## Purpose
To ensure effective oversight of institutional and program-level compliance with Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) clinical and educational work requirements.

## Policy
Each Program Director must establish, distribute and implement formal written policies and procedures governing the clinical and educational work environment for residents, which comply with this institutional Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC) policy and the Common and Specialty-specific Program Requirements. Programs must be committed to and responsible for promoting patient safety and resident well-being in a supportive educational environment. The learning objectives of the program must not be compromised by excessive reliance on residents to fulfill non-physician service obligations.

The Sponsoring Institution, through this policy, informs the GME community that the offense of negligent homicide Arkansas Code § 5-10-105 has been amended to include persons having been without sleep for a period of 24 consecutive hours.

## Clinical and Educational Work Hour Oversight
Programs will comply with resident clinical and educational work hours and definitions as set forth in the applicable Program Requirements. Programs will adjust schedules as necessary to mitigate excessive service demands and/or fatigue. Moonlighting is addressed in GME policies 3.300.

Programs will monitor clinical and educational work hours with a frequency to ensure compliance with ACGME.

The Sponsoring Institution will monitor clinical and educational work hours annually and address areas of non-compliance in a timely manner.

The Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC) shall monitor compliance with this policy through:
- a. Annual ACGME Survey of residents,
- b. Special Review Process for underperforming programs, and
c. Requests for duty hour exceptions,
d. ACGME notification letters.

Concerns regarding excessive service demands and/or fatigue can be raised using any of the steps found at the UAMS GME Website section on raising concerns and addressing problems.

**Clinical and Educational Work Hour Exceptions**

ACGME Program Review Committees (RC) may grant exceptions for up to 10% or a maximum of 88 hours to individual programs based on a sound educational rationale. **The GMEC must review and formally endorse the exemption prior to submission to the RRC** according to the following procedures:

1. The Program Director must submit a written request for an exemption to the GMEC Chair. The request must clearly document the following:
   a. **Patient Safety:** Information must be submitted that describes how the program and institution will monitor, evaluate, and ensure patient safety with extended resident work hours.
   b. **Educational Rationale:** The request must be based on a sound educational rationale which should be described in relation to the program's stated goals and objectives for the particular assignments, rotations, and level(s) of training for which the increase is requested. Blanket exceptions for the entire educational program should be considered the exception, not the rule.
   c. **Moonlighting Policy:** Specific information regarding the program's moonlighting policies for the periods in question must be included.
   d. **Call Schedules:** Specific information regarding the resident call schedules during the times specified for the exception must be provided.
   e. **Faculty Monitoring:** Evidence of faculty development activities regarding the effects of resident fatigue and sleep deprivation must be appended.

2. The Program Director will present the request in person to the GMEC for discussion.
3. If approved by the GMEC, the Designated Institutional Official (DIO) or the GMEC Chair will provide a documented written statement of institutional endorsement of the proposal.
4. The Program Director must submit the request to the RRC according to ACGME Policy 22.00, the Policy for Granting Rotation Specific Clinical and Educational Work Hour Exceptions found in the ACGME Manual of Policies and Procedures. The proposal to the RRC must include a copy of this policy (which contains the institution's written procedures and criteria for endorsing requests for an exception to the duty hours limits) and the current accreditation status of the program and of the sponsoring institution.