

D'YOUVILLE UNIVERSITY

Policy Title: Recusals from Academic Assessment and Promotion Policy

Responsible Unit: D'Youville University, DYU-COM

Adoption Date: January 16, 2024

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Next Review Date: January 16, 2027

DYU-COM APPROVED: January 16, 2024

It is the policy of DYU-COM that any health professional who is currently or who has previously provided health services to any current student, through a physician-patient relationship, must recuse themselves from the academic assessment or promotion of the student receiving those services.

Faculty Recusal from Assigning Student Grades

Any DYU-COM faculty member who is a healthcare professional with a previous or ongoing therapeutic relationship with an osteopathic medical student at D'Youville University *proposed* College of Osteopathic Medicine student must recuse themselves from all activities involving summative assessment, grading, and promotion of that student.

For the purposes of this policy, a “therapeutic relationship” occurs when a licensed clinician assumes the responsibility for the evaluation, diagnosis, or management of a student’s medical or behavioral health condition.

Committee Meetings

In the case of committee meetings, a call shall be made for a declaration of any conflict of interest from committee members prior to student case discussions. Any committee member(s) identifying a potential conflict will be required to recuse themselves from both the discussion phase of the meeting as well as the decision-making process for matters in which a potential conflict exists.

Any faculty member assigned to assess or grade the performance of a current DYU-COM student with whom they have a previous or ongoing established therapeutic relationship must identify the conflict of interest to the Course Director. The Course Director will either assign the student assessment and/or grading to a different faculty member or perform it themselves.

If the Course Director also has a potential conflict, then the Associate Dean for Pre-Clinical Education will perform the assessment (or designate another qualified faculty member) and assign the grade.

Final Course Grades

During all first- and second-year pre-clinical courses, a Course Director who has a previous or ongoing therapeutic relationship with a DYU-COM student is prohibited from making any decisions regarding final course grade determinations for that student. In these cases, the Course Director must report the potential conflict of interest to the Associate Dean for Pre-Clinical Education who will then designate another qualified faculty member to make the student's summative assessment or final grade determination. In cases in which there is no qualified faculty member, the Associate Dean for Pre-Clinical Education will assume these responsibilities.

Clinical Rotation Evaluations and Grades

During third- and fourth-year clinical rotations, supervising faculty preceptors who have a prior or current established therapeutic relationship with a current DYU-COM student are not permitted to determine the end-of-rotation evaluation for that student. If a preceptor is assigned to supervise such a student for a clinical rotation, they should immediately notify the Associate Dean for Clinical Education, who may identify an alternative clinical practice or service for the student's rotation, or in cases where that is not feasible, identify another preceptor on the rotation to complete the end-of-rotation evaluation.