

Policy: Specialty Study during Academic Year 4

INITIAL EFFECTIVE DATE: December 2024	LAST REVISION/REVIEW DATE: June 2025	RESPONSIBLE DIVISION/DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clinical Education Committee
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POLICY STATEMENT

This policy outlines the structure and limitations of specialty study during Academic Year 4 at HWCOM, ensuring that students gain broad clinical exposure while preparing for residency. It establishes maximum allowable weeks per specialty and defines procedures for participating in intramural and extramural electives, including international rotations, in alignment with LCME Standard 6.5.

During Academic Year 4, there is a maximum number of weeks (including the sub-internship, Emergency Medicine Clerkship, and electives) that can be taken in each specialty. The single specialty limits are as follows:

- Pediatrics – 20 weeks
- Internal Medicine – 20 weeks
- General Surgery – 20 weeks
- All other specialties – 16 weeks

SCOPE

This policy applies to all Academic Year 4 medical students.

REASON FOR POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to allow Academic Year 4 students to obtain advanced study as preparation for residency, with opportunities for students to gain exposure to sub-specialty areas and core disciplines. Students are encouraged to use electives to pursue a broad range of interests in addition to their chosen specialty.

DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITIONS

RESPONSIBLE PARTIES
Assistant Dean for Clinical Education and Associate Dean for Curriculum and Medical Education

RELATED RESOURCES
Please see the AAMC Visiting Students Learning Opportunities website: https://students-residents.aamc.org/visiting-student-learning-opportunities/visiting-student-learning-opportunities-vslo .

CONTACTS
Questions about this procedure should be directed towards the Associate Dean for Curriculum and Medical Education.

POLICY HISTORY
<p>Initial Effective Date: December 2024</p> <p>Review Dates (<i>review performed, no updates</i>):</p> <p>Revision Dates (<i>updates made to document</i>): June 2025</p> <p>Comments on Revision (<i>if applicable</i>):</p>

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PROCEDURE STATEMENT