



VERA Z. DWYER
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
School of Rehabilitation Sciences

MS-SLP Professionalism in Academic and Clinical Experiences

Policy # SLP-CL-23-A

About This Policy:

Faculty Approval: 5/31/23

Effective Date: 6/5/23

Scope

This policy is for all students enrolled in the MS-SLP program within the Vera Z. Dwyer College of Health Sciences.

Policy Statement

Professional and courteous behavior is a required component in every course as well as each clinical practicum and fieldwork experience. Life events, choices, extenuating circumstances, medical issues, or other types of situations that may/may not be under students' control have the potential to alter the academic/clinical program.

Procedures

Professional behaviors will be tracked during each semester of the program. This includes absences from academic and clinical experiences (excused, unexcused), communication regarding absences/cancelations (e.g., advanced notice vs. late notice vs. "no show"), late or missing clinical documentation or class assignment, and other issues regarding accountability, responsibility, feedback, etc. Students, program faculty and staff, and clinical supervisors both on- and off-campus may all participate in tracking of professional behaviors.

Number and degree of events will be considered according to three colored "zones" that carry different consequences.

Green Zone: Issues that arise that are not expected to alter the academic/clinical program, including but not limited to an occasional illness/sick day that was properly communicated, a requested/excused personal day if allowed, and some extenuating circumstances.

Yellow Zone: One to two reports of problematic issues in professional behavior. Infractions within this zone may have the potential to alter the academic/clinical program. After two reports of problematic issues, the student will be placed on a remediation plan.

Red Zone: Three or more reports of problematic issues in professional behavior. The student's lack of professionalism is likely to alter the academic/clinical program; the student is at risk of being out of progression, and graduation may be delayed. In clinical practicum and fieldwork experiences, if a student demonstrates three or more tracked instances of unprofessional behavior, he/she/they may earn a "Fail" for that clinical experience.

Multiple excused absences within a semester due to extended or repeated illness or certain extenuating circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Excused absences, depending on the number of days and what experience(s) was missed, may still alter the academic/clinical program.