is identified so that a reassignment can be made to facilitate the student's academic assessment and promotion needs.

Procedure

- A. Health care professionals providing health services to a student, via a therapeutic relationship, must recuse themselves from academic assessment or promotion of the student receiving those services.
- B. For OMM Clinicians, a provider who has a therapeutic relationship with a student may not serve as a grader for any OMM practical examination. Additionally, the OMM clinician may not assign a grade to a student if serving in a course director capacity.
- C. For clinicians providing care to students participating in the preclinical curriculum, the clinician may not serve as a grader for any simulation, standardized patient, or skills evaluation. Additionally, the clinician may not assign a grade to a student if serving in a course director capacity.
- D. For clinician preceptors during the clinical year, if a clinician provides care to a student through a therapeutic relationship, the clinician may not serve as a preceptor for a rotation where the student is being supervised and graded by them. Clinicians should identify the conflict to the Regional Dean and/or Associate Dean of Clinical Education at the time the student is assigned to them to allow ample time for the student to be reassigned. Should the student recognize that they have been assigned to a physician who should have recused themselves, the student should contact the Associate Dean of Clinical Education immediately for preceptor reassignment.