

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

NUMBER: 308
TITLE: Granting Duty Hour Exceptions
EFFECTIVE DATE: 9/01/2004
LAST REVIEWED: 09/01/2005, 08/01/2006, 05/22/2007, 08/2009, 01/07/11
REFERENCES:

PURPOSE

This policy and procedure delineates the process by which Temple University Hospital's Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC) provides institutional endorsement to an approved program seeking exception from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) standard duty hour requirements.

POLICY

It is the policy of Temple University Hospital that each sponsored graduate medical education program will comply with the ACGME Institutional duty hour requirements. In the event that the specialty RRC requirements are more stringent, the specialty program requirements will pertain. Each program must have written policies and procedures consistent with the Institutional and Program Requirements for resident duty hours. The policy must be provided to each resident.

The procedure described below will be used by the GMEC to evaluate requests from individual programs for a maximum 10% increase in the 80 hour limit.

PROCEDURE

1. Temple University Hospital must have a Favorable Status from its most recent review by the ACGME Institutional Review Committee.
2. The program must be accredited in good standing, without a warning or a proposed or confirmed adverse action.
3. A formal written proposal requesting the duty hour exception must be sent to the Designated Institutional Official who will provide it to the Graduate Medical Education Committee. The exception must not be related to service needs.
4. The program must demonstrate clearly that the exception is necessary for educational reasons. The proposal must include the following documentation:
 - a. Patient Safety: Information must be submitted that describes how the program and institution will monitor, evaluate, and ensure patient safety with extended resident work hours.
 - b. Educational Rationale: The request must be based on a sound educational rationale which should be described in relation to the program's stated goals and objectives for the

particular assignments, rotation, and level(s) of training for which the increase is requested. Blanket exceptions for the entire educational program will be scrutinized closely.

- c. Moonlighting Policy: Specific information regarding the program's moonlighting policies for the periods in question must be included.
 - d. Call Schedules: Specific information regarding the resident call schedules during the times specified for the exception must be provided.
 - e. Faculty Monitoring: Evidence of faculty development regarding the effects of resident fatigue and sleep deprivation must be appended.
 - f. The current accreditation status of the program and of the sponsoring institution must be provided in the formal request.
5. The Program Director will present the formal proposal to the GMEC at a regularly scheduled meeting.
 6. The GMEC will judge whether the request justifies granting approval of the extensions of the maximum weekly number of duty hours from 80 up to 88 hours, averaged over four weeks. The GMEC will vote to approve or deny the request. The majority vote of the GMEC members in attendance will prevail.
 7. In the event the GMEC denies the request, no further action is necessary.
 8. In the event the GMEC approves the request, the following will be sent to the appropriate Residency Review Committee of the AGME: (1) formal written proposal from the program director; (2) written statement of institutional endorsement signed by the Designated Institutional Official or the Chair of GMEC; and (3) a copy of this policy (GMEC #308-Granting Duty Hour Exceptions).
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