



**NOORDA COLLEGE**  
of OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Policy Name:	Recusal in Providing Health Services to Students Policy
Approval Authority:	Dean's Council
Responsible Executive:	Dean
Responsible Office(s):	Dean's Council
Effective:	January 2020
Expires:	January 2024
Last Revised:	September 2021
Next Review Date:	N/A

## Recusal in Providing Health Services to Students Policy

### Policy Statement

To maintain a mutually beneficial and professional relationship among faculty, staff, and students at Noorda-COM, and in accordance with accreditation requirements, Noorda-COM ensure that any health professionals providing health services, via a therapeutic relationship, must recuse themselves from the academic assessment or promotion of the student receiving those services.

This policy should in no way limit or replace the faculty advising activities or other appropriate service to Noorda-COM and its students.

### Entities Affected by the Policy

Dean  
Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs  
Assistant Dean for Clinical Affairs  
Clinical Faculty  
Students

### Policy Procedures

Noorda-Com faculty will not provide medical treatment of, or medical advice to, Noorda-COM students except in emergency situations while awaiting emergency response. Student must seek health care advice and/or treatment off campus from a non-Noorda-COM related source. Students may view Noorda-COM's website or intranet for a list of recommended health care providers who do not have a conflict of interest related to assessing student performance.

Although not allowed or encouraged, should a faculty member have to provide medical treatment for a student, they are required to recuse themselves from any and all situations where they may have to assess, grades, and/or decide promotion for that particular student.

This includes clinical clerkship preceptors who have direct assessment and grading responsibilities for assigned students. Students who are on clinical rotation should always avoid seeking medical treatment/ advice from their clerkship preceptor.

### **Student Health-Related Concerns**

Abnormal history or physical exam findings that may be discovered incidentally in a student (or faculty/staff member) during small group/interactive learning activities, OMM lab, and/or Clinical Skills labs:

- Any abnormal clinical findings and/or concerns that come to the attention of individual students and/or faculty during interactive and “hands on” learning scenarios should be deferred to seek appropriate medical care from a licensed provider outside of Noorda-COM.
- In the rare event that a physical exam finding is deemed to be of an emergent care need, then student (or faculty) should seek care at local emergency departments or initiate “911” services where appropriate.

Non-academic health professionals who do provide mental or medical care to Noorda-COM’s students must recuse themselves from any assessment and promotional review of such students.

Existing health concerns/issues brought to the attention of faculty or staff by an Noorda-COM student:

In addition to above, any existing health concerns or acute illness that an Noorda-COM student brings to the attention of a faculty/staff member or other affiliate members of Noorda-COM will be encouraged to seek licensed and qualified medical, mental, or social services from appropriate individuals or clinics outside of Noorda-COM.

At times well-intentioned student may seek the opinion of faculty and/or staff (however qualified or perceived) as it relates to their personal health concerns, however there should be no advice given or implied by any of Noorda-COM’s staff, faculty, and other contracted providers of Noorda-COM’s throughout all educational objectives that could be deemed a provider patient relationship. Deferral to appropriate local care sites outside of Noorda-COM will be the standard as described in the Academic Handbook.

If a student has difficulty finding medical treatment/ advice, they can contact Student Affairs for a referral to an appropriate clinician.

## **Definitions**

### **Faculty**

Full-time regular, part-time regular and non-regular members who have been appointed to the rank of instructor, assistant professor, associate professor or professor.

### Non-regular faculty

Clinical adjunct track, adjunct academic track, research, and emeritus faculty and non-salaried instructors.

See Rank and Promotion Guidelines for complete definition.

## Responsibilities

Dean  
Dean's Council

## Policy Violations

Faculty/ Staff and Students knowingly in violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary actions potentially up to and including dismissal with cause.

## Interpreting Authority

Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs

## Statutory or Regulatory References

N/A

## Relevant Links

N/A

## Policy Adoption Review and Approval

Dean's Council