## Policy on Signing Codes of Conduct, Ethics, and Diversity

# **Policy Availability**

This policy is available to the public via the link to Program Handbook and Policies on the MFT website.

### Policy on Codes of Conduct, Ethics, and Diversity

VSU MFT students are expected to read and sign willingness to adhere to the following:

- 1. VSU Student Code of Conduct
- 2. <u>Minors on Campus Adult Code of Conduct for Authorized Adults</u>
- 3. AAMFT Code of Ethics
- 4. MFT Diversity Statement

This expectation of adherence to the above is made apparent during the admission process and prior to a student's commitment to accept a seat in the program. Each student invited to join a new incoming class receives a welcome letter that informs them that students are required to attest to their ability and willingness to follow the <u>VSU Student Code of Conduct the AAMFT Code of Ethics</u> and the <u>MFT Diversity Statement.</u> An excerpt from this Welcome letter reads as follows:

# 1. Letter of Intention

If you have decided to join the VSU MFT Program, we need to know this so that we can reserve your seat. Please compose a short email (just a sentence or two is fine) that reflects your intent to begin the program starting in the **Fall of 20XX**, and send it to the Clinic Director, Program Director, Graduate Assistant 1 and Graduate Assistant 2. Once we receive your email, a seat is reserved for you.

### 2. Affirmation of Diversity Statement

Include in the above email a sentence or two affirming that you have read and intend to adhere to the MFT Program diversity statement published on the MFT webpage. The diversity statement reflects the program's foundational principle that clients' rights to non-discriminatory services supersedes students' desire to refuse treatment to clients for discriminatory reasons. Given this statement and the AAMFT Code of Ethics, it is assumed that VSU MFT students will work with any family or individual seeking services at FamilyWorks or at an internship regardless of class, race, gender, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, religion, non-religion, age, ethnicity, nation of origin, immigration status, language abilities, veteran status, socioeconomic status, spirituality, physical or mental disability, health status, and political beliefs.

### 3. Student Code of Conduct

Finally, include in your email a sentence or two confirming that you visited the <u>Student Conduct</u> <u>Office website</u>, have read the <u>VSU Student Code of Conduct</u>, and that you are willing, able, and intend to adhere to the Code.

### 4. Minors on Campus Office

Children come to the VSU campus for a variety of workshops, fairs, music and science events, as well as speech or family therapy. To protect children from physical, sexual, or mental harm, VSU's

<u>Minors on Campus Office</u> (MOC) requires that any and all adults, faculty and students, who have contact with children, must:

- be registered with MOC (one time)
- sign the <u>Authorized Adult Code of Conduct</u> (annually)
- sign consent to have a criminal background check that includes a sexual predator search (every 4 years)
- complete the 45-minute online MOC training through LawRoom at <a href="https://background.hrtrucheck.com/br">https://background.hrtrucheck.com/br</a> login.php, access code: MOC: (every 4 years)