

**LEWIS KATZ SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AT TEMPLE UNIVERSITY
MD PROGRAM COMPETENCIES**

PROFESSIONALISM

Professionalism embodies the responsibilities of a physician that go beyond knowledge and technical skills and enables the delivery of health care. It includes honesty, maintaining patient confidentiality and trust, mutual respect and commitment to the welfare of patients. Students must:

1. Maintain emotional, physical, and mental health, and pursue continual personal and professional growth.
2. Demonstrate personal motivation, compassion, reliability, integrity, and honesty in all interactions with patients, families, colleagues and other healthcare professionals
3. Demonstrate responsiveness to patient needs that supersedes self-interest
4. Demonstrate understanding of, and commitment to, ethical and legal principles in all aspects of patient care, including beneficence, justice, confidentiality, privacy, informed consent and patient autonomy
5. Demonstrate awareness of, and sensitivity to, diversity among patients, providing effective care that respects interpersonal differences in age, ethnicity, cultural beliefs, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, sexual practices, and spirituality; and using strategies to assess and mitigate one's own potential biases, treating patients in a non-judgmental manner. [Italics rep add'l wording]
6. Serve as a healthcare advocate for individual patients and all patient populations
7. Recognize their abilities and limitations, participate in ongoing self-assessment, actively seeking and responding to feedback, and continuously striving to improve patient care and patient-centered interactions
8. Demonstrate attentiveness to professional and medical errors and work to reduce such errors in all aspects of patient care
9. Maintain a professional image in behavior and attire, demonstrating respect for the patient and the environment in which the patient care is given

10. Engage in self-directed and independent learning to stay abreast of the scientific advances, relevant to the current practice of medicine and emerging technologies

Approved by the Curriculum Committee and the Dean, May 2015