Policy on Student Mistreatment

The medical learning environment is expected to facilitate students’ acquisition of the professional and collegial attitudes necessary for effective and compassionate health care. The development of these attitudes is based on the presence of mutual respect between teacher and learner.

The Albert Einstein College of Medicine is committed to maintaining a safe and supportive academic environment that is free of all mistreatment, including intimidation, disrespect, belittlement, humiliation and abuse. The College has therefore adopted a policy of zero tolerance with respect to student mistreatment. The policy is intended to protect students and discipline and/or take other appropriate action against those responsible.

Definition

In general, student mistreatment is defined as any instance in which a student is treated badly or abused in any way. This includes the perpetrator’s abuse of power by asking the student to do things beyond the scope of the medical student’s role.

Examples of abuse include, but are not limited to:

- Public belittling or humiliation (feeling dehumanized, disrespected or undignified, being shouted at, cursed or ridiculed)
- Threat of harm or being physically abused
- Being asked to perform services unrelated to education or patient care (shopping, etc.)
- Sexual mistreatment (sexual advances, sexist remarks)
- Offensive remarks based on one’s gender, racial, ethnic, religious identity or sexual orientation
- Having grades lowered solely on the basis of gender, racial, ethnic, religious identity or sexual orientation
- Threat of grading and other forms of assessment as a reward or punishment for inappropriate requests

Mistreatment Reporting Form