REQUIRED ATTENDANCE ON CLINICAL CLERKSHIPS, ELECTIVES AND SUBINTERNSHIPS

Background

Being able to deliver continuous, attentive and professional care to patients on a clerkship, elective and subinternship is considered an essential element of medical education. Students are part of a team providing continuous medical care to patients. Their professional responsibilities as a team member include being accountable to the team or medical practice for attendance, punctuality, and dress.

Policy

1. Attendance on clerkship, elective and subinternships is required. This includes both clinical activities and didactic seminars.

2. Students are also required to:
   - Be on time
   - Dress appropriately and professionally

3. Poor or tardy attendance at clinical activities or didactics will be noted in student evaluations and may be considered by the Progress Committee as evidence of a student’s inability to meet the essential requirements for graduation.

4. The following constitute acceptable reasons for being absent from a clinical clerkship, elective, or subinternship:
   - Personal illness or illness in immediate family member
   - To seek health-related care
   - Death in the family
   - Religious holiday observance
   - Participation in a conference where the student is the lead author/presenter and directly participating in the conference presentation. As a general rule, absence to participate in a research conference is not permitted on subinternships.¹,²,³

¹ No later than 60 days prior to the start of the 12-week clerkship during which the conference will take place, the student should email the co-directors and coordinators of the integrated 12-week clerkship. This email must include the completed form, “Request for Conference Absence from a Clerkship.” For an absence during the first 12-week rotation of the clerkship year, the request should be submitted as soon as the student’s clerkship schedule is known.

² A student may take only one absence to participate in a research conference in a 12-month clerkship year. Requests for additional conference-related absences must be reviewed by the clerkship director in conjunction with the student’s academic advisor.

³ As a general rule, absence to participate in a research conference is not permitted on subinternships.