

January 12, 2011

Applicants To Vanderbilt Nurse Residency Program:

There has been some publicity in the media and on the Internet that reflects a misconception of Vanderbilt University's policy and practice regarding health care providers (e.g., physicians, nurses and trainees) participating in the termination of a patient's pregnancy. While Vanderbilt expects all health care providers, including nurses who participate in the Nurse Residency Program's Women's Health Track, to provide compassionate care to all patients, no health care provider is required to participate in a procedure terminating a pregnancy if such participation would be contrary to an individual's religious beliefs or moral convictions. The written acknowledgment that accompanied the Vanderbilt Nurse Residency Program Summer 2011 Application Packet may have resulted in a misconception of this practice.

Attached to this communication is an information sheet that replaces the Women's Health Acknowledgment form that accompanied the application packet. We apologize for any confusion the acknowledgment form may have created. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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In compliance with federal law, including the provisions of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, Executive Order 11246, and the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, as amended, and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, Vanderbilt University does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of their race, sex, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, or military service, or genetic information in its administration of educational policies, programs, or activities; admissions policies; scholarship and loan programs; athletic or other University-administered programs; or employment. In addition, the University does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression consistent with the University's nondiscrimination policy. Inquiries or complaints should be directed to Anita J. Jenious, J.D., Director; the Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Disability Services Department; Baker Building; PMB 401809, 2301 Vanderbilt Place; Nashville, TN 37240-1809. Telephone (615) 322-4705 (V/TDD); FAX (615) 343-4969.