

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



Standard Operating Procedures

Policy Name: Student Interns

Policy Number: 507.03.12

Effective Date: 1/20/2022

Page Number: 1 of 2

Authority:
Commissioner

Originating Division:
Health Services Division
(Physical Health)

Access Listing:
Level I: All Access

I. Introduction and Summary:

Student Interns may be utilized in offender health care delivery provided the services are rendered in accordance with a written agreement between the Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) and the educational facility. Services of an Intern must be in keeping with the knowledge and training of the Intern. This procedure is applicable to all facilities that house GDC offenders including private and county prisons.

II. Authority:

ACA Standards: 5-ACI-6B-04, 5-ACI-6B-11, 4-ALDF-4D-10, and 4-ALDF-4D-04.

III. Definitions:

Intern - Any individual engaged in a formal course of study in a medical-related field through a recognized professional school or university.

IV. Statement of Policy and Applicable Procedures:

- A. Students or Interns may be utilized in health care delivery provided that there is a written agreement between the Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC), and the school involved. Educational program examples include accredited Schools of Nursing, Medicine or Allied Health.
- B. Facilities interested in establishing an educational relationship will contact the Administrator of the Office of Health Services for a draft template of a GDC approved agreement. Once an agreement has been negotiated with the educational institution, the agreement will be forwarded to the Office of Health Services for final review and approval.
- C. Duties to be performed by students or Interns must be in strict accordance with their knowledge, expertise, and training. Services must be performed under appropriate supervision, including faculty supervision from the school involved as well as by health care personnel. All student Interns will introduce themselves to patients and identify their student Intern status when working with offenders. The contract vendor does not utilize students or Interns to meet staffing levels.

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D. Students and/or Interns will be supervised as follows:

1. Medical students, Physician's Assistant candidates and Nurse Practitioner students will work under the direct supervision of the Medical Director or other staff physician.
2. Nursing students will work under the direct supervision of a nurse licensed in the state of Georgia.
3. Psychology, social work, and counseling students will work under the direct supervision of a Qualified Mental Health Professional.
4. Dental students/Intern will work under the direct supervision of a Georgia Licensed Dentist on site.

E. Students or Interns must be oriented by facility personnel with respect to operations and security procedures prior to the performance of any service. The required security orientation training should be arranged with the GDC Regional Training Office and contract vendor leadership.

F. The Office of Health Services or contract vendor may be contacted for assistance and direction with respect to the negotiation of agreements.

V. **Attachments:** None.

VI. **Record Retention of Forms Relevant to this Policy:** None.