

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

“IULIU HAȚIEGANU” UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE AND PHARMACY CLUJ-NAPOCA

PREAMBLE

Upon enrolling at “Iuliu Hațieganu” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, students undertake to adhere firmly to the principles of the professions they prepare for, namely those of a physician, dentist, pharmacist, nurse, radiology technician, nutritionist or physiotherapist. It is therefore necessary for the students to conduct themselves in accordance with their future professional status and the values and norms of the academic community.

“Iuliu Hațieganu” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca aims to support each student’s personal and professional development. Therefore, we provide our students with this Code of Conduct, which delineates the ethical framework of their academic activity.

The university also wishes to create within its academic community a safe environment, based on trust and respect among all its members: students, teaching staff and administrative staff. As members of this community, students have rights as well as responsibilities that are equally important for an uninterrupted academic life experience.

Chapter 1 – Student Rights

Article 1

- A) Freedom of expression** – students have the right to express their opinion on any matter, as long as they do not violate the provisions of this Code of Conduct or the current legislation and without infringing on the freedom of other people.
- B) Personal autonomy** – students have the right to take decisions regarding their academic and professional career, as well as their private life, and apply these decisions without being constrained by other members of the academic community.
- C) Nondiscrimination** – all members of the academic community have the right to not be discriminated against by anyone (students or university employees) on the basis of race, religion, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, age, political or social affiliation, etc.

- D) Equal opportunities** – students shall benefit from equal opportunities and treatment in all aspects of their academic life (examinations and grading) as well as other ranking criteria as stipulated by the University Statutes (regarding student scholarships, international mobilities, enrolment in projects and programs, etc.)
- E) Freedom of religious, political and cultural association** – students have the right to pursue their religious, political and cultural beliefs and to join religious, political and cultural organizations, as long as they respect the rights of the others, their freedom of thought and expression, refrain from promoting these ideas within the academic environment, and do not violate this Code of Conduct, the University Statutes and the current legislation.
- F) Confidentiality and privacy** – students have the right to privacy on university premises and to have their personal and professional data protected, in accordance with the current legislation.
- G) Information and defense** – in the case of a penalty or a proposed penalty, students have the right to be informed about the launching of a disciplinary procedure against them, and to express their position verbally or in writing regarding their version of events before the university representatives or the University Ethics Committee.
- H) University representation** – students have the right to be represented in the management bodies of the faculty or university, through representatives elected in accordance with the internal regulations of the student organizations, in compliance with the proportional representation stipulated in the University Statutes. Each student has the right to run in order to be elected as a representative, if that right was not withdrawn as a result of prior disciplinary or academic misconduct.

Chapter 2 - Responsibilities and violations of the code of conduct

Article 2. The university considers that the following are student responsibilities regarding their conduct both on and off university premises. Failure to follow these rules is considered a violation of the code of conduct and results in penalties imposed by the faculty or university management. Such cases will be reviewed by the Faculty Management Board or by the University Ethics Committee.

A) Academic fairness and integrity. The following are prohibited:

- a) **Any attempt to gain an unfair advantage in an exam, plagiarism, bribery, falsifying or submitting assignments or papers purchased or written with the support of unauthorized persons, as well as facilitating such actions for other students** (including but not limited to writing graduation theses, research activities, publishing scientific articles or presenting papers at scientific events) will be penalized by the university according to the provisions stipulated in Chapter 3.

b) **Audio/photo/video recording of lectures or practical courses**, as well as **the distribution outside the university of study materials** made available by the university staff, are strictly prohibited without their written consent, or that of the patients who might appear in such material etc.

c) **Attempting to resolve various conflicts or personal grievances through the media** before exhausting the means of solving them within the academic community.

