**Department of Surgery Clerkship Duty Hours Policy**

Duty hours are defined as any clinical work or required educational experiences (e.g. conference, lectures and exams). Duty hours do not include reading and preparation time spent away from the duty site.

* Medical students must not work more than 80 hours per week
* Medical students must not work more than 16 consecutive hours and will have a minimum of 10 hours off between work periods.
* In general students on surgery should leave the hospital by 6:30 pm after sign out to the night float team.
* On rare occasions and if an interesting case is ongoing a student may stay later to participate in the case. This should not occur more than once per week and at no time should the student remain in the hospital longer than 16 hours.
* If a student is about to scrub into a case that is within a few hours of the 16 hour limit, the student should notify the resident and/or attending prior to scrubbing in that they must leave before a specific time. The student is responsible for watching the clock and for informing the team when they are approaching the 16 hour limit. **Under no circumstances is the student allowed to stay beyond the 16 hour limit.**
* All students will have a minimum of 24 continuous hours per week free from duty, averaged over four weeks.
* Medical students must not be scheduled for call the night before an exam.
* Medical students are dismissed from ward duties by midnight before IC2. Students on call the same day/night of IC2 are to report immediately after IC2 has concluded to their medical teams. Students not on call are dismissed after IC2.
* With the exception of Thanksgiving, University holidays (e.g. Independence Day, Labor Day, Memorial Day, Martin Luther King Day) shall be treated like weekend days, on which students may be on call. The Thanksgiving Holiday shall be observed beginning at 6pm on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and ending on Sunday evening; these count as days off.