

Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) Policy

Title: Medical Student Duty Hours			
<i>Origination Date:</i> 8/21/2007	<i>Revision History:</i> 10/18/2018; 05/16/2013	<i>Last amended/reaffirmed:</i> 06/15/2023	<i>Review frequency:</i> 4 years
Purpose:	To define duty hour standards for students on clinical rotations in order to minimize the negative effects of long hours and sleep loss on student performance, learning, and well-being.		
Definitions:	<p>Duty hours include all clinical and educational activities related to the clinical student program, i.e., direct patient care, administrative duties related to direct patient care, the provision for transfer of patient care to another provider, time spent at a clinical site during assigned on-call duties, and scheduled academic/educational activities such as conferences. Duty hours do not include individual study and preparation time spent away from clinical sites, nor travel to/from a clinical training site or the medical school for educational activities.</p> <p>One day off - one continuous 24-hour period free from all clinical, educational, and administrative activities.</p> <p>One week – a period of seven successive days, beginning with Sunday and ending with Saturday.</p>		
Policy:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student duty hours must not exceed 80 hours per week averaged over 4 weeks. • Students must work no more than 24 consecutive hours of scheduled duty during one period of time and no more than 4 additional hours to accomplish an effective transition of patient care. • Students must not be scheduled for in-house call more than once every three nights. • Students must have a minimum of 10-hours free of duty between all daily duty periods and after in-house call. • In recognition that many rotations end on a Friday and there is a weekend off between rotations, the following are minimum days off on rotations, with the distribution of the scheduled days off at the discretion of the clerkship director: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 day off on a 2 week rotation ○ 2 days off on a 3 week rotation ○ 3 days off on a 4 week rotation ○ 5 days off on a 6 week rotation ○ 7 days off on an 8 week rotation • A day absent counts as a day off. 		
Process:	<p><u>Implementation of policy</u> Students will be educated about fatigue and fatigue management.</p> <p>Clerkship directors and clinical elective course directors should instruct rotating students to alert their director if duty hour limits have been exceeded or if assignments and clinical duties will result in duty hour limits being exceeded. Upon receiving such a report and verifying the circumstances, the director will adjust the clinical schedule of the student to prevent or offset the duty hour violation.</p> <p>Students may anonymously report duty hour violations on their end-of-clerkship evaluation form. Students may anonymously report duty hour violations to the 24/7/365 hour hotline: 1-800-500-0333.</p> <p><u>Compliance and Monitoring</u></p>		

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	<p>Clerkship directors and clinical elective course directors are responsible for monitoring and enforcing this policy within their clinical sites.</p> <p>Sites or services with a pattern of substantiated medical student duty hour violations will cease to receive medical students until a remediation plan is in place to prevent such violations.</p> <p>The Office for Undergraduate Medical Education is responsible for centrally monitoring medical student duty hour violations and for reporting patterns of violations to the Curriculum Committee, along with remediation plans when available.</p> <p>The proportion of students that report substantiated duty hour violations in each clerkship and clinical elective course will be presented as part of the annual evaluation of each course.</p>
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Approval Body: Long School of Medicine Curriculum Committee

CERTIFIED BY:

Curriculum Committee Chair

Name: Michael Palm, MD

Title: Associate Professor, Neurology

Date

ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO:

Responsible Officer

Name: Deborah Conway, MD

Title: Vice Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education

Date

Responsible Executive

Name: Robert Hromas, MD, FACP

Title: Dean/Vice President for Medical Affairs, Long School of Medicine

Date

Related regulations, policies, and accreditation standards:

- LCME Element 8.8 Monitoring Student Time