

Policy on Absence from Required and Elective Senior Clerkships

(Adopted by Clerkship Directors and Curriculum Oversight)

Situations may arise when a student will need to request a brief absence from daily responsibilities on a required or elective clerkship in the senior year. Guidelines for emergent and non-emergent absence during the junior clerkships also apply to the senior clerkships. In addition, seniors may be excused from daily responsibilities for the purpose of their residency interviews. *These requests are considered non-emergent and must be presented to the clerkship director for approval in advance.*

Note that these are institutional guidelines and some of the clerkships may have more specific policies.

Residency Interviews: Senior clerkships are shorter than those in the junior year, so absences for non-emergencies should be minimized. Students should make every attempt to schedule residency interviews during block 7 or at other times when they are not on a clerkship rotation. We recognize that this is not always possible. However, we consider your adherence to these policy guidelines a matter of professionalism.

Clerkship directors should receive requests for absence due to a residency interview prior to the start of the rotation. Absence for more than a total of two days from an acting internship and for more than a total of three days from all other clerkships is strongly discouraged and may require remediation prior to completion of the clerkship. Remediation may involve additional call nights, additional weekend responsibilities or clinical work on days normally set aside for vacation. Sufficient remediation will be established at the discretion of the clerkship director. Additionally, excessive absences for interviews may be reflected in the evaluation of your work habits or professionalism.