B) Appropriate professional behavior and relationships with colleagues. The following are prohibited:

a) **Using vulgar / inappropriate language or manifesting inappropriate / offensive attitudes** towards fellow students, university staff or hospital staff.

b) **Disrespectful behavior and lack of empathy, compassion and integrity towards patients**, both verbally and nonverbally.

c) **Using electronic devices** (such as mobile phones, laptops, tablets, smartwatches, etc.) for non-academic purposes **during lectures, practical courses and clinical training**, reading other materials or using headphones.

d) **Disrupting lectures, practical courses and clinical training** through unauthorized discussions with fellow students, listening to music or other materials, etc.

e) **Leaving lecture or practical course rooms without the** consent of the teaching staff. In such cases, the student may be marked absent.

f) **Damaging classroom/laboratory furniture or equipment** and not informing the teaching staff about any observed irregularities regarding their proper functioning, as this may endanger the physical integrity of other students or patients.

g) **Wearing vulgar / inappropriate clothing.** Students are not allowed to attend courses, practical courses or clinical training wearing inappropriate clothing (pants, skirts, dresses), transparent clothes, themed costumes, clothes that display inscriptions that incite violence / hatred or inappropriate and vulgar messages. Student clothing should inspire confidence and professionalism to patients but also earnestness and respect to teaching staff. Students must also adhere to any dress codes implemented by the faculty or university.

h) **Not wearing protective clothing** – wearing a hospital coat is compulsory during all clinical training, except when teaching staff explicitly do not require it. Also, depending on the nature of the clinical training, certain departments may impose additional requirements (cap, gloves, scrubs, etc.).

i) **Wearing protective clothing outside laboratories, clinical training facilities, practical course rooms or hospitals**, in order to prevent patient contamination.

j) It is strongly recommended that university or hospital staff be addressed using their academic title (in Romanian: Domnule/Doamna Profesor, Domnule/Doamna Conferențiar etc.) and/or the second-person plural pronoun, when necessary (in Romanian: Dumneavoastră). “Doctor” (in Romanian: Domnule/Doamna doctor) can be used whenever students do not know the academic title of teaching staff.

C) Proper civic behavior

- a) Students must respect the national and European laws applicable to all citizens. **Any type of criminal offence, including violence, threat, bullying, intimidation, sexual/physical assault or attempted assault, destruction of university property or other people's property, theft, possession of firearms and ammunition, as well as any other criminal offence shall automatically result in student expulsion and notification of the competent authorities.**
- b) During their studies at "Iuliu Hațieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, students are regarded as members and representatives of the academic community in society. **Any immoral or illegal act committed by a student, regardless of whether it occurred on university premises or not, against university members or not, shall be regarded as detrimental to the image of the university and punished by internal disciplinary action ranging from written warning to expulsion, depending on to the gravity of the act.**
- c) **Student conduct on electronic platforms and social media is considered as important as daily conduct.** Any misconduct noticed or reported by the university staff (including **aggressive or discriminatory language, e-bullying, defamation, defamation of the university, posting offensive or indecent pictures that are detrimental to the image of the university, etc.**) shall be treated similarly to the other offences stipulated in this Code of Conduct.
- d) During any religious, cultural or political activity undertaken by a student outside the official student schedule, **s/he will assume sole responsibility for his/her actions, which are not representative for his/her colleagues or for the university,** without their written consent.

D) Maintaining confidentiality

Personal information regarding patients, colleagues, staff members or hospital members is confidential and shall not be disclosed to third parties or made public without prior written consent.

E) Providing accurate information

- a) **It is forbidden to provide false information to the university staff, regardless of situation** (e.g. application for various types of scholarships, international mobilities, programs and projects, excuses for absences, etc.). Failure to comply with this regulation automatically leads to penalties which, depending on gravity, can also include expulsion from the university.
- b) **Electronic messages sent to the university or university staff must always include a real name in the signature** and provide additional data for identification purposes (year of study, series, group). The use of an appropriate e-mail address configured in such a way as to easily identify the sender is also recommended.
- c) **Impersonation or using a false name**, both in the online and physical academic environment (lectures, practical courses, communication with university teaching

or administrative staff) constitutes a serious form of misconduct and shall be penalized according to Chapter 3.

