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at CHAPEL HILL

DEPARTMENT of SURGERY
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**UNC Department of Surgery
General Surgery Residency Program
Policy on Effect of Leave of Absence**

- As directed by the UNC GME policies and procedures (referenced here: <https://www.uncmedicalcenter.org/uncmc/professional-education-and-services/office-of-graduate-medical-education/gme-policies/>) this policy provides information on the effect of a leave of absence on completion of training.
 - This policy is provided in addition to (and in concert with) information referenced by the UNC GME policies at the above link titled:
 - Family Medical Leave
 - Institutional Leaves of absence
 - Paid Time Off
 - Serious Medical Illness and Parental Leave
 - This is also in concert with the surgery residency program PTO policy
- **Regardless of reason for time away from training, there may be an impact on time of completion of training. This policy outlines those requirements.**

Board Eligibility Requirements

- The American Board of Surgery (ABS) requires a minimum amount of training time to be board eligible at the completion of general surgery residency. The specific requirements can be found here
 - o http://www.absurgery.org/default.jsp?certqsqe_training
- In summary, the ABS requires at least 48 weeks of full-time clinical activity in each residency year. The 48 weeks may be averaged over the first three years of training (total 144 weeks) and again over the final two years (total 96 weeks).
- **If there is more cumulative time missed from full-time clinical activity than defined above for any reason (PTO, sick leave, family medical leave, maternity leave, meeting attendance/presentations), this will extend your residency.**

Program Specific Requirements:

- The surgery residency program will follow the above guidelines in determining certification for board eligibility at the completion of training

- In addition to the board eligibility requirements, the surgery residency program has additional guidelines on the impact of missed time as referenced below:
 - o For all residents, a week of training is considered the work week (Monday-Friday).
 - Time spent covering services on the weekend are not considered when accounting for training time
 - Days off during the work week, when taken as individual days for any reason, will be accounted for in addition to full weeks off (such as for vacation)
 - o All residents must complete 48 weeks of clinical training in order to have successfully completed the year
 - For PGY-1 residents, this means you must complete 48 weeks in order to receive credit for successfully completing the year
 - For those trainees spending more than one year in the program, you must average 48 weeks/year over the course of your training time in order to receive credit for successfully completing the designated number of years
 - Eg'- A resident who spends 2 years in the program must average 48 weeks to receive credit for successfully completing 2 years of training
 - Any resident who spends just one year in the program (regardless of PGY year of training) must complete 48 weeks in order to receive credit for that year
 - Eg'- A resident who joins