



Office of Field Education

Code of Conduct

Purpose

The Field Code of Conduct is established to foster and protect the learning objectives of the field practicum and the field placement process for College of Social Work students. Integrity and professionalism are key characteristics necessary to obtain the most value from the practicum and to respect the contribution and partnership of our partner agencies. This Code incorporates both the requirements of student conduct at the university and the profession's Code of Ethics. This Code applies to all students engaging in the placement process and field education.

General Conduct

- Students are responsible for adhering to both The Ohio State University Student Code of Conduct and the NASW Code of Ethics
- Students should not engage in activities contrary to the mission of the College of Social Work and/or their field placement agency.

Field Policies & Procedures

- Students are expected to demonstrate an understanding of field policies and procedures as defined in the Field Manual.
- Students are not permitted to arrange their own field placements, unless they are living outside of Ohio. Placements in central Ohio must be arranged by the Field Placement Coordinator.
- Students should view their practicum experience as a learning opportunity to gain transferable skills for any future career interest.
- Students are encouraged to be thoughtful about their placement referrals. Prior to declining a placement, students must meet with their Placement Coordinator.
- When issues in a student placement arise, the student is responsible for reporting concerns in a timely and appropriate manner. Students are expected to use appropriate channels of communication when addressing problematic situations in their practicum experience. See the Problems in Placement section of the Field Manual for more information on effectively communicating concerns.
- Students are not permitted to terminate their placement without first sharing concerns with their liaison and receiving approval from the Director or Assistant Director of Field Education. Should a student terminate placement without following appropriate channels, the hours collected prior to the self-terminated placement may be forfeited and are subject to approval but the field office.

Appropriate Professional Conduct

- Students are subject to employee policies, procedures, and disciplinary action of their field agency.
- Students should commit to engaging in appropriate self-care and seek out supportive services for issues that may negatively impact their field placement performance.
- Students should assess and appropriately adapt to the varying degrees of professional social work environments.

Failure to adhere to this Code of Conduct may result in an unsuccessful placement (as defined in the Field Manual) and/or other disciplinary action(s) including a Performance Review by the College of Social Work.