

Out-of-Base-Community Clinical experiences in LICD

With the advent of increased numbers of Clerkship students at Dalhousie who are in distributed sited doing Longitudinal Integrated Clerkships, there has been increased pressure on larger clinical sites to provide brief clinical experiences to these students. This policy is intended to lay the ground rules for these experiences.

Whereas LICD is a longitudinal, objectives based clerkship experience, clinical activities should ultimately support these 2 main underlying principles i.e. they should occur to support students who are either following patients from their home community to another community to obtain specialized care, or they should occur to enable students to fulfill clinical objectives in another community that cannot be obtained in their home community. The main campus (SJ or Halifax) will cover reasonable travel costs for these experiences e.g. mileage, reasonable accommodation (not to exceed 2 nights, unless otherwise approved by the Assistant Dean Clinical Education DMNB (SJ) or Assistant Dean Clerkship (Halifax)). These experiences are generally intended to be brief (1-2 days), or, where core clinical objectives are concerned, may last up to 5 days.

These experiences are not intended to be mini-electives or experiences that are driven by an area of student interest. They are not intended to replace or otherwise supplement elective opportunities that are meant to occur in 4th year. Furthermore, they are not meant to occur outside of Dalhousie University affiliated facilities, and they are contingent upon availability of clinical teaching resources at the receiving site.

Procedure

Once an out of town clinical experience is identified as per the guidelines outlined above, the following must occur:

- 1) The Local Site Director communicates this proposal with the appropriate Assistant Dean in SJ or Halifax, who will approve it in principle.
- 2) Once provisional approval is received from the Assistant Dean, the Local Site Director will contact the receiving Site Director and receiving Site Coordinator to see if it is possible to provide this experience. Please note that students who are assigned to sites must have priority when it comes to clinical experiences.
- 3) Disputes over placements will ultimately be arbitrated by the Assistant Dean Clerkship for NS LICD students or the Assistant Dean Clinical Education DMNB for NB LICD students.