

Practicum • Part VI

DISMISSAL POLICY FORM: GRADUATE PRACTICUM (CFS 564 & 565) Child and Family Studies - The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

University policy requires that students be informed of the possibility of being dismissed from practica and internships if such possibility exists, no matter how remote. Please read the following, then date and sign one copy and return it to the faculty supervisor of your graduate practicum indicating you understand this procedure and the basis for dismissal.

Students may be dismissed from the practicum for the following reasons:

Violation of procedures, policies, or ethics of the co-operating practicum agency as judged by the agency or the faculty supervisor. This would include such behaviors as violations of confidence, deliberately and continually disobeying a supervisor, acting in such a way as to put clients or agency staff in physical or emotional jeopardy, acting in such a way as to place the agency in an ineffective or extremely embarrassing position, or other such deliberate and continual acts or misconduct or infractions of rules.

Acting in an unprofessional manner. Students may be dismissed for engaging in unprofessional behavior, as judged by the agency or faculty supervisor, that severely diminishes the effectiveness of the agency; places clients, staff, or innocent bystanders in physical and/or emotional jeopardy; tends to represent self as having more authority, control, power, credentials, or ability than that of an agency practicum student; or any other unprofessional behavior that seriously calls into question an individual student's ability to handle the demands of the practicum.

Gross incompetence or negligence. As judged by the agency or faculty supervisor, so as to endanger the physical and/or psychological health of clients, staff, or others, having the effect of creating unnecessary risks and dangers for clients, staff, or the general public.

At the request of the agency or faculty supervisor. In addition to dismissal for the intern's own misbehavior, he/she should be advised that an agency may request removal of a practicum student for situational reasons peculiar to that agency (e.g., inability to give proper supervision). Also, the student intern should be aware that the faculty supervisor may withdraw a student at any time from a practicum if it is felt that the student either is being psychosocially and/or physically damaged by the experience or is being inadequately supervised. In any of these circumstances, where a specific practicum site or setting is terminated for the student, the faculty supervisor will make an effort to secure another setting in accordance with the following options (determined by the faculty supervisor as circumstances permit): secure a new practicum site for the remaining weeks of the practicum or make any other equitable arrangement that can be worked out between the faculty supervisor and the practicum student.

NOTE: Neither the faculty supervisor of the Family Studies practicum nor the Department of Child and Family Studies nor UTK, has any responsibility to secure a new practicum site for students who are dismissed because of their own ineptness or misbehavior. Students may appeal any dismissal or course grade through the normal grade appeal system.

PRACTICUM STUDENT _____ DATE _____

Signature