

CLINICAL DUTY HOURS POLICY

PURPOSE:

The intent of the policy and outlined guidelines is to ensure that the student arrives at their clinical site adequately rested, ready to participate in the care of patients that demonstrates their responsiveness to patient needs that supersedes self-interest.

This policy directly relates to LCME ELEMENT 8.8 - *Monitoring Student Time: The medical school faculty committee responsible for the medical curriculum and the program's administration and leadership ensure the development and implementation of effective policies and procedures regarding the amount of time medical students spend in required activities, including the total number of hours medical students are required to spend in clinical and educational activities throughout the curriculum.*

DEFINITIONS:

Clinical and educational work hours are direct and indirect supervision and oversight of clinical and educational activities related to patient care, which do not include reading/studying time spent away from the clinical site, on any required clerkship or elective at Loyola University Medical Center or affiliated site.

POLICY:

Clinical Educational activities must follow these guidelines:

- Students are limited to no more than 80 hours/week, including all call activities averaged over a four-week period, including scheduled educational activities.
- At least one day (24 hours in duration) in seven free of all clinical and educational activities, when averaged over four weeks.
- *At least a 10-hour time period between all daily duty periods to allow adequate time for rest, personal activities, and study.

(*Exception for students on their Ward and ICU Subinternships, ACGME duty hours will apply: At least an 8-hour time period between all daily duty hour periods to allow adequate time for rest, personal activities and study.)

- At least a 14-hour time period after 24 hours of in-house call to allow adequate time for rest, personal activities, and study.

Student well-being includes the opportunity for students to access medical and dental care, including mental health care, at times that are appropriate to their individual circumstances. Students must formally submit a request to the Clerkship Director or designee and be provided with time away from their clerkship as needed to access care, including appointments scheduled during their working hours. Students are not obligated to disclose the nature of the health care visit. Students may be required to make up any clinical lost time at the discretion of the clerkship or course director.

Any amendment to Stritch's guidelines will be announced should national review of workweek standards occur or local review within Loyola determine that a change is necessary.

MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE:

The Central Curricular Authority reviews end of clerkship reports of duty hours exceeding 80 hours/week in aggregate each semester of each academic year. If trends are noted in violation of work hours, the Assistant Dean for Clinical Development or Assistant Dean for Clinical Transformation will work with the clerkship director and site director to change the clinical requirements and curriculum to ensure that work hours are appropriate for all students moving through the curriculum.

The policies relating to duty hours in the clinical clerkships are published in the SSOM Academic Policy Manual.

Reviewed by:	Central Curricular Authority Stritch Administrative Council
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