

Policy on Healthcare-Related Absence

I. POLICY

Students are expected to seek necessary healthcare to maintain their physical and mental well-being. Examples of necessary health care include preventive health services, visits for acute illness, ongoing care for chronic illnesses, physical therapy, and counseling and psychological services. Consistent with their rights under University policies and the law, students have a right to privacy when seeking care.

For planned absences related to healthcare, students must submit a request in advance, using the process described in the Procedure on Healthcare-related Absence.

Once a planned healthcare-related absence is approved, the student must notify the clerkship director, site director and/or preceptor in advance, to coordinate time away from the clerkship. Students need not disclose the specific type of healthcare that is being sought.

A student's decision to seek healthcare during a clerkship should have no impact on his or her performance evaluation.

II. PURPOSE

The school must provide sufficient opportunity for medical students to attend to healthcare-related needs, as a part of maintaining good health and well-being.

III. SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- Medical students

IV. POLICY AUTHOR(S)

- Office of Medical Education

V. RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Policy on Absence and Attendance
- Procedure on Absence and Attendance

VI. REFERENCES

LCME Element 12.4: Student Access to Health Care Services. A medical school provides its medical students with timely access to needed diagnostic, preventive, and therapeutic health services at sites in reasonable proximity to the locations of their required educational experiences and has policies and procedures in place that permit students to be excused from these experiences to seek needed care.

VII. APPROVALS

Curriculum Committee

Education Policy Council

Dean, School of Medicine, December 22, 2017