

Safe & Positive Learning Environments

Learners thrive when they feel supported & encouraged. When you teach, you can help to create an environment that is conducive for learning or detrimental to it (as the images below attest).



There is simply no excuse for shaming, intimidating, demeaning, or ignoring your learner. There are numerous ways you can help create a positive & safe learning environment including:

- Greet your learner by name & take time to get to know their interests & goals
- Eye contact & caring facial expressions
- Encourage them to ask you questions
- Give them autonomy with encouragement
- Give a variety of opportunities for learning
- Give constructive, timely feedback
- Provide honest & fair assessment
- Treat co-workers & patients with respect
- Show enthusiasm

Additional Resources

Creating and Supporting Safe Clinical Learning Environments: What can I do?, Dr. Preston Smith & Dr. Anurag Saxena.

Curriculum, environment, climate, quality and change in medical education-a unifying perspective, J.M. Genn.

What is educational climate?, Sue Roff & Sean McAleer.

U of S Standard Operating Procedure

U of S Student Services

U of S Policy Procedures on Discrimination & Harassment