

Policy Title: STUDENT CLINICAL WORK HOURS
UAMS COM Undergraduate Medical Education Policy 2.1.3
Section: Learning Environment
LCME Element(s): 8.8 Monitoring Student Time
Approved By: UAMS COM Curriculum Committee
Version History: 2011; June 27, 2022; September 28, 2026

It is the position of the College of Medicine that students in their third and fourth years of medical school must “experience medicine” through a large number of clinical encounters. Adequate exposure to patients is essential in order to learn both the art and science of medicine. However, excessive work hours can diminish the impact of training by inducing excessive fatigue, and by decreasing the time students have to read, consider, and assimilate the information and situations they encounter. Therefore, the Curriculum Committee of the College of Medicine, working through the Clinical Subcommittee has implemented the following work hour policy for junior and senior students:

- Duty hours should not exceed 80 hrs/week averaged over 4 weeks, including any on call time required.
- The amount of time a student spends in the hospital should not exceed 30 consecutive hours (and the last six of these hours must not include taking new patients).
- If the student works 30 hours, they must receive a minimum of 10 hours outside the hospital between shifts.
- All students must get four 24-hour periods off averaged over a 4-week period of time.

Students are encouraged to report any duty hour violations to the clerkship director or coordinator; but can also report to either the Associate Dean for Student Affairs or the Vice Dean for Academic Affairs. It is the policy of the College that no retaliation will occur if a student reports a duty hour violation. Students can also anonymously report a duty hour violation using the student mistreatment reporting function in the O2 online system.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Spollen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a stylized "S".

John Spollen, Executive Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Date: September 28, 2026