The Austin College PA Program is dedicated to maintaining a positive environment in which students can pursue educational and professional activities in an inclusive, humane, respectful culture. Mistreatment is considered destructive of the principles that guide the mission, values, and goals of the program. The PA Program defines mistreatment as a student being treated unfairly or used in a capacity that is not considered reasonable. When assessing behavior that might represent mistreatment, students are expected to consider the conditions, circumstances, and environment surrounding such behavior.

Procedure: When mistreatment is believed to have occurred, the initial step is to report the concern. All members of the program are encouraged to report incidents of mistreatment. Those who wish to report a concern are advised to seek out any faculty member in the PA Program, including either the Program Director or Medical Director, to discuss an allegation of mistreatment. Informal resolution will be the initial step in attempting to resolve concerns of mistreatment. Students who experience mistreatment on a clinical rotation should reach out to the Director of Experiential Learning as soon as possible.

If attempts at informal resolution are not successful, the student(s) can submit a formal complaint to the Chief Human Resource Officer. The process for submitting a formal complaint can be found in the Austin College Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation Policy (JP 8 Section of the Operational Guide).