

HONOR CODE

INTRODUCTION

As medical and graduate students of The Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine, we recognize the high moral and ethical standards that are demanded of those who enter the fields of medicine and research. We not only understand these demands, but also embrace them with the realization that our actions and attitudes during these academic years will lay the foundation for our professional careers. Therefore, this honor code was created to outline the basic principles of professionalism and integrity that are upheld by the student body of this institution.

ACADEMICS

1. I will strive to create an environment conducive to the education of myself and others in recognition of the collaborative nature of medicine and research.
2. I will take personal responsibility for the completeness of my own education because mastery of knowledge and skills determines the ability to which I may assist others and excel in my profession.
3. I will ensure that my work is my own in individual assessments.
4. I will recognize the limits of my knowledge and pursue life-long learning.

PROFESSIONALISM

Research

1. I will strive to be ethical when designing, conducting, and evaluating my research.
2. I will perform my experiments meticulously and report all findings truthfully and objectively.

Patient Care

1. I will practice strict confidentiality and exercise personal accountability for my actions.
2. I will show respect and compassion for patients in all interactions, recognizing that they are the central focus of medicine.
3. I will advocate for the best possible care for my patients.

COMMUNITY

1. I will conduct myself in a manner that upholds the integrity of both my school and my profession.
2. I will maintain a respectful and professional attitude in both my school and the greater community in which I live.
3. I will uphold the accepted standards of my profession and will encourage others in my profession to do the same.

We recognize that this honor code cannot and does not attempt to anticipate every possible ethical situation that may arise, but instead reinforces the commitment that students must personally make to ensure that honor guides their everyday professional behavior.