

Moonlighting Policy

PURPOSE

To clarify moonlighting time to prevent any interference with any fellow's educational experience. To provide adherence with ACGME, institution and departmental policies.

POLICY STATEMENT

Fellowship training is a full-time educational experience. Extramural, paid activities (moonlighting) must not interfere with the fellow's educational performance, nor must those activities interfere with the fellow's opportunities for rest, relaxation and independent study.

PROCEDURE

Moonlighting – is prohibited for J-1 Visa Holders

In the June 30, 1999, Federal Register the USIA (United States Information Agency) outlined policies regarding moonlighting of non-resident aliens with visas. J-1 visa holders are prohibited to obtain employment that is not a part of their training program. Any fellow who fails to comply with this regulation is at risk for deportation.

1. Definition of moonlighting:

Moonlighting is defined as any activity, outside the requirements of the fellowship program, in which an individual performs duties as a fully licensed physician and receives direct financial remuneration. This includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Providing direct patient care
- b. Conducting wellness physical examinations
- c. Reviewing medical charts, ECGs, or other information for a company or agency
- d. Clinical teaching in a medical school or other educational programs involving clinical skills
- e. Providing medical opinions or testimony in court or to other agencies
- f. Serving as sports team physician or medical official for an event

Moonlighting will be allowed by PGY-5 and PGY-6 Fellows but the work hours may not exceed 80 hours per week; including normal Fellowship hours as stated in the ACGME Guidelines

Those fellows who want to moonlight must submit a Moonlighting Request Form to the Program Coordinator annually, an email will be sent once the form is signed/approved by the Program Director. Approval from the Program Director is needed prior to taking the

job outside of the fellowship program. This form is to be renewed annually prior to July 1st of each year.

The Fellow must record all moonlighting hours in New Innovation along with normal fellowship hours. It is the fellow's responsibility to ensure that no ACGME duty hour violations occur because of moonlighting.

It will be the responsibility of the Fellow to notify the program of any changes in moonlighting activity.

Moonlighting privileges may be curtailed or prohibited by the Fellowship Program Director on any of the following grounds:

- A. If it is determined that such activities interfere with fellow's patient care responsibilities and educational performance or if such activity adversely impacts the professional reputation of the Fellow and ECHI.
- B. If such limitation is required by the appropriate organizations responsible for the accreditation/certification of Graduate Medical Education Programs; or
- C. If the fellow fails to abide by the procedures outlined herein:
 1. It is the responsibility of the fellow to maintain a full unlimited license. Moonlighting activities cannot be performed under limited or training license.
 2. It is the responsibility of the fellow to obtain and provide professional liability insurance (malpractice) coverage for all external moonlighting. ECU-BSOM bears no legal or professional responsibility for a fellow while he/she is moonlighting at an outside facility
 3. If a fellow moonlights, the following conditions must be met:
 - a. It must be clear that such activity does not violate the rules and regulations of any federal (e.g., CMS) or state agency, or patient care regulations (e.g., HIPAA) or accrediting (e.g., JCAHO)
 - b. organizations and/or facilities credentialing policies and procedures.
 - c. The fellow is responsible for reporting all moonlighting hours using the New Innovations Residency Management Suite. Failure to report moonlighting hours will result in suspension and/or dismissal from the fellowship program.

Any Fellow who fails to follow the moonlighting policy of the ECU-BSOM and the Cardiology Fellowship Program will be sanctioned for such actions including suspension and/or dismissal from the Fellowship Program.

A fellow who is on formal academic remediation is prohibited from engaging in any moonlighting activities during the period of remediation.

Policy Approved by:

Rajasekhar Nekkanti, MD
Program Director

Policy Effective Date:

July 1, 2021

Policy Review Date:

May 10, 2022