



Moonlighting Guidelines for Residents

Office of Accountability:	Faculty of Medicine
Office of Administrative Responsibility:	Postgraduate Medical Education
Scope:	All Postgraduate Trainees; All non-Dalhousie Trainees registered for electives; and University and Postgraduate Training Program Leadership
Approved:	PGME Committee – March 4, 2021

Definitions

Moonlighting

Voluntary, time-limited clinical services that fall within a resident's demonstrated scope of practice, for remuneration outside of their training program.

Introduction

A resident's prime responsibility is to their educational requirements and the associated clinical activities within their specialty. However, moonlighting can allow the postgraduate trainee to provide service in areas of physician shortage during their residency training. This experience may also provide residents with a wider exposure to clinical practice in the community setting. It must be clearly understood that any such services provided by residents are considered by Dalhousie to be outside the scope of their educational program. The resident is responsible for ensuring that the guidelines set out below are met.

Guidelines

1. Residents are eligible to moonlight if they have the necessary competencies to execute the required duties of the moonlighting experience, have appropriate licensure with the provincial regulatory body, and meet the eligibility criteria defined by their training program.

2. The resident must provide full particulars of the proposed moonlighting arrangement to the Program Director and there must be approval or disapproval in writing by the Program Director to ensure there is no compromise of the resident's academic achievements or patient safety. If there is a disagreement about this between the resident and the program, the resident can appeal the decision to the Postgraduate Dean or his/her designate. Their decision will be final.
3. The resident shall ensure they have appropriate licensure with the provincial regulatory body and coverage with the Canadian Medical Protective Association. Appropriate supervision must be available, as stipulated by the provincial regulatory body.
4. Moonlighting coverage provided by a resident will normally end 12 hours prior to the resident returning to work in his/her program. This will ordinarily preclude residents from doing moonlighting shifts anytime from Sunday evening to Friday evening and when on call during the weekend.
5. Residents are not permitted to moonlight while on a leave of absence from their program or while undergoing remediation in the form of a Formal Enhanced Learning Plan.
6. While moonlighting, residents are not able to accumulate educational credit for postgraduate training programs.
7. Residents are not permitted to simultaneously moonlight while completing regular resident duties, including call.

The Program Director reserves the right to withhold or withdraw permission to moonlight at any time if, in his/her opinion, the guidelines are not met, if resident's academic achievements are being compromised or if the Program Director has reason to believe that the moonlighting arrangement is otherwise inappropriate. Please also refer to the [RCPSC Statement on Moonlighting](#).