



# Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Policy Title: Clinical and Non-Clinical Elective Rotations Policy

Policy Number: CU.06.05.181204

Applies to: All WSU Elson S Floyd College of Medicine students in the MD Program

Date: 05/11/2020

## 1.0 Policy Statement:

It is the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine policy to provide opportunities for medical students to complete clinical and non-clinical elective rotations in fulfillment of the MD degree requirements. It is the student's responsibility to work with the Curriculum Office to develop their elective program in compliance with graduation requirements.

## 2.0 Definitions and Parameters

*Clinical Elective:* A clinical elective is an elective rotation in which students are directly engaged with clinical patient care,

*Non- Clinical Elective:* A non-clinical elective is an elective rotation in which students are not directly engaged with clinical patient care.

*Elective Rotation:* Rotations a medical student can choose, either clinical, non-clinical or research, that when added to required courses make up the total body of study required to complete the MD degree program requirements.

*Elective Grading and Evaluation:* Unless noted in the elective description, electives are graded according to the official grading system used at the Elson S Floyd College of Medicine. If different, the extramural electives site will be asked to translate their institution's grade into the College of Medicine's rubrics as part of the agreement.

*Eligibility:* A medical student must have fulfilled the prerequisite course work specified in the elective description to be considered for the elective. A student must have a grade of satisfactory or better for each required clinical rotation prior to the start of any extramural elective. Failure to make satisfactory progress toward the MD degree may result in administrative modification of a student's course schedule, which may result in a change in the content, timing or location of the student's elective program.

*Intramural Elective:* An elective rotation approved by the Elson S Floyd College of Medicine Curriculum Office offered at one of the College of Medicine's campuses or a College of Medicine clinical teaching affiliate site.

*Extramural Domestic Elective:* An elective offered by an LCME-accredited medical school outside of the Elson S Floyd College of Medicine.

*Extramural International Elective:* An elective conducted outside of the United States and Canada subject to the approval of the appropriate WSU offices for study abroad.

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*LCME:* Liaison Committee on Medical Education of the Association of American Medical Colleges

*Required Rotations:* A mandatory rotation that a medical student must complete to satisfy the requirements for a course (e.g. sub-internship) that, when added to required elective rotations and courses make up the total body of study required to complete the MD degree program requirements.

*Research Elective:* An elective with a focus on a research project with a faculty mentor, reviewed by the Office of Research and approved by the Office of Curriculum. Only 4 weeks of research activity will be counted toward the 24 week total elective requirement. All research electives conducted with College of Medicine faculty members are considered intramural, all others are considered extramural.

*Sub-Internship:* A clinical rotation that extends the student's knowledge, skills, and range of medical problems physicians evaluate and manage in a core clinical discipline. The evaluation and management responsibilities will be commensurate with those for interns, although under the supervision of attending physicians.

## **3.0 Responsibility**

Associate Dean for Curriculum

## **4.0 Procedures**

In addition to the Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship, students will have 40 weeks to complete 36 more weeks of required rotations, including Emergency Medicine, a rural or underserved medicine rotation, and a sub-internship in one of the following core disciplines: Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Obstetrics/Gynecology, or Surgery, and clinical and non-clinical elective rotations.

Elective rotations may be clinical or non-clinical in Years 3 and 4 and are subject to the following:

- a. Successful completion of the Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship is required prior to clinical electives.
- b. Electives may be scheduled for 2, 4, or 6 weeks.
- c. Students are not to hold a spot in one intramural or extramural elective for the same period in order to reserve elective positions. Students are honor bound, once they have been accepted in the desired program to officially cancel in writing the other pending applications for the same time period.
- d. All extramural domestic electives must be approved by the Curriculum Office or a designee at least 60 days in advance of the start date.
- e. All international electives must be vetted and approved by the appropriate global health authority and the Curriculum Office at least 90 days in advance of start date. In addition:
  - I. Electives are chosen at the discretion of the student, under the guidance of the Associate Deans for Clinical Education, Portfolio Coach and based on needs and interests.

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- II. All decisions regarding the approval of individual student rotations are made by the Curriculum Office in consultation with other appropriate offices and committees as necessary.
- f. Students may choose from available intramural Elson S Floyd College of Medicine electives or arrange extramural domestic or international clinical or non-clinical elective rotations. Students wishing to develop a new elective must be in good standing and have a faculty sponsor who supports the proposed electives, which must be reviewed and approved by the Clinical Experiences Subcommittee and endorsed by the Curriculum Committee

## 5.0 Related Policies

N/A

## 6.0 Key Search Words

Elective, intramural, extramural
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## 7.0 Revision History

Original	Policy number	Review/Revision
12/04/2018	CU.06.05.181204	05/11/2020

**Responsible Office:** Curriculum Office

**Policy Contact:** Associate Dean for Curriculum

**Supersedes:** CU.06.05.181204 dated 12/04/2018