The Department of Health Science’s Expectations of Professional Behavior are grouped into three categories: Communication/Interpersonal Skills, Emotional and Physical Abilities, and Personal and Professional Behavior.

**Students enrolled in the Department of Health Science must:**

*Communication/Interpersonal Skills…*

Express themselves effectively in standard written and oral English in order to communicate with students, faculty, staff, and professionals:

- write clearly and use correct grammar and spelling. They demonstrate sufficient skills in written Standard English to establish their grasp of content presented in the program and to adequately complete all written assignments, including email communications*, as specified by faculty and field placements;
- communicate appropriately with other students, faculty, staff, and professionals. They express ideas and feelings clearly and demonstrate a willingness and an ability to listen to others;
- demonstrate sufficient skills in spoken Standard English to establish their grasp of content presented in the program, to adequately complete all oral assignments, and to meet the objectives of field placement experiences, as specified by faculty and as required by the placement.

Demonstrate communication skills that are responsive to a variety of perspectives represented in diverse professional environments:

- appreciate the value of diversity and look beyond self in interactions with others. They must not impose personal, religious, sexual, and/or cultural values on others;
- demonstrate their awareness of appropriate social boundaries and their readiness as well as ability to observe those boundaries.

Demonstrate necessary interpersonal competencies to function effectively with instructors, peers, students, faculty, staff, and professionals and to function collaboratively as part of a professional team:

- demonstrate appropriate social skills in professional and social interactions with instructors, peers, faculty, staff, and professionals;
- demonstrate the ability to express their viewpoints and negotiate difficulties appropriately, without behaving unprofessionally with instructors, peers, students, faculty, staff, and professionals.
Emotional and Physical Abilities...

Be able to work appropriately with time constraints and deadlines and to concentrate in distracting situations:

- demonstrate the ability to work with frequent interruptions, to respond appropriately to unexpected situations, and to cope with variations in workload and stress levels;
- demonstrate the ability to multi-task and to adapt to and display flexibility in changing situations;
- possess the ability to make and execute quick, appropriate, and accurate decisions in a complex, stressful environment;
- maintain composure and continue to function well in situations entailing diverse workloads, stress levels and interpersonal demands.

Have the physical stamina to work a contractual day and perform extended and additional duties expected of a working professional, such as conferences, events, and other assigned duties:

- exhibit motor and sensory abilities to attend and participate fully as required in class and field placement placements;
- tolerate physical demands consistent with class and field placement placements.

Personal and Professional Behavior...

Be prepared as appropriate and arrive on time for professional commitments, including classes and field placement placements:

- meet deadlines for course assignments, program requirements, and field placement responsibilities;
- plan for obstacles (e.g., traffic, security, parking) that might make it more difficult to arrive on time to class or field placement placements.

Seek assistance, follow supervision, and respond appropriately to constructive reviews of their work from peers, faculty and supervisors:

- reflect on their practice and accept constructive feedback in a professional manner;
- demonstrate the ability to act upon appropriate suggestions and reasonable criticism;
- are flexible, open to new ideas and willing to modify their beliefs and practices to best serve their field placement.

Demonstrate attitudes of integrity, responsibility, and tolerance:

- demonstrate honesty and integrity by being truthful about background, experiences, and qualifications; doing their own work; giving credit for the ideas of others; and providing proper citation of source materials;
- interact courteously, fairly, and professionally with all people, including those from diverse racial, cultural, and social backgrounds and of different genders or sexual preferences;
• must not make verbal or physical threats; engage in sexual harassment; become involved in sexual relationships with their clients, patients, residents, supervisors, or faculty; or abuse others in physical, emotional, verbal, or sexual ways;
• demonstrate the ability to understand the perspectives of others and the ability to separate personal and professional issues.;
• protect the confidentiality of information unless disclosure serves professional purposes or is required by law.

Show respect for self and others:

• exhibit respect for all Towson University instructors, peers, students, faculty, staff, and professionals and community members;
• know cell phone use and texting is prohibited during meetings, class and field placements;
• know use of iPods, radios, and ear buds is prohibited during class and field placements;
• are free of the influence of illegal drugs and alcoholic beverages on university premises and field placements;
• are expected to abide by the Towson University Code of Student Behavior at all times both on campus and in field placements;
• demonstrate the ability to deal with personal and professional stressors through the use of appropriate coping mechanisms;
• use sound judgment;
• seek and effectively use help for medical and emotional problems that may interfere with scholastic and/or professional performance;
• realize their representations on the internet will be considered within the scope of their professional demeanor. They avoid photographs, comments and other online representations of self that reflect poorly on them as individuals and on Towson University as a whole.

Project an image of professionalism:

• demonstrate appropriate personal hygiene;
• dress appropriately for their professional contexts;
• possess maturity, self-discipline, and appropriate professional judgment;
• demonstrate good attendance, integrity, honesty, conscientiousness in work, and teamwork.