

# LEARNING ENVIRONMENT SAFETY

Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine seeks to provide a respectful and professional learning environment. We want to demonstrate clear responsibility for supporting learners in an education free of mistreatment and unaddressed unprofessional conduct. Below are outlined some of the routes and subsequent processes for reporting a learning environment concern.

## 1

### WHAT IS MY CONCERN?

#### Examples of Concerns

##### CONCERN

- Inappropriate comments, not directed towards students or patients
- Belittling or humiliating comments
- General rudeness or lack of collegiality

##### MAJOR CONCERN

- Comments or behaviour of a discriminatory, sexual or harassing nature, directed towards students or patients
- Threat of recrimination or physical harm

##### CRITICAL CONCERN

- Potentially criminal act(s), including sexualized violence or physical assault
- Concerns for patient safety

Is this a **Professionalism** issue?

- Confidentiality breach
- Unethical behaviour
- Academic fraud

## 2

### WHAT ARE MY REPORTING OPTIONS?

Concerns may be reported to [Dalhousie Ombudsperson](#) or [Human Rights and Equity Services, online](#), through [student liaisons](#), or directly to [Student Affairs](#), or [Assistant/Associate Dean at DMNS or DMNB](#), or [anonymously](#) via unit reviews.

## 3

### HOW IS CONFIDENTIALITY MAINTAINED?

The learner's report/concern is held in confidence and not shared without their consent and knowledge, unless there is significant risk to learners, patients and/or other individuals. The Faculty of Medicine endeavours to protect learners against any potential recrimination or future disadvantage. [Protecting Learner Confidentiality](#).

## 4

### WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

Report may be made to Assistant Dean for Clerkship and/or Student Affairs, as necessary

Concern may be brought to **Department Head, Program Director,** and/or **Health Authority**

May be referred to appropriate agency, such as the **police** or the **provincial regulatory authority**

Senior Associate Dean receives data and compiles annual report of incidents.