



National University of Health Sciences General Policies

Title: **NUHS Cultural Awareness in
Healthcare Education Definition & Policy**

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President

Date

At the National University of Health Sciences, Cultural Awareness has three operational definitions:

1. **Presence**

Presence refers to the individual characteristics of members of the campus community such as race, gender, sexual orientation/identity, religion, political philosophy, age, disability status, and socioeconomic status among others.

2. **Climate**

The manner in which the campus community acknowledges, encourages, and supports all of its members - faculty, staff and students, patients, alumni, and vendors regardless of their individual characteristics.

3. **Inquiry**

Inquiry reflects a campus community striving to develop personal and communal relationships that establish and maintain a campus characterized by respect for others, personal integrity, and tolerance within a culture of compassion and service.

NUHS envisions the following objectives that foster and enhance cultural awareness in healthcare education:

1. Support cultural awareness in healthcare education to members of the University community.
2. Maintain a climate in which respectful discussions of cultural awareness are encouraged, including cross group learning.

NUHS embraces the commitment of the University to create and sustain an environment that values a variety of perspectives and experiences. The University promotes an environment in which all students, faculty, and staff can work, learn, teach, research, and serve. Cultural awareness in healthcare education is a foundational component of our mission. NUHS strives to provide and promote the necessary leadership, management and resources for the advancement of education, new knowledge, cultural

awareness in healthcare education, outreach, and the ethical practice of the healing arts and sciences as taught within the programs of the University.

The University has modeled patient care and clinical training to prepare graduates to practice a broad scope of patient healthcare purposely within outpatient community settings in rural and inner-city locales to foster a broad exposure to race, gender, sexual orientation/identity, religion, political philosophy, age, disability status, and socioeconomic status. Most off-campus clinical opportunities require individuals who are committed to providing needed healthcare to underserved populations through education, research, and clinical practice. Local and regional communities collaborate with the University and are critical to the success of NUHS's endeavors.

The University selects individuals for admission, employment, or appointment based on individual capability and potential for contribution to our mission of student learning, healing, and discovery. NUHS recognizes the importance of age, creed, physical ability, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, language, culture, socio-economic status, spiritual practice, political ideology, national origin, and veteran status but these criteria are not applicable when distinguishing between applicants, students, residents, staff, or faculty.

The University acknowledges, encourages and supports all members of our community regardless of their individual characteristics. Monitoring the climate in which students, faculty and staff work, learn, and serve is important to the University's efforts to promote a positive environment for all. This environmental data, as well as other outcome data on medical school programs provides the basis for the assessment of the effectiveness of the University's initiatives.