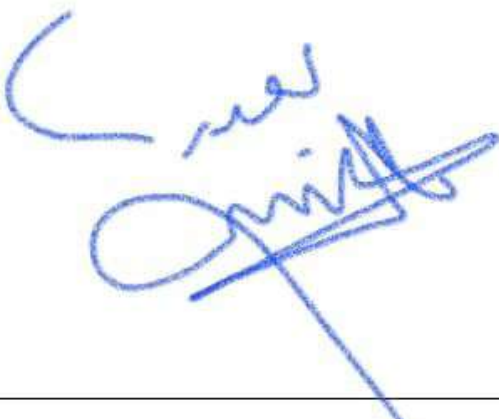


Code of Ethics

Faculty of Physical Therapy

Benha University

Accreditation: Faculty Council, July 2025



مكتب وكيل الكلية لشئون التعليم و الطلاب

Overview of the Ethical Charter

The ethical charter is a set of core values and behaviors that the faculty strives to adhere to during the course of its work. Ethical commitment within the faculty contributes to enhancing the values of society.

The profession of physical therapy is considered one of the noble and prestigious professions. It gained prominence after the end of World War II, as the number of war-disabled individuals increased, creating a need for physical therapy to rehabilitate them and help them return to life. It was an honor for the profession that healing did not come through prescribed medication, but rather through the hands of the physical therapist.

First: The Code of Ethics and Conduct of University Work

A faculty member and the supporting academic staff at the university serve as role models and examples to others. They convey powerful ethical messages through everything they say and do, both inside and outside the university. They bear professional and moral responsibility for the ethical development of their students.

• Qualities of a Faculty Member:

Integrity and honesty, commitment and positivity, objectivity and fairness. They value mutual respect between themselves, their colleagues, students, and administrative staff. They serve as a role model, are open to differing opinions, and are receptive to consultation and advice.

Professional Ethics in Teaching:

- Mastery of the teaching profession and a deep understanding of physical therapy sciences and relevant medical sciences, delivered through modern scientific methods.

- Thorough preparation of course material, with continuous efforts to stay updated with recent advancements through current references and research.
- Adherence to official quality standards to elevate the academic level of the subject matter.
- Informing students of the course objectives, contents, evaluation methods, and the scientific references available to them.
- Striving to teach students the ethics and professional conduct required for practicing physical therapy.
- Respecting students' intellectual abilities, encouraging independent thinking and innovation, and refraining from ridicule.
- Allowing open discussion and constructive objection as part of productive dialogue to help students grasp the subject more effectively.
- Welcoming students during office hours to respond to their questions and clarify any points of confusion.
- Performing duties with honesty and dedication, and monitoring student performance through discussions, written, and practical exams.
- Providing proper guidance regarding sources of knowledge and study materials, and encouraging scientific and library-based research.
- Refraining from offering private tutoring under any name, whether paid or unpaid, and actively opposing the practice.
- Committing to attend lectures, tutorials, and practical sessions punctually and notifying in case of absence.

Professional Ethics in Student Evaluation and Exam Administration:

- Conducting continuous or periodic assessment of students and informing them of their results to help them learn from their mistakes. In cases that require it, notifying the student's guardian of the evaluation outcomes.
- Ensuring fairness, quality, and variety in exam questions; adhering to official exam paper guidelines; maintaining discipline and order during exams; strictly prohibiting cheating; and applying disciplinary actions in cases of cheating or attempted cheating.
- Assigning answer sheet grading to qualified and trustworthy individuals, as approved by the departmental grading and review committee, while ensuring accuracy and confidentiality of student identities.
- Organizing the process of recording student grades in a way that guarantees thorough review and complete confidentiality.
- Announcing results simultaneously from a single, official source, and allowing students to review their results in case of complaints, which must be taken seriously and thoroughly documented.
- Committing to the implementation of the teaching and learning strategies adopted by the faculty in the evaluation process.

• Professional Ethics in Research, Authorship, and Supervision of Academic Theses:

- Directing physical therapy and rehabilitation research toward benefiting society and humanity.
- Committing to academic integrity in conducting research and discussing its results.
- Striving for accuracy and impartiality when summarizing the scientific viewpoints of others.

