Policy Title: Academic Workload for Pre-Clerkship Courses Policy

Policy Number: CU.06.01.170530

Applies to: All medical students enrolled in the WSU Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine

Date: 2/8/2021

1.0 Policy Statement: It is the policy of the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine to ensure that the medical curriculum includes regularly scheduled class time and unscheduled time for self-directed learning experiences and independent learning activities.

2.0 Definitions:

2.0.1 Required scheduled learning activities: Small group sessions, such as case-based learning, art and practice of medicine, evidence-based medicine journal club, clinical skills workshops, labs, leadership, authentic patient care, and interprofessional learning sessions, involving peer-to-peer learning.

2.0.2 Optional schedule learning activities: Sessions, such as large group discussion and/or lectures, placed on students’ schedules to provide information about optional educational activities.

2.0.3 Unscheduled time is time available for the student to engage in:

2.0.3.1 Independent learning: Instructor-/or mentor-guided learning activities to be performed by the learner outside of formal educational settings (classroom, lab, clinic); Dedicated time on learner schedules to prepare for specific learning activities.

2.0.3.2 Self-directed learning: Learners taking the initiative for their own learning: diagnosing needs, formulating goals, identifying resources, implementing appropriate activities, and evaluating outcomes.

3.0 Responsibility:
Associate Dean for Curriculum

4.0 Procedures
The Curriculum Committee will monitor students’ schedules and academic workload through ongoing programmatic reviews.

- Average of 21 hours of regularly scheduled learning activities, required and optional, in formal educational settings per week over the course of an academic year to include but not be limited to: Large group interactive learning, Case-based learning, Small group learning, Laboratory, Simulation learning, Preceptorships, Inter-professional learning activities, and Community-based activities. Clinical Campus weeks and Assessment weeks are not included in calculating the average.
hours in a typical week. Total scheduled hours not to exceed an average of 25 hours per week.

- Average of 11 hours of required *regularly scheduled learning activities* in formal educational settings per week over the course of an academic year.
- Maximum average of 8 hours per week in *independent learning* as required activities outside of formal educational settings to include: required assigned readings, online modules, educational videos, completion of assignments, and other required activities.
- The Associate Dean for Curriculum monitors adherence to this policy through regular course operations.

5.0 **Related Policies**
N/A

6.0 **Key Search Words**

| Academic study, in-class time, out-of-class time, self-directed study, unscheduled time, workload, independent learning, required preparation |

7.0 **Revision History**

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**Responsible Office:** Associate Dean of Curriculum

**Policy Contact:** Curriculum Committee Chair

**Supersedes:** CU.06.01.170517 revised on 2/07/2020