

<b>This policy applies to:</b> <b>The General Surgery Training Program</b>	<b>Last Approval Date:</b> <b>12.18.12</b>
<b>Name of Policy:</b> <b>Policies to ensure that residents have adequate rest between daily duty periods and after in-house call (showing differences by year/educational level)</b>	<b>Reference Number to ACGME Common Program Requirements: [CPR VI.G.5]</b>

**Duty hours** are defined as all clinical and academic activities related to the program; i.e., patient care (both inpatient and outpatient), administrative duties relative to patient care, the provision for transfer of patient care, time spent in-house during call activities, and scheduled activities, such as conferences. Duty hours do *not* include reading and preparation time spent away from the duty site.

PGY-1 residents should have 10 hours, and must have eight hours, free of duty between scheduled duty periods. All PGY- 1 residents should be off duty by 7 pm and reporting for duty by 6 am.

PGY-2 and PGY-3 level residents should have 10 hours free of duty, and must have eight hours between scheduled duty periods. They must have at least 14 hours free of duty after 24 hours of in-house duty.

PGY-4 and PGY-5 residents must be prepared to enter the unsupervised practice of medicine and care for patients over irregular or extended periods.

This preparation must occur within the context of the 80-hour, maximum duty period length, and one-day off-in-seven standards. While it is desirable that residents in their final years of education have eight hours free of duty between scheduled duty periods, there may be circumstances when these residents must stay on duty to care for their patients or return to the hospital with fewer than eight hours free of duty.

Circumstances of return-to-hospital activities with fewer than eight hours away from the hospital by residents in their final years of education must be monitored by the program director.

The Review Committee defines such circumstances as: required continuity of care for a severely ill or unstable patient, or a complex patient with whom the resident has been involved; events of exceptional educational value; or, humanistic attention to the needs of a patient or family.