

The University of Virginia has a longstanding commitment to nondiscrimination, an outgrowth of our essential institutional values. We believe that the spirit of nondiscrimination includes protection for all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.

The University of Virginia attracts some of the finest professors, clinicians, and students. The University's enactment of a nondiscrimination policy is a concrete measure we have taken to demonstrate the strength of our respect for people as individuals. Backing away from this commitment would harm the trust that underlies our community and, in turn, harm our ability to recruit brilliant scholars, excellent clinicians, and the next generation of the same. We have a responsibility to this institution, the students it trains, and the patients it serves to defend our community against such injury.

As medical students, we know that the practice of medicine is profoundly rooted in a respect for the dignity of all people. Our commitment to treating each individual as a whole person, without prejudice or discrimination, is the cornerstone of the relationship of trust we share with our patients and our colleagues. The ethical foundation of our profession requires us to extend that commitment to nondiscrimination to all people.

We strengthen our dedication to treating all current and prospective members of our medical community with fairness and respect regardless of age, color, disability, marital status, national or ethnic origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sex, pregnancy status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. This spirit of nondiscrimination is the product of our self-interest and our most deeply held values. It is vital to achieve our institutional mission and to live up to our professional commitments that we provide a safe and welcoming community.