Title: Medical Student Clinical and Educational Work Hours			
Origination Date: 8/21/2007	*Revision History: 07/16/2026; 10/18/2018; 05/16/2013*	*Last amended/reaffirmed: 07/16/2026*	*Review frequency: 4 years*

Purpose:

To describe standards and limits for medical student time on clinical rotations in order to minimize the negative effects of long hours and sleep loss on student performance, learning, and well-being.

Definitions:

Medical student clinical and educational work: includes 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. Medical student clinical and educational work does 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.

One day off - a 24-hour period free of all clinical and educational work.

Policy:

- Clinical and educational work must be limited to no more than 80 hours per week, averaged over a 4-week period.
- Clinical and educational work for medical students must not exceed 24 hours of continuous scheduled clinical assignments. Up to 4 hours of additional time may be used for effective transitions of patient care and/or medical student educational activities.
- Students must not be scheduled for in-house call more than once every three nights. Medical students must have a minimum of 10 hours free of clinical and educational work between all daily duty periods, and after in-house call.
- Medical students must have periods free of clinical and educational work according to the following:
  - 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

Process:

Clerkship directors and clinical elective course directors should instruct rotating students to alert their director if their assignments will result in clinical and educational work limits being exceeded. Upon receiving such a report and verifying the circumstances, the director will adjust the schedule of the student to align with medical student clinical and educational work limits.

Course evaluations for clerkships and clinical electives include an opportunity for medical students to confidentially report violations of clinical and educational work limits. Anonymous reports of violations may be submitted to the UT San Antonio Compliance hotline: 1-877-507-7317 or online at **http://uthscsa.edu/ReportNow**.

Compliance and Monitoring

Clerkship directors and clinical elective course directors monitor and enforce this policy within their clinical sites.

The Office for Undergraduate Medical Education is responsible for centrally monitoring medical student clinical and educational work hour violations and for reporting patterns of violations to the Curriculum Committee, along with remediation plans when applicable.

The proportion of students reporting clinical and educational work hour violations in each clerkship and clinical elective course will be presented as part of the annual evaluation of each course.

The Curriculum Committee may prevent medical students from participating in clinical activities at sites or services with a pattern of substantiated medical student clinical and educational work hour violations until a remediation plan is in place to prevent such violations.

Approval Body: Long School of Medicine Curriculum Committee

CERTIFIED BY:

Elizabeth Hanson

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Curriculum Committee Chair ***Date***
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ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO:

Deborah Conway

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Responsible Executive ***Date***
Name: Robert Hromas, MD, FACP
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Related regulations, policies, and accreditation standards:

- *LCME Element 8.8 Monitoring Student Time*
- *Short-Term Absence Policy*