Policy Title
Student Research Eligibility

Identifier
UofSCSOMG – RSCH – 1.01

Prepared by: Office for Research
Reviewed by: Director of Medical Student Research
Approved by: UofSCSOMG Policy Committee
Review Date: 03/02/2020
Approval Date: 04/28/2020
Effective Date: 05/25/2020

LCME Standards
3.2 Community of Scholars/Research Opportunities

Scope
University of South Carolina (UofSC) School of Medicine Greenville students

Policy Statement
Medical student research opportunities at UofSC School of Medicine Greenville reflect the diverse interests of the faculty and align with national priorities to study and improve the health of the people of the United States, especially of those living in South Carolina. Research is a valuable component of one’s medical education and augments the student’s ability to develop and test a hypothesis within a dynamic clinical and policy environment in an effort to continually advance health and cure disease.

Projects can be short-term (approximately 6-8 weeks), or students may have the opportunity to work on projects longitudinally and continue research work even through residency. Communication regarding opportunities and the processes surrounding student research will take place via email and/or through the Student Research Canvas page.

Reason for Policy
A medical education program is conducted in an environment that fosters the intellectual challenge and spirit of inquiry appropriate to a community of scholars and provides sufficient opportunities, encouragement, and support for medical student participation in the research and other scholarly activities of its faculty.

Procedures
Because UofSC School of Medicine Greenville does not have a research requirement within the curriculum, dedicated time for research activities is not provided. The primary focus for students at UofSC School of Medicine Greenville is their required coursework.
Medical Students may not pursue research activities without meeting the following eligibility criteria:

- Must have successfully completed one semester at UofSC School of Medicine Greenville;
- **M1 and M2 students:**
  - Must successfully pass all modules
- **M3 students:**
  - Must successfully pass all graded components (e.g., OSCE, NBME Shelf exams, completion of Core Clerkship requirements, etc.) of a clerkship and pass all electives and IPM 3;
- **M4 students:**
  - Must successfully pass all graded components of the Acting Internship and IPM4, and pass all P/F requirements, selectives and electives, etc.;
- Must remain in good professional standing;
- Must be actively working with a research mentor that holds a M.D., Ph.D., DrPH or equivalent credentials;
- Must remain in compliance with regulatory requirements;
- A student who does not successfully pass a module will not be allowed to begin or continue research until successfully remediating. Remediation exams can only be taken on the scheduled remediation dates; requests for alternative dates will not be considered. Any student who is repeating a year for academic reasons is not eligible until any failed or incomplete modules have been remediated.

Students who fall outside of the stated criteria will be required to defer any efforts on research projects until they meet eligibility standards again. The Director of Medical Student Research and/or Coordinator will notify the student of their change in eligibility. Students who desire relief from or deviation to the eligibility policy should meet with the Director of Medical Student Research to initiate a dialogue. A final decision regarding the petition to waive or modify student eligibility will be made by the Director of Medical Student Research following consultation with the Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions, and the Associate Dean for Curriculum.

Requests to pursue research activities while on a leave of absence from UofSC School of Medicine Greenville will be considered on a case by case basis. Students are not covered by Liability Insurance while on a leave of absence. Students on a leave of absence who have purchased health insurance through the school-sponsored program are permitted to keep the insurance through the end of the coverage period.

**Sanctions**
Student may not be able to conduct research during matriculation at UofSC School of Medicine Greenville.

**Contacts**
Director of Medical Student Research  
Medical Student Research Coordinator

**Related Information**
UofSC School of Medicine Greenville Student Handbook  
UofSCSOMG – ACAF – 3.00 – Academic Workload and Duty Hours  
UofSCSOMG – ACAF – 4.02 – Leave of Absence and Withdrawal Policy
### History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Change</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 2020</td>
<td>Updated eligibility criteria to include successfully pass all graded activities/components in place of maintaining 80% cumulative weighted average or above on all graded activities. Updated language regarding coverage during a Leave of Absence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2019</td>
<td>Added appeal process to eligibility criteria and editorial changes made due to branding updates and titles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2018</td>
<td>Clarification of text, LCME CQI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>