

CGHS Student-Mentor Compact

The purpose of this document is to serve as a foundation for dialog between students who are enrolled in The University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center (UTHSC) College of Graduate Health Sciences (CGHS) and their mentors regarding expectations and responsibilities. It is anticipated that such dialog, on a regular basis, will foster a healthy and respectful academic environment essential to graduate training.

1. Students of the College accept and will adhere to the “Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities” detailed in the UTHSC Centerscope document.
2. Students of the College have the right to, and responsibility for, representation in the administrative functions of the College:
 - A. each program provides student representation to the Graduate Student Executive Committee (GSEC);
 - B. each College administrative committee (e.g., Curriculum Committee) has a student representative, with the expectation that the representative will participate in the functions of the committee and report committee activity to the student governance;
 - C. the GSEC has the right and responsibility to address issues in a timely fashion with the administration of the College;
 - D. faculty support student participation in the administrative functions of the College for its value to the College and as leadership training experience.
3. Students of the College have the right to receive an excellent education:
 - A. to the fullest extent possible, the College and each program provides a curriculum that is current and responsive to student career needs;
 - B. students receive feedback from mentors and their faculty committee that is clear, timely, and delivered in a professional manner;
 - C. expectations for students are outlined clearly in writing;
 - D. students receive detailed clarification of performance issues and expectations when requested;
 - E. although failure has substantial learning value, deliberately placing students in situations where the *a priori* expectation is failure is not an adequate means of assessing academic achievement.
4. Students of the College have the responsibility to conduct themselves in a professional manner appropriate for their status as junior colleagues:
 - A. faculty, staff, and students are respected as individuals and for their contribution to the mission of the College and the UTHSC;
 - B. students are representatives of the College and the UTHSC to the scientific and lay community;
 - C. students meet their professional obligations, including attendance and responsibility for administrative functions (e.g., timely and accurate completion of forms);
 - D. students dedicate themselves to the advancement of their careers through pursuit of their degree.
5. Students and faculty have the responsibility to take advantage of opportunities for the student’s professional development (e.g., oral and written communication skills, teaching experience). Faculty have the responsibility to guide this development and ensure that sufficient time is devoted to professional development and personal interests.
6. Students should receive appropriate acknowledgment for their intellectual contributions in keeping with the standards of their academic discipline and the principles of academic integrity espoused by the College and the UTHSC.