

## **CSD Standards of Professional Conduct**

The Idaho State University Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders strives to promote professionalism among students as it fosters an environment committed to excellence in education and the practice of speech-language pathology. The professions of Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Sign Language Interpreting require adherence to impeccable ethical standards. Students represent the university and department as well as their future professions and are expected to act with honor and integrity at all times, including times in the classroom, in clinical practice settings, and in the community, as well as in all written and oral communication. Students are expected to demonstrate respect towards faculty members and their fellow students, thereby creating an environment conducive to learning. Any form of academic or professional misconduct violates the standards expected of students.

Students in the CSD Programs represent the Department and University as well as their respective professions. Students are expected to act in a professional manner while in class, and in clinical settings on-campus and off-campus. Unprofessional behavior may result in students being placed on probation, receiving a failing grade in class or clinic, or being expelled from the program. Professional behavior includes dress, communication, and actions. Profanity, aggressive communication styles, and/or disrespectful behavior are strictly forbidden. Unprofessional, disruptive, and/or inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. Consistent with the University policy on disruptive behavior, preceptors/supervisors and instructors may impose sanctions in cases of disruptive behavior.

Students will be held accountable for standards regarding professional and ethical behavior specified in the Communication Sciences and Disorders SLP Clinic Manual and the Idaho State University Student Handbook, which are updated regularly. Depending on the offense, any violations of professional or ethical behavior standards may result in probation, a failing grade, and/or expulsion from the program. A consensus of clinical and academic faculty will be reached regarding the consequence for the behavior. Instructors', supervisors', and advisors' input will be considered in the process of determining the consequence for the behavior.

Qualities that constitute professional and ethical behavior that are expected of students include:

- Be consistent
- Be prepared
- Be punctual
- Be respectful to students, instructors, staff, clients, and other professionals
- Embrace teamwork
- Have effective interpersonal skills
- Respect the contribution of professionalism to client care
- Be positively responsive to feedback
- Promote trust
- Be a positive role model

- Maintain a professional appearance
- Be accountable
- Be open minded and flexible
- Be empathetic towards others
- Be culturally sensitive
- Follow all HIPAA regulations consistently

### Sanctions for Unprofessional Conduct

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders takes seriously any ethical violations. If a student has violated an ASHA *Code of Ethics* standard, violated HIPAA guidelines, engaged in academic misconduct, or demonstrated inappropriate professional behavior, the following process will be followed:

1. There will be a meeting of the relevant course instructor, clinical supervisor, or advisor with the student. During this meeting, the faculty member will share with the student the concern about the ethical violation.
2. If the ethical violation warrants more consideration, a sub-committee meeting will be held. Typically, the faculty advisor, department chairperson, and one additional faculty member appointed by the department chair will meet to discuss the case and to ascertain what consequences are necessitated. The student will be able to respond to questions and share his or her perspective during this meeting.
3. If the sub-committee of faculty, upon review of the case details and facts, deems the ethical violation to be serious enough to warrant dismissal from the program, the entire SLP program faculty will meet to ascertain the decision to dismiss. The departmental faculty will meet in a closed session to determine the consequence of the unethical behavior. If repeated offenses of inappropriate behavior are observed, this will also be taken into consideration in determination of consequences.
4. If the student is dismissed, the typical university procedures for appealing a dismissal will be in effect. Refer to "Appeal of Grade or Dismissal" at <http://www.isu.edu/graduate>. Instances of unprofessional and/or unethical behavior, notes of official meetings addressing these instances, and the ultimate decision regarding consequences for the behavior(s) will be documented in the student's academic file.