

Fitness to Practise

Code of Conduct for Pharmacy Students

Pharmacy is one of the registered healthcare professions and carries both privileges and responsibilities. Students are expected to conduct themselves professionally at all times. A Code of Conduct applies to all Pharmacy students from the first day of the course to the day of graduation, and applies both on and off campus. The Code of Conduct is based on the same seven principles as those of the Code of Ethics for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians:

1. Make the care of patients your first concern
2. Exercise your professional judgment in the interests of patients and the public
3. Show respect for others
4. Encourage patients to participate in decisions about their care
5. Develop your professional knowledge and competence
6. Be honest and trustworthy
7. Take responsibility for your working practices

The Code can be viewed in full at

<http://www.pharmacyregulation.org/education/pharmacist/student-code-conduct>

and is recommended further reading.

Health Questionnaires and Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) Checks

As part of the admissions process, the School is required to carry out health and good character checks on students. We will give you more information about our health questionnaire and about the enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check when you apply to us, but if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us at any time.

Fitness to Practice Procedures

The School has fitness to practise procedures in place for Pharmacy students and you will be given more information about these when you join the course. If you do not abide by the Code of Conduct, or if we have concerns about your health or behaviour you may be subject to those procedures. Possible outcomes of Fitness to Practise Hearings include:

- No warning or sanction
- A warning as there is evidence of misconduct, but fitness to practise is not impaired to a point requiring a sanction
- Fitness to practise is judged to be impaired and the student receives a sanction. Sanctions can range from:
 - Conditions or undertakings
 - Suspension from the course
 - Expulsion from the course

The School is required to inform the accrediting body of any sanctions it imposes. You should therefore note that your fitness to practise before or during your period of study may impair your eligibility to register and to practise as a pharmacist.

We encourage students to discuss any problems or concerns with us as soon as possible, so that we can support and advise you appropriately.

Categories of Concern

The following list includes categories of concern with some illustrative examples of each:

Criminal conviction, caution, reprimand or penalty notice of disorder (PND) or equivalent, relating to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▫ Theft▫ Financial fraud▫ Possession of illegal substances▫ Creating or obtaining child pornography▫ Child abuse or any other abuse
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Drug or alcohol misuse:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs • Alcohol consumption that affects work or the work environment • Misusing therapeutic or illicit drugs • Possessing or dealing illicit drugs, even if there are no legal proceedings
Aggressive, violent or threatening behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assault, sexual assault • Physical violence, bullying • Verbal abuse
Persistent inappropriate attitude or behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of commitment to academic work • Neglect of administrative tasks • Poor time management • Infrequent or non-attendance • Poor communication • Failure to accept or follow educational advice • Failure to follow health and safety requirements • Failure to follow the rules and regulations of a School or University
Cheating or plagiarising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheating in examinations or passing off others' work as one's own
Dishonesty or fraud, including dishonesty outside the professional role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Falsifying research • Falsifying qualifications • Misrepresentation • Financial fraud • Fraudulent CVs or other documents or students signing in for other students to misrepresent attendance
Unprofessional behaviour or attitudes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breach of confidentiality • Sexual, racial or other forms of harassment • Failure to observe appropriate boundaries in behaviour • Persistent rudeness • Bullying • Unlawful discrimination
Health concerns and lack of insight or management of these concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to seek appropriate medical treatment or other support • Failure to follow medical advice or care plans, including monitoring and reviews in relation to maintaining fitness to practise • Failure to recognise limits and abilities or lack of insight into health concerns • Treatment-resistant conditions, which might impair fitness to practise

This list is not exhaustive.