

University of Illinois College of Medicine Policy on Student Work Hours

Introduction

The primary purpose of medical students involved in clinical educational experiences is to learn. As extended hours can cause fatigue and compromise the student's ability to retain information, limitations in attendance are necessary.

Attendance Limitations on Student Assignments

The following attendance limitations are established for all clinical experiences:

1. The maximum number of required hours at clinical sites (hospital, clinic, nursing home, etc.) should not exceed 80 hours per week.
2. Students should not work longer than 16 continuous hours.
3. Night shift hours should not be required the day before administration of the end of clerkship examination.
4. Students should have an average of at least 24 continuous hours each week free of clinical responsibilities (including lectures, seminars, clinic, and rounds).
5. Students must have eight hours free of duty between scheduled duty periods.

The above restrictions do not include independent study time apart from clinical duties or optional activities in which the student voluntarily participates.