



Policy Title:

Student Harassment and Mistreatment Reporting Policy

Policy Identifier:

A1.02g

Prepared by: PA Program Faculty	Creation Date: 01/01/2026
Reviewed by: PA Program Executive Committee	Review Date: 01/01/2026
Approved by: PA Program Executive Committee	Effective Date: 01/01/2026
Category: Administrative Policies	

ARC PA Standard

A1.02g

Scope

This policy applies to all University of South Carolina (USC) School of Medicine Columbia Physician Assistant (PA) Program students.

Policy Statement

The USC PA Program adopts and adheres to University of South Carolina policies governing student allegations of harassment and mistreatment. These policies are defined, published, readily available, and consistently applied to all PA students.

All allegations of harassment, discrimination, or mistreatment are processed in accordance with [USC Policy CR 1.00 – Prohibited Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation](#).

The PA Program ensures access to these reporting processes and provides support but does not replace university procedures.

Reason for Policy

To ensure compliance with ARC-PA Standard G by providing clear, accessible, and consistently applied processes for reporting and addressing student harassment and mistreatment.

Definitions

- **Mistreatment:** Behavior that shows disrespect for the dignity of others and unreasonably interferes with the learning process.
- **Harassment:** Unwelcome conduct that creates a hostile, intimidating, or offensive educational environment.
- **Discrimination:** Unequal treatment based on protected characteristics as defined by university policy.



Procedures

1. Reporting Harassment or Mistreatment

Students may report concerns through:

- Office of Civil Rights and Title IX
- PA Program leadership (Program Director, faculty, or staff)
- University reporting systems

Reports may be made with or without initiating a formal complaint.

2. Review and Investigation

- All reports of harassment, discrimination, or mistreatment are managed in accordance with USC Policy CR 1.00.
- The university is responsible for investigation, determination, and resolution.
- Supportive measures may be provided regardless of whether a formal complaint is filed.

3. Program Responsibilities

The PA Program will:

- Inform students of reporting options during orientation and in the student handbook
- Maintain access to reporting resources and university policies
- Provide guidance and support for reporting individuals
- Refer all formal complaints to the Office of Civil Rights and Title IX

4. Confidentiality and Non-Retaliation

- Reports will be handled with appropriate privacy and confidentiality to the extent possible.
- Retaliation against individuals who report concerns or participate in investigations is prohibited.

Contacts

Office of Civil Rights and Title IX

University of South Carolina

PA Program Director

History

Date of Change	Change
01/01/2016	Policy drafted into new template