



Professionalism Attestation for Students

Guiding Principles of Professionalism

Cooper Medical School of Rowan University strives to create an environment that nurtures future physicians in their pursuit of knowledge of the most advanced scientific principles and clinical competency. Critical to student success, is the understanding of the values and behaviors not only expected of physicians, but also that honor the profession of medicine. Achieving the highest level of professionalism is as important as learning the biological and clinical sciences.

Definition

Professionalism is broadly defined. As a **core competency of medical education** (as addressed and assessed within the curriculum), it is expected that the tenets of professionalism will be applied beyond the elements of the curriculum, as a way of life for the health care professional. By enrolling in CMSRU, a student accepts the professional standards of the school at all times. Each student must demonstrate appropriate standards of professional and ethical conduct, attitudes, and moral and personal attributes deemed necessary for the practice of medicine.

Professional Ethics

Trust is the foundation of the physician-patient relationship and a core expectation for all medical professionals. If you are caught lying and/or fail to meet the outlined behaviors and responsibilities, CMSRU may impose sanctions including, but not limited to, mandatory counseling, disciplinary suspension, and/or expulsion. Students are expected to comply with all CMSRU and Rowan University policies and procedures. Students may face disciplinary action by CMSRU if they abuse alcohol or drugs, consume illegal substances, or possess, distribute, or sell illegal substances. In addition, students must comply with the laws of the United States, the State of New Jersey, county, and city ordinances and the lawful direction and orders of the officers, faculty, and staff of CMSRU who are charged with the administration of institutional affairs. Any student involved in criminal matters before local, state, or federal courts may be found to be unfit for the medical profession and be expelled by CMSRU. Student behavior and/or actions that are considered unethical, unprofessional, or illegal will be considered by CMSRU in the overall evaluation and promotion of a student.

Professional Responsibilities

As a medical student and future physician, I have chosen to pursue a profession which requires personal integrity, compassion, and a constant awareness of the commitment I have made to myself, to my patients, and to the colleagues with whom I interact. Exhibiting personal behaviors consistent with respect for my chosen profession and having pride in my work are central tenets of professionalism which I will strive to incorporate into my daily life. These behaviors include, but are not limited to: honesty; integrity; willingness to assume responsibility; strong interpersonal skills; compassion; good judgment; the absence of chemical dependency; and appropriate social, moral, and personal behavior.

In addition to my commitment to the aforementioned behaviors, while enrolled at the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, I will:

- Demonstrate humanism, compassion, integrity, and respect for others
- Demonstrate a respect for patient confidentiality and autonomy
- Show responsiveness and personal accountability to patients, society and the practice of medicine
- Demonstrate the ability to respond to patient needs superseding self-interest
- Demonstrate sensitivity to broadly diverse patient populations
- Demonstrate the ability to recognize personal limitations and biases; know when and how to ask for help and do so effectively
- Demonstrate the ability to effectively advocate for the health and the needs of the patient
- Show an understanding of the principles of medical ethics
- Demonstrate the ability to recognize and address disparities in health care

Professionalism Intervention Reports

Professionalism is assessed in all four years of the medical education program. Accordingly, course and clerkship directors will evaluate each student's professional attitudes and behaviors. Anyone may submit a written report describing any incident that might reflect either unprofessional action(s) or behavior or exceptional professionalism. The Professionalism Intervention Report forms are available in the student handbook and can also be accessed on CMSRU Canvas, in the Student Resources/Student Affairs section.

Professionalism Report for Exemplary Behavior

This form may be filed by anyone, including another student, when an incident of exemplary professional behavior is noted involving a CMSRU student.

Due Process

The Hearing Body for Student Rights shall have the responsibility for hearing allegations of matters of professionalism for students, not related to a course or a clerkship, upon referral from the Director of Professionalism. This does not include matters referred directly to the Academic Standing Committee.

Retaliation

No student, faculty, resident, or staff member shall be subject to retaliation for filing a CMSRU Professionalism Intervention Report or participating in an investigation regarding a report of unprofessional behavior. CMSRU prohibits retaliation against a person who files a professionalism report or participates in the investigation of a professionalism complaint, or has assisted others who raised a complaint of professionalism.

[Please click here to attest that you have read, understand and agree to comply with the CMSRU Professional Conduct Policy.](#)