



Policy on Student Use of AI

Policy #
4-108

Category:	4-Professionalism and Integrity
Curriculum Phase:	All Phases
Author/Authoring Body:	Curricular Affairs
Responsible Unit:	Curricular Affairs
Policy Contact:	Curricular Affairs Dean Office
Next Review Year:	2025

Summary

This policy outlines principles and guidelines for the appropriate use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools, including but not limited to generative AI systems, machine learning platforms, and image recognition software, by medical students. It emphasizes ethical considerations, responsible usage, proper citation of AI tools, and HIPAA compliance in clinical documentation. Any use of AI for clinical documentation must adhere to the policies and guidelines of the clinical site and comply with HIPAA regulations to ensure the confidentiality and security of patient information. AI tools may not be used for writing History and Physicals (H&Ps) in the Doctor & Patient Course.

Applicability & Scope

This policy applies to students in all phases of the medical education program leading to the MD degree.

Definitions

AI, AI Tools – Artificial intelligence technologies, including but not limited to generative AI systems (e.g., large language models), machine learning platforms, and image recognition software.

Policy Statement

I. Principles of Appropriate Use of AI

A. Educational Enhancement

- 1) AI tools should supplement learning and enhance educational outcomes, supporting—not replacing—the critical thinking and clinical reasoning skills essential to medical practice.

B. Transparency and Accountability

- 1) Students must be transparent about AI usage and accountable for their work. Any assistance from AI must be acknowledged according to institutional guidelines.

C. Patient Confidentiality and Data Security

- 1) The use of AI must comply with HIPAA and other relevant laws regarding patient confidentiality and data security. AI tools used for clinical documentation must be certified as HIPAA-compliant.
- 2) Students must ensure that protected health information (PHI) is only used with approved AI systems and shared in a secure manner.

D. Ethical Standards

- 1) Students are expected to adhere to the highest ethical standards in their use of AI. This includes avoiding plagiarism, ensuring the accuracy of information, and maintaining professional integrity.

II. Guidelines for Using AI

A. Permitted Uses

- 1) **Learning and Research:** AI may be used for educational purposes, such as studying, researching medical literature, and understanding complex topics.
- 2) **Administrative Tasks:** AI may assist with non-clinical administrative tasks, such as scheduling and organization.
- 3) **Clinical Documentation:** Any use of AI for clinical documentation must adhere to the policies and guidelines of the clinical site and comply with HIPAA regulations to ensure the confidentiality and security of patient information.
 - a) **Exception for Doctor & Patient Course:** AI tools cannot be used for writing History and Physicals (H&Ps) in the Doctor & Patient Course. AI tools may, however, be used for other tasks, such as researching clinical questions.
- 4) **AI Training Opt-Out:** Where available, students must opt out of having the data they submit to generative AI systems be used for the system's own training. This step helps protect data confidentiality and intellectual property.

B. Prohibited Uses

- 1) **Assessments and Assignments:** All student contributions to any assessment or assignment must represent the student's own, original work. Any use of AI, unless explicitly permitted for a given assessment/assignment, is prohibited.
- 2) **Non-HIPAA-Compliant Tools:** AI tools that do not meet HIPAA standards must not be used for processing or storing any form of PHI.
- 3) **Doctor & Patient Course:** AI tools may not be used for writing History and Physicals (H&Ps) in the Doctor & Patient Course.
- 4) **Unauthorized Patient Interaction:** AI should not be used in direct patient interactions unless authorized by supervising faculty and in compliance with institutional policies.
- 5) **Intellectual Property and Compliance with Terms:** When using AI tools, students must ensure that any content they input does not violate intellectual property rights or the terms and conditions governing the AI tool. This includes respecting copyright and any restrictions on licensed content from the institution. Also see the COM-T's [Policy on Student Use of University-Sponsored Educational Material](#).

C. Explicit Citation and Acknowledgement of AI Use

- 1) Any use of AI tools in assignments, research, clinical documentation, or other academic work must be clearly cited according to institutional guidelines.

- 2) Students must describe the nature and extent of AI assistance, ensuring transparency and ethical responsibility.

III. Compliance and Review

A. Monitoring and Enforcement

- 1) Faculty and administrative staff will monitor compliance with this policy.
- 2) Plagiarism detection tools may be used to verify originality in student work.
- 3) Violations of the policy will be subject to disciplinary actions per the [Honor Code Policy](#).

B. Periodic Review

- 1) This policy will be reviewed annually to reflect advancements in AI technology and educational practices.

Procedures

None

Related Information

Policies

- [COM-T Policy 4-101: Honor Code Policy](#)
- [COM-T Policy 4-107: Policy on Student Use of University-Sponsored Educational Material](#)
- [University of Arizona Code of Academic Integrity](#)

Resources

- [Artificial Intelligence in Teaching and Learning \(University Center for Assessment, Teaching & Technology\)](#)
- [Artificial Intelligence at the University of Arizona: Frequently Asked Questions](#)

HIPAA-Compliant AI Tools

- Freed: <https://www.getfreed.ai/>
- Heidi: <https://www.heidihealth.com/>

Revision History

2024/11/13: The Tucson Educational Policy Committee voted to approve the policy.