

Policy Identification Number	
Policy Title	Treatment of Students
Classification	Enterprise-wide
Approval Authority	Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
Responsible Entity	Associate Provost for Educational Affairs and Student Life
Policy Owner	Darlene Shaw, PhD
New/Revision/Retired	
Original Effective Date	

I. Policy Statement

MUSC strives to impart the values of professional and collegial attitudes and behaviors in interactions among members of the University community and prohibits behaviors toward students that are unfavorable to the development of mutual respect.

II. Scope

All members of the MUSC enterprise are expected to comply with this policy. In addition, any organization with which MUSC has an affiliation agreement must ensure MUSC students are treated in accordance with this policy.

III. Approval Authority

The Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost is the approval authority for this policy.

IV. Purpose of This Policy

The purpose of the policy is to maintain an academic and clinical environment in which faculty, fellows, residents, students, and staff work together to achieve our tripartite mission of education, research, and the provision of quality patient care.

V. Who Should be Knowledgeable of This Policy

All MUSC students and the entire MUSC community should be knowledgeable about this policy.

VI. The Policy

- A. MUSC encourages attitudes and behaviors toward and among students that are favorable to their professional growth, learning, and the development of mutual respect. Examples of appropriate behavior include exhibiting a high standard of moral and ethical behavior, interacting with students with courtesy and respect, applying conflict management strategies when dealing with difficult situations, demonstrating respect for cultural, religious, and generational differences, applying active listening skills to interactions, and providing constructive and timely feedback.
- B. MUSC prohibits behaviors toward students that are unfavorable to the development of mutual respect. Examples of inappropriate behavior toward students include, but are not limited to, belittling or making degrading remarks to students; any inappropriate physical contact; threats of inappropriate contact or treatment; having an intimate or romantic relationship with a student for whom faculty, adults); and, any other behavior that would create a hostile work place/learning environment for the student.
- C. MUSC provides avenues for students to present complaints when they believe they have been mistreated.
 1. MUSC respects students' rights to report complaints and receive a fair review of complaints without fear of retaliation.
 2. When an allegation of mistreatment is raised, the parties may seek to resolve the matter themselves when appropriate.
 3. Alternatively, students who believe they have been mistreated are directed to follow the MUSC Student Complaint Policy, which provides options for addressing informal and formal written complaints.
 4. Students who lodge a formal complaint regarding a violation of this policy will inform their Dean's Office and the Office of the Associate Provost for Educational Affairs and Student Life.

VII. Special situations

Students with complaints related to allegations of gender inequity or sexual harassment will contact the Title IX Coordinator who will follow established policies and procedures. Students are encouraged to contact Public Safety for complaints related to alleged criminal activity.

Other learners (non-MUSC students) on campus who believe they have been mistreated should report their complaint to the program sponsoring their learning experience.

VIII. Sanctions for Non-compliance

Individuals who are found accountable for mistreating students will face disciplinary action as determined by the supervising entity.

IX. Related Information

- MUSC Code of Conduct
- MUSC Standards of Professional Behavior
- MUSC Student Complaint Policy
- MUSC College of Medicine Learning Environment and Medical Student Mistreatment Policy
- Policy on Student Professionalism and Professional Conduct
- Title IX
- Sexual Harassment Policy – Faculty
- Sexual Harassment Policy – Students, Residents, and Trainees

X. Communication Plan

The policy will be published in The Bulletin, the MUSC document of authority for all students. Information regarding the Treatment of Students Policy will be included in new student orientation materials (e.g., MyQuest modules, college handbooks, etc.). Senior administration will communicate the policy to their teams and units using normal communication channels.

XI. Definitions

Student

MUSC degree-seeking individual registered for MUSC courses; includes MUSC degree-seeking individual on an approved Leave of Absence

Appropriate behavior

attitudes and behaviors toward students that are favorable to the professional growth and learning of our student and the development of mutual respect

Mistreatment

attitudes and behaviors toward students that are unfavorable to the professional growth and learning of our students and the development of mutual respect

XII. [Review Cycle](#)

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years.

XIII. [Approval History](#)

Original approval date and subsequent review dates:

Approval Authority	Date Approved
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost	Reviewed; 2013
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost	Revised; 2018

XIV. [Approval Signature](#)

Lisa K Saladin, PT, PhD, FAPTA
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

Reference Link: