

University of Northern Colorado
College of Osteopathic Medicine

Policy: Professionalism Standards and Lapses in Professional Behavior

Responsible Party: Dean, College of Osteopathic Medicine (Will transition to Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs)

COCA Standard: 5.1

Review Frequency: Annually and as needed.

The public expects members of the medical profession to adhere to professional values that encompass integrity, excellence in medical care, responsibility, altruism, empathy, and trustworthiness. All students enrolled in UNC COM are considered members of the osteopathic profession and the university community. As such, all students are expected to adhere to the UNC COM code of ethics and to behave in a professional manner.

Unprofessional behavior includes but is not limited to:

- Academic dishonesty
- Lying or deliberately misleading others
- Breaches in patient confidentiality
- Criminal activity
- Invasion of another's privacy
- Misrepresentation of credentials, abilities, or position
- Physical, verbal, psychological or sexual harassment
- Use of offensive language when referring to patients or their illnesses

Students who are alleged to have participated in unprofessional behavior will be referred to the UNC COM Professionalism Committee. Students found to have engaged in unprofessional behavior may be subject to adverse actions up to and including notation of the incident on their Medical Student Performance Evaluations through dismissal.