



INSTITUTIONAL POLICY: D10020 – Student Due Process

Category: Students

Subject: Student Due Process

Effective Date: 4/28/2026

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Authority: COCA – 5.7 - 9

1. Policy Statement

The Niamez College of Osteopathic Medicine ("NCOM") is committed to ensuring that all osteopathic medical students are afforded fair, consistent, and timely due process in matters involving academic status, professionalism, conduct, disciplinary action, suspension, or dismissal. Students will be provided with notice of concerns, an opportunity to be heard, and access to an impartial review process consistent with all applicable institutional policies, accreditation standards, and applicable law.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all students enrolled in NCOM's Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) program and governs due process protections related to, but not limited to:

- Academic performance and progression
- Professionalism and conduct
- Disciplinary action, probation, suspension, or dismissal
- Appeals of academic or disciplinary decisions

This policy operates in conjunction with all applicable NCOM student policies, including but not limited to academic standards, dismissal, professionalism, technical standards, student conduct policies, and the board approved over all institutional due process policy B7080.

3. Principles of Due Process

NCOM's due process framework is guided by the following principles:

3.1 Notice

Students will receive timely written notice of any alleged deficiency, violation, or action being considered, including the basis for the concern and any relevant supporting information.

3.2 Opportunity to Respond

Students will be provided with a reasonable opportunity to respond, in writing and/or in person, to the allegations or concerns prior to a final decision being rendered.

3.3 Impartial Review

Reviews and decisions will be conducted by individuals or committees assigned to adjudicate such issues under current NCOM policies without conflicts of interest and with appropriate academic or administrative authority.



3.4 Consistency and Equity

Policies will be applied consistently to all students, without discrimination or retaliation, and in accordance with published standards.

4. Academic and Disciplinary Review Process

4.1 Academic Matters

Academic deficiencies or progression concerns are addressed in accordance with NCOM's academic standards and evaluation policies, including probation, remediation, suspension, or dismissal as applicable. Academic recommendations may be reviewed by designated academic or promotions committees.

4.2 Professionalism and Conduct Matters

Concerns related to student conduct or professionalism are addressed pursuant to applicable institutional professionalism and conduct policies. Sanctions, if any, will correspond to the severity and nature of the conduct.

4.3 Disciplinary Actions

Disciplinary actions affecting a student's enrollment status (including suspension or dismissal) will not be finalized without providing due process protections as outlined in this policy.

5. Appeals

5.1 Right to Appeal

Students subject to suspension or dismissal have the right to appeal the decision in accordance with NCOM's published appeal procedures.

5.2 Grounds for Appeal

Appeals may be considered only on one or more of the following grounds:

- Procedural error that materially affected the outcome
- New information not reasonably available at the time of the decision
- Disproportionate sanction relative to the violation

5.3 Final Authority

The decision of the designated appellate body constitutes the institution's final determination.

6. Records and Confidentiality

All records related to due process reviews and appeals are maintained in accordance with NCOM's student records, confidentiality, and applicable FERPA policies. Information is shared only with individuals who have a legitimate educational or administrative need to know, or as required by applicable regulatory/legal standards.

7. Non-Retaliation

Retaliation against any student for exercising rights under this policy, participating in a review, or filing an appeal is strictly prohibited and may result in disciplinary action.



8. Publication and Review

This policy is published in the NCOM Student Handbook and on the institutional website. The policy is reviewed periodically to ensure continued compliance with COCA standards and applicable law.

Signed by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'S. ...', is written over a horizontal line.

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Dean/CAO