

For Discussion at the February 27th Preceptor Meeting:

Background: The Current rules for APPE attendance were developed for 2005-06, with no changes since then.

Some of these rules have created questions. The APPE Faculty Preceptors are asked to provide comments and advice on the issues.

What are the attendance and absence rules?

Students are expected to attend their assigned APPE sites and participate in the delivery of pharmaceutical care. Absence from the site and participation in activities is recognized only for illness/family emergencies or prearranged for professional meetings/activities. Students absent from a 6weekblock > 3 days will be required to make up a week of APPE, and absence of > 1week may require repeating the entire 6week block. Absence for illness will require a physician note.

Students who have illness/family emergencies and cannot attend their assigned APPE must notify their immediate preceptor and the APPE coordinator at a designated phone number. Students are encouraged to attend professional meetings and interviews required for residency application activities. It is the responsibility of the student to organize these dates in ways to minimize the impact on their educational experiences. Students are expected to work with their preceptor when planning/scheduling interview dates.

What are the hours of APPE's? Are weekends required? Will I be able to keep my intern job?

The time commitment to APPEs varies according to the type and location of the APPE. During the acute care APPE, which is a required 12week experience, students will have virtually no free time to devote outside of the rotation. Students will be expected to arrive early in the morning in preparation for rounding and may need to stay late in the evenings to receive patients admitted to their teams and to complete assignments and to assure that all of the input needed on their patients has been performed. Although presence on the weekends is not required, it will likely be necessary for students to check on the status of their patients over the weekend so that they are up to date on them for Monday morning rounds. Also, the weekends are a good time to work on presentations that may need to be given, catch up on reading or to just get some rest. It is extremely unlikely that students will be able to maintain outside internships during this time, and it is not recommended. The required 12week ambulatory care rotation typically takes place 8am – 5 pm Monday through Friday, with some

evening free Clinics. Therefore, students may have more flexible time, particularly on the weekends. Evenings will very likely be taken up preparing for clinic activities. During elective rotations, the hours will vary as well as the intensity of the experience. The time commitment will also vary so no predictions can be made. Acute care electives may require a time commitment similar to the required acute care APPE while ambulatory care or other rotations may provide more flexible time.

Holidays:

Students are expected to attend rotations if there is full service and the designated preceptor is available to provide oversight. Students and preceptors should clarify any holiday expectations at the beginning of the rotation.

Considerations-- for instance, if the student's preceptor is scheduled to be on-site that day it seems reasonable to expect the student to be there. Similarly if there is a critical educational opportunity that would be missed if the student is not there on that day, that also seems like a reasonable expectation for attendance. What we both wish to assure is that students are not working with marginal supervision.