- Clearly defining the roles of participants in joint research and avoiding the inclusion of names out of courtesy or favoritism.
 - Avoiding the distortion of quoted texts in a way that misrepresents the original author's intent, and clearly citing sources when quoting.
 - Citing references with complete honesty and accuracy to ensure they can be properly traced, and attributing works to their rightful authors.
 - Exercising accuracy, honesty, and integrity in the collection of field and community data, while maintaining data confidentiality.
 - The researcher should analyze and interpret results personally and should only delegate numerical calculations or statistical analysis.
 - Ensuring patient safety from misuse of devices and equipment.
 - Not conducting experiments on patients except in accordance with recognized ethical standards.
 - Respecting intellectual property rights of all authors.
- **Supervision of Academic Theses by Faculty Members:**
1. Guiding students in selecting the research topic and ensuring that the researcher is capable of conducting the study under faculty supervision.
 2. Committing to academic honesty in the execution of research and scholarly works.
 3. Providing well-structured academic support to the student, while training them to evaluate independently, make free choices, and take full responsibility for their research, analyses, and outcomes.
 4. Teaching the student how to organize and scientifically analyze their results based on the latest theories in their field of specialization.
 5. Enhancing the student's capacity for exploration and innovation by familiarizing them with modern methodologies relevant to their research area.

6. Accurately assessing the research, both during the supervision process and when evaluating the final work.
7. Clearly defining the roles of all participants involved in the research.
8. Precisely citing sources when quoting, including the extent of each quotation.

• **Professional Ethics in Accepting Gifts and Donations:**

- Adhering strictly to the university's policy on accepting gifts and donations.
- Publicly disclosing all gifts and donations received by the faculty, including the donors and their intended uses, with full transparency in the Faculty Council.
- Announcing the gifts and donations received by the faculty during the University Council meetings.
- Faculty members and staff are strictly prohibited from accepting personal gifts or private donations from individuals or organizations.
- Ceasing any dealings with individuals found to be involved in matters that compromise integrity or honor.

• **Professional Ethics in Serving the University and Society:**

- Performing academic and student-related duties with honesty and dedication, thereby contributing to the advancement of human knowledge and graduating students who are more capable of active and positive participation in society.
- Connecting academic content with the needs of society—especially given the generally limited resources—so that the majority of the faculty member's efforts and expertise are directed toward addressing the community's pressing issues.
- Willingly accepting assigned tasks related to the university's development and performing them sincerely and proficiently, without being deterred by difficulties or challenges.

- Doing their utmost to support and develop the junior academic staff, including teaching assistants, demonstrators, or lower-ranked faculty members.
- A faculty member's responsibility is a sacred duty before God, the nation, and the university.
- A professor who neglects the care and development of demonstrators, teaching assistants, or researchers in their department is failing in their duty and abandoning their responsibility.
- Avoiding overestimation of financial returns from academic work without justification; fair compensation is what is expected of a university professor.
- A professor must protect public funds by all appropriate means—whether through proper use of equipment and materials, efficient time management, or offering well-considered opinions.
- Taking initiative to serve society and engage with public issues whenever able.
- Building relationships with colleagues, superiors, and subordinates based on mutual respect and a commitment to the public good, while avoiding favoritism or behavior that undermines the collective interest.
- When appointed to an administrative position, the faculty member should either train themselves or willingly accept available training to fulfill their role as effectively as possible within their capabilities.

Second: The Ethical Charter for Students of the Faculty of Physical Therapy

- Upholding academic traditions and maintaining the proper appearance and conduct expected of a physical therapy student.

- Respecting all faculty members, teaching assistants, administrative staff, and laboratory specialists.
- Attending lectures on time as scheduled.
- Maintaining honesty in recording laboratory results.
- Ensuring the safety of colleagues during laboratory experiments and adhering to health and safety regulations.
- Taking care of laboratory equipment, furniture, and buildings, and refraining from tampering with them.
- Respecting ethical standards when dealing with patients in university and teaching hospitals.
- Preserving the confidentiality of patients encountered in hospitals and outpatient clinics.
- Committing to academic integrity by avoiding cheating and refraining from violating intellectual property rights in exams and assigned research.

Third: The Ethical Charter for Administrative Staff

- The administrative staff member should be of good reputation.
- Display good morals and conduct.
- Be proficient and diligent in their work.
- Cooperate with colleagues.
- Treat all individuals equally, without discrimination based on color, type, or gender.
- Be able to handle work pressure and foster a strong sense of belonging to the faculty.
- Treat students, faculty members, and support staff respectfully.

- Maintain cleanliness and care for the work environment.
- Avoid unethical behaviors such as theft, bribery, favoritism, and fraud.

