

The Valley College of Osteopathic Medicine

Faculty Recusal Policy

Policy Number: COM-9.10

Effective Date: November 20, 2024

Revisions and Dates:

Approved by: Alissa Craft, DO, MBA, Dean

Policy & Procedure Statement

To prevent conflict of interest occurrence while providing medical services to the learner that may undermine the optimal progress of the learner.

- A. Health care professionals providing health services to a student, via a therapeutic relationship, must recuse themselves from academic assessment or promotion of the student receiving those services.
- B. For OMM Physicians, a physician who has a therapeutic relationship with a student may not serve as a grader for any OMM practical examination. Additionally, the OMM physician may not assign a grade to a student if serving in a course director capacity.
- C. For clinicians providing care to students participating in the preclinical curriculum, the clinician may not serve as a grader for any simulation, standardized patient, or skills evaluation. Additionally, the physician may not assign a grade to a student if serving in a course director capacity.
- D. For clinician faculty during the clinical years, if a physician provides care to a student through a therapeutic relationship, the clinician may not serve as faculty for a rotation where the student is being supervised and graded by them. Physicians should identify the conflict to the Office of Clinical Education at the time the student is assigned to the clinician to allow ample time for the student to be reassigned. Should the student recognize that they have been assigned to a physician who should have recused themselves, the student should contact the Office of Clinical Education immediately for reassignment.

Dissemination Plan

The content of this policy is provided to clinical faculty in written format in The Valley College of Osteopathic Medicine (The Valley COM) Policy Manual and the Clinical Education Manual. Policies are reviewed annually with all faculty during professional development events.

Students are informed of these policies in writing in the Clinical Education Manual and are responsible for reading and attesting to an understanding of the material in the CEM annually. Additionally, this material is reviewed as part of the preparations for entering OMS III clinical rotations.