



**Policy Title**  
Inclement Weather

**Identifier**  
USCSOMG – HR – 2.00

<b>Prepared by:</b> Office for Finance and Operations	
<b>Reviewed by:</b> Executive Director of Finance and Operations	<b>Review Date:</b> 09/05/2024
<b>Approved by:</b> USCSOMG Policy Committee	<b>Approval Date:</b> 09/15/2025
	<b>Effective Date:</b> 09/15/2025

**LCME Standards**

5.7 – Security, Student Safety, and Disaster Preparedness

**Scope**

University of South Carolina (USC) School of Medicine Greenville students, faculty and staff

**Policy Statement**

All decisions regarding closures or delayed opening for USC School of Medicine Greenville due to inclement weather are made in accordance with [USC policy HR 1.18](#). The Executive Director for Finance and Operations monitors the South Carolina Emergency Management Division [website](#) for closure information for Greenville County government offices. These decisions are made separately from the University of South Carolina’s main campus in Columbia and from the Greenville County School system.

Employees of the partner health system refer to their policy and supervisor for inclement weather protocols.

Students, staff and faculty are urged to take all necessary precautions for travel during inclement weather, regardless of whether the event is formally declared to represent an Inclement Weather event. Faculty and staff may request approval from their supervisor to work remotely, if appropriate.

During their clinical rotations, Primary Care Accelerated Track (PCAT) and clerkship and post clerkship phase medical students’ responsibilities to their patients and to their clinical teams require, as consistently as possible, their presence in the inpatient and outpatient environments. During times of inclement weather, students’ clinical responsibilities must be balanced by concerns for safety. The final decision about travel to these inpatient and outpatient facilities is made by students based upon their assessment of current travel conditions.

**Reason for Policy**

This policy is to provide USC School of Medicine Greenville students, faculty and staff clarity on institutional expectations. LCME expects that a medical school ensures that adequate security systems are in place at all

locations and publishes policies and procedures to ensure student safety and to address emergency and disaster preparedness.

## Procedures

In the event of a school delay or closure, email is the primary method of communication. The Executive Director for Finance and Operations issues an email to all faculty and staff. The Office for Student Affairs will issue an email to all students.

In the clinical years, a student determines that safety concerns preclude their travel to the facility to which they have been assigned, the student is required to inform an appropriate person in authority at the facility and the clerkship director.

- **Outpatient Responsibilities:** In general, during time of inclement weather, students should be present to carry out their clinical responsibilities whenever the outpatient clinic/community medical practice to which they have been assigned by the clerkship director is open and operational. Students should make every effort to determine the operating schedules of these facilities during times of inclement weather and be present, when possible, during those hours when the outpatient facility is operational. Students are expected to consult WYFF4 (<http://www.wyff4.com/weather/closings>) or Fox Carolina (<https://www.foxcarolina.com/weather/closings/>) for updated information regarding medical office delays and closings
- **Inpatient Responsibilities:** In general, during times of inclement weather, students should carry out their clinical responsibilities in inpatient facilities to which they have been assigned by the clerkship director. Students should therefore make every effort to be present at these facilities, when possible, during times of inclement weather.

**Testing Week:** In the event inclement weather falls during testing week, students will receive a notification from the Office for Medical Education.

## Sanctions

N/A

## Additional Contacts

Office for Medical Education  
Office for Academic Affairs  
Office for Student Affairs

## Related Information

USCSOMG – ACAF – 1.00 M1 and M2 Student Attendance  
USCSOMG – ACAF – 1.01 M3 and M4 Student Attendance  
USCSOMG – ACAF – 1.03 Integrated Practice of Medicine Attendance

## History

Date of Change	Change
September 2025	Reviewed for policy audit. Strengthened language as applicable.
July 2024	Clarified inclement weather decision-making process for USC School of Medicine Greenville and clarified responsible parties for communications.
May 2019	Editorial changes made due to branding updates and titles; formal approval not required
Dec 2018	Policy formalized into standardized template, LCME CQI