



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

MS-SLP Socializing with Clients Policy # SLP-CL-17-A

About This Policy:

Faculty Approval: 06/29/2020

Effective Date: 06/29/2020

Scope

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

Policy Statement

It is inappropriate to fraternize with a client (i.e., socialize outside of clinic) during the time in which you are responsible for the client's treatment. This includes activities such as babysitting, tutoring, or providing caregiver services for a family that you are working with in a clinical practicum.

If you are not the current treating student clinician and would like to pursue an employment opportunity that a family or client offers you (e.g., babysitting, tutoring, caregiving, etc.), it is recommended that you discuss this with the Clinical Director. It is critical that you understand that recreational or vocational services are separate from providing skilled speech-language services. Student clinicians **MUST** be supervised by a licensed SLP to provide any evaluative or intervention services, and not doing so violates the Code of Ethics.

Procedure

If you are assigned to work with someone with whom you already have a potential family/friend relationship, please inform the Clinical Director immediately to determine if a change is warranted.

If you will be working for or helping a family with a member who has a communication disorder, and/or have any questions regarding a specific activity, please contact a faculty member and/or the Clinical Director.

It is helpful to inform your clients and their families that, to ensure confidentiality, if you see them (client and/or family) outside of the clinic setting that you will not address them unless they address you first.