Dear Faculty Member,

I am writing to provide information about the College of Saint Benedict Health Services medical excuse policy. CSB Student Health Services will not provide medical excuses for missed classes, exams, or assignments.

Our intent with this policy is to support and encourage dialogue between the student and faculty member regarding the student’s circumstances for missing classes, exams, or assignments. Our policy is similar to that of other college and university health centers, and is endorsed by the Office of the Provost. It is respectful of students, encourages a shared code of values, and promotes trust among students and faculty. Not asking students to obtain medical excuse notes also avoids the unnecessary and inconvenient process students would need to go through to obtain the excuse from our staff.

This policy allows CSB Student Health Services to focus on our primary task of attending to students’ health concerns, and recognizes that at times students will miss classes with illnesses that do not require an office visit with our providers. Students also learn appropriate use of health care resources as they prepare to emerge from their college years as ethical adults and purposeful citizens of the world.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Sincerely,

Emily Rath, R.N., C.N.P.
Assistant Director of CSB Health Services