F) Feedback and continuous development

While “Iuliu Hațieganu” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca constantly strives to improve the academic and social environment in which students develop, this effort requires the participation of all parties involved. Thus, the university considers that students are responsible for the following:

- a) **To complete feedback questionnaires regarding teaching and evaluation activities** accurately, using appropriate language and social norms, as described in this Code of Conduct.
- b) To report as soon as possible any misconduct on the part of teaching staff, administrative staff or other students **by filing a written complaint with the Dean’s office or by informing the appropriate representatives** in order for the matter to be settled appropriately and in due time for the injured parties.
- c) **To propose**, courteously and respectfully, **changes to faculty and university regulations**, if or when these regulations no longer apply to the current context or reality.

Chapter 3 –Penalties

Article 3. According to the University Statutes, more specifically Title IX – The University Code of Ethics and Deontology and Title XVI – Rules and Regulations of Undergraduate Studies, the following penalties may be imposed on students who do not follow the rules stated in this Code of Conduct. These penalties are imposed according to the severity of the actions, as established by the governing bodies of the faculty or the University Ethics Committee following analysis of the current and any other previous offences. The order below reflects the gravity of the penalties:

1. *A DISCIPLINARY WARNING WITH OR WITHOUT PRIOR NOTIFICATION* – for offences considered to be of a less severe nature by the body reviewing the case, when there is no prior offence. A repeat offence shall automatically result in a higher penalty.
2. *THE SUSPENSION OR ANULLMENT OF CERTAIN BENEFITS AND FACILITIES* (such as merit, academic or social stipends, campus accommodation, public transport passes) – for offences of moderate severity or for repeated offences of a less severe nature.
3. *EXPULSION* – for high severity offences, violations of the law, actions that are detrimental to the image of the university, repeat offences (the decision-making body has the right to enforce both penalty no. 2 and this penalty according to the circumstances of the repeat offence). Furthermore, re-enrolment shall be annulled in case of serious violations of social norms. Re-enrolment shall only be possible in case of expulsion due to failure to pay tuition fees or school dropout and only within a period of maximum two years following expulsion.
4. *LEGAL ACTION* – for violations of the law, prejudice to the image or the finances of the university, etc.

Article 4. EXAMINATION FRAUD results in a special set of penalties, as listed below:

- A) Attempting to cheat in an exam results in:
 - a) disqualifying the student from the exam,
 - b) failing the exam and
 - c) filing and recording a written notification with the dean's office regarding the event.
- B) The second attempt to cheat is considered cheating and penalized accordingly.

Article 5. Examination fraud, irrespective of the manner in which it occurs, except for impersonation, results in the following penalties:

- A) In the case of a first offence, the student will:
 - a) be suspended for the current academic year;
 - b) be enrolled and pay tuition fees in a supplementary year in the following academic year, irrespective of his/her academic results, while the credits obtained prior to committing the fraud will be recognized;
 - c) permanently lose the right to state-funded tuition throughout his/her years of university studies;
 - d) lose the right to obtain a stipend and campus accommodation.
- B) In the case of a similar second offence, the student will be expelled and unequivocally lose his/her right to re-enroll at university.

Bibliography:

- Carta Universității de Medicină și Farmacie "Iuliu Hațieganu" din Cluj-Napoca (The Statutes of Iuliu Hațieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca)
 - Student Code of Conduct - SUNY Upstate Medical University of New York
 - Codul de conduită al studenților de la Facultatea de Automatică și Calculatoare, Universitatea "Politehnica" din București (Student Code of Conduct, Faculty of Automatics and Computer Science, Bucharest Polytechnic University)
 - Code D'éthique - Faculté de Médecine, Université de Montreal
 - Code of Conduct for Students - The University of Sydney
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