

George Mason University
College of Education and Human Development
Student Statement of Commitment to Professional Behaviors

Throughout a student's program of study in the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) at George Mason University (Mason), the student is expected to demonstrate behaviors that reflect the positive dispositions of an aspiring professional. Dispositions are the thoughts, habits, and associated actions that underlie professional responsibility. In CEHD, dispositions are integral to the student's program of study and refinement of their professional identity. Students are encouraged to reflect on their dispositions as they interact with Mason staff, faculty, and fellow students, as well as their engagements with community members and those within their field of practice. Ongoing reflection and assessment of dispositions are part of the student's educational process as an opportunity for growth, further development, and proficiency.

Additionally, all members of the College of Education and Human Development community are expected to uphold the CEHD Core Values of collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice (<http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>):

Collaboration. Collaboration is an important human activity that involves shared responsibility in promoting healthy, productive lives and educational success. We commit ourselves to work toward these goals in genuine partnerships with individuals, families, community agencies, schools, businesses, foundations, and other groups at the local, regional, national, and international levels.

Ethical Leadership. In all professions represented by the college, leadership is an essential component denoting ability and willingness to help lead professional practice to higher levels. We commit ourselves to practice ethical leadership through deliberate and systematic attention to the ethical principles that guide all leaders in a moral society.

Innovation. We have a history of creating dynamic, innovative programs and we are dedicated to continue creating innovative approaches in all areas of our work. We commit ourselves to seeking new ways to advance knowledge, solve problems, improve our professional practice, and expand on our successes.

Research-Based Practice. The best practice in any discipline is based upon sound research and professional judgment. We commit ourselves to basing our instruction, scholarship, and policy recommendations on well-established principles that, wherever possible, emerge from research and reflection on its implications for professional practice.

Social Justice. Social justice embodies essential principles of equity and access to all opportunities in society, in accordance with democratic principles and respect for all persons and points of view. We commit ourselves to promoting equity, opportunity, and social justice through the college's operations and its missions related to teaching, research, and service.

Further, each program may outline specific expectations for professional behaviors relevant to their discipline or professional practice and aligned with guidance from professional organizations or accrediting bodies. It is the student's responsibility to understand and adhere to appropriate University policies (e.g., Code of Student Conduct, Honor Code), and the expectations of the College, the student's program(s) of study, and their chosen profession.

Student Commitment to Professional Behaviors:

My signature affirms that I have read the CEHD Student Statement of Commitment to Professional Behaviors, I understand what is expected of me, and I will uphold the CEHD values and demonstrate appropriate behaviors that will reflect positively on Mason, CEHD, my program, and myself.

Student Name: _____ Student Signature: _____ Date: _____