



Policy Title: University of Colorado School of Medicine Educational Conflict of Interest Policy

Handbook Section Number: Appendix **Functional Area:** UME

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| Effective: | July 1, 2024 |
| Date Last Amended/Reviewed: | 2024 |
| Date Scheduled for Review: | Annually: July, 1, 2025 |
| Supersedes: | 2021 |
| Approved by: | Dr. Stu Linas, Chairperson of Curriculum Steering Committee (CSC), University of Colorado |
| Prepared by: | Nida Awadallah, MD |
| Reviewing Office: | OSL |
| Applies to: | CU School of Medicine |

A. INTRODUCTION

This policy seeks to codify existing practices regarding the Educational Conflict of Interest policy at University of Colorado School of Medicine

This policy seeks to ensure that students are taught, assessed and advised by faculty and staff whose primary relationship to the student is the student’s educational development. This policy identifies those roles and relationships that may result in a conflict of interest between students and those in roles to support their education and specifies appropriate action to remedy the conflict.

B. POLICY STATEMENT

Educational Conflict of Interest Policy

Faculty, staff, and committee members at the University of Colorado School of Medicine may encounter various types of conflicts of interest when teaching or assessing students or participating on committees involving decisions about medical students and prospective student applicants. The following policy outlines the expectations of individuals encountering specific types of conflicts of interest, and how they are to avoid them.

1) Providers of Healthcare and Assessment: Instructors, including faculty, attendings, residents, etc., who have or are providing healthcare services including psychological counseling to a student should not assess or evaluate that student. See the Section 1.1.3 of the “University of Colorado School of Medicine, Policies and Procedures, MD Program” document.

2) Promotions Committee Members: Members participating on the Promotions Committee should recuse themselves from voting or decision making for any student when the member

has 1) evaluated or assessed the student and that assessment is relevant to the issue under discussion regarding the student, or 2) provided healthcare services to the student under discussion. Additionally, if they have a previous personal association with the student, they should also recuse themselves from voting or decision making.

3) Admission Committee Members: Members participating in any of the admission committees, including the Interview Subcommittee, should recuse themselves from voting or decision making for any prospective student applicant for whom they have provided healthcare services to, or have a previous personal association with.

4) Providers of Confidential Advice within the Office of Student Affairs: Deans, faculty, and staff within the Office of Student Affairs and student services at branch campuses who provide students with confidential advice regarding students’ personal matters, especially ones of a sensitive nature, should not teach or assess students, or make decisions about the student’s promotion, advancement and/or graduation. To alleviate this concern, an alternate MSPE writer is offered to students. All efforts should be made to provide students with confidentiality within the offices of Student Life, so students do not perceive requests for assistance to that office as academically disadvantageous.

Notes:

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1. Dates of official enactment and amendments:
07/01/2014 Adopted/Approved by the Curriculum Steering Committee

2. Authorization/Change History of Policy:
Please provide summary of changes here.

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| 07/03/2024: | Reviewed in CSC |
| 03/15/2024: | Reviewed and updated by Dr. Tai Lockspeiser, Dean of Assessment |
| 7/1/2021 | Reviewed by CSC pertaining to Trek Curriculum launch |
| 07/01/2016 | Reviewed by CSC |

3. Initial Policy Effective Date: July 1, 2014

4. Reviewed for Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME) Compliance:
1.2 Conflict of Interest Policies, 9.9 Student Advancement and Appeal Process, 10.2 Final Authority of Admission Committee, 11.4 Provision of MSPE, 12.5 Non-Involvement of Providers of Student Health Services in Student Assessment/Location of Student Health Records

5. Policy is available through the Office of Student Life located
<https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/education/current-students/curriculum/aeo/home/educator-resources/teaching-learning-policies-and-guidelines>
and <https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/education/current-students/curriculum/aeo/home/educator-resources/teaching-learning-policies-and-guidelines>