Fourth: The Ethical Charter for Practicing Physical Therapy

• Relationship of the Physical Therapist with the Patient:

- Commitment to the professional oath taken before practicing.
- Treating patients with honesty, integrity, compassion, and sincerity, regardless of their social, cultural, or economic status.
- Respecting the patient's values and culture, and dealing with the patient and their family with humility, patience, and respect.
- Simplifying therapeutic information and supporting the patient in adhering to the treatment plan due to its importance.
- Strictly protecting patient privacy and never disclosing personal information.
- Avoiding any actions that lead to discrimination or inequality between patients.
- Adhering to the patient's treatment plan.
- Maintaining patient confidentiality and avoiding any disclosure of their secrets.

• Relationship of the Physical Therapist with Colleagues:

- Valuing teamwork and collaborating with other physical therapy practitioners, doctors, and nursing staff to achieve optimal therapeutic outcomes for patients.
- Prioritizing patient well-being if a colleague demonstrates unprofessional behavior in patient care—by discussing the matter directly with the concerned individual to eliminate risk, and reporting it to a supervisor if necessary.

- Respecting fellow professionals by avoiding competition through advertising, undercutting, or defamation.
- Abiding by the treatment session fees set by the healthcare institution.

Duties of the Physical Therapist Toward the Profession, Institution, and Society:

- The physical therapist must be committed to continuous self-education and professional development by staying up to date with advancements in physical therapy and maintaining a competent level of knowledge and skill.
- Participating in public health campaigns to raise awareness of diseases and their physiotherapy treatments, and contributing to the development of regulations and laws related to healthcare.
- Respecting the profession and avoiding any personal behavior that could harm its reputation, while also protecting it from falling into the hands of unqualified individuals or intermediaries.
- Committing to paying the annual membership fee to the Physical Therapy Syndicate and seeking its support in cases of dispute.
- Preserving the reputation and dignity of the employing institution, complying with its regulations, and ensuring it is properly equipped.

Fifth: Code of Honor for the Physical Therapy Profession

• Ethics of the Physical Therapist:

The therapist should be sincere, faithful, wise, a role model in health care, honest, aware of their limits, humble, continuously learning, and patient.

• Relationship with Fellow Practitioners:

- Act with integrity and be a colleague and brother/sister to all physical therapists.

- Show solidarity and honor a colleague's absence.
- Collaborate for the benefit of the patient.
- Avoid jealousy of colleagues and seek consultation when unsure.
- Do not compete unfairly through advertising or price wars.
- Accept shared responsibility, put the patient's interest first, respect employment contracts, resolve any disputes amicably, and show respect for fellow professionals.
- **Relationship with the Patient:**
 - Healing and rehabilitation are the goals, and physical therapy is the means.
 - Protect the patient regardless of status or power.
 - Treat patients and their families with patience and open-mindedness.
 - Respond promptly to patient needs.
 - Listen attentively to patient complaints.
 - Support patients in financial hardship.
 - Protect patient confidentiality and never exploit them financially.
 - Understand and empathize with the patient.
 - Clearly explain the treatment plan.
 - Provide necessary information to the patient.
 - Ensure equal treatment for all patients.
 - Adhere strictly to prescribed treatment protocols.
 - Educate the patient about their condition and general health.
 - The therapist has the right to refuse to provide a treatment plan that they believe contradicts the patient's best interest.

• Relationship with Society:

- Participate in public health campaigns.
- Uphold the right to dignity and trust.
- Avoid commercialization or exploiting the profession for profit.
- Use their expertise in service of the community.
- Assist in promoting public health.
- Work to improve the quality of healthcare services.
- Engage in the development of healthcare legislation.

• Duties Toward the Employing Institution:

- Ensure proper equipment is available.
- Safeguard the institution's reputation and dignity.
- Adhere to its rules and regulations.

• Duties Toward the Profession:

- Show respect for the profession.
- Work to advance and improve it.
- Avoid actions that harm its reputation.
- Resist attempts to undermine the profession.
- Provide testimony when required.
- A therapist suffering from a serious illness that impairs their ability to work must step down.
- Avoid seeking help from intermediaries or brokers.

• **Duties Toward the Professional Syndicate:**

- Pay the annual subscription fee.
- Resort to arbitration through the syndicate in case of disputes.
- Contribute to the development of the syndicate.
- Participate in its various activities.