



University of the Virgin Islands School of Medicine

Policy Name and Section: <i>Medical Student Clinical Duty Hours Policy</i>	Effective Date:	UVISOM Policy Number: <i>009</i>
Responsible Authority: <i>Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs</i>	UVISOM Documents where Available: <i>UVISOM Student Handbook, UVISOM Faculty Handbook</i>	Approval Body and Date: <i>Executive Council, Self-Study Committee, Curriculum Committee March 2016</i>

The University of the Virgin Islands School of Medicine follows the duty hour guidelines set by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), ACGME 2011. Duty hours are defined as all clinical and academic activities related to the education of the medical student, i.e., patient care (both inpatient and outpatient), administrative duties relative to patient care, the provision for transfer of patient care, time spent in-house during call activities, and scheduled activities, such as didactic sessions, grand rounds and conferences. Duty hours do not include reading and preparation time spent away from the duty site.

- Duty hours must be limited to 80 hours per week, averaged over a four-week period, inclusive of all in-house call activities.
- Adequate time for rest and personal activities will be provided and will consist of a 10-hour time period between all daily duty periods and after in-house call.
- In-house call must occur no more frequently than every third night.
- Continuous on-site duty, including in-house call, must not exceed 24 consecutive hours. Students may be on site for up to 6 additional hours in order to participate in didactic activities.
- Students must be provided with one day (24 consecutive hours) in seven, free from all educational and clinical responsibilities, averaged over a four-week period.

This policy will be published in the UVISOM Student handbook, clerkship handbooks, and in the faculty and preceptor handbooks. This information will also be covered in the UVISOM Clerkship Orientation.

Oversight of this policy will be the responsibility of the clerkship director and the relevant Clerkship Site director/s. Students are responsible for tracking and logging their duty hours. Faculty and students with concerns regarding possible duty hour violations should report those concerns directly to the clerkship director in a timely fashion. Failure to keep duty hour log up to date in OASIS may result in participation point penalization from final grade. Students and clerkship directors will be given a Clerkship Duty Hours Agreement to co-sign acknowledging the policy.