

SUNY DOWNSTATE MEDICAL CENTER

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

DEPARTMENT: College of Medicine
EFFECTS: School of Health Related Professions
 School of Graduate Studies
 College of Medicine
 College of Nursing
 School of Public Health

SUBJECT AND KEY WORDS: Duty Hours

PREPARED BY: Associate Dean for Clinical Medicine
REVIEWED BY: Student Affairs, Vice Dean for Education

APPROVED BY:

LAST REVISION

DATE:

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DATE:

DISTRIBUTION: Handbook, Policy Website

Purpose: Defines Student On-site Work Hours for Clinical Years

DUTY HOURS POLICY

Medical student duty hours during clerkships and required rotations are set by the individual departments. These duty hours are never allowed to exceed, and in most cases do not approach, the duty hour restrictions for first year residents imposed by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education or by New York State. These outer-limit restrictions are as follows:

- Duty hours must be limited to 80 hours per week, averaged over a four week period.
- Trainees must be scheduled for a minimum of one day free of duty every week (when averaged over four weeks).
- Clinical and educational work periods must not exceed 24 hours of continuous scheduled clinical assignments with an additional 4 hours if needed for patient safety and transitions of care
- Trainees must have 14 hours free of duty after a 24-hour period of continuous work.
- Trainees should have eight hours free of duty between scheduled duty periods.
- Trainees must not be scheduled for more than six consecutive nights of night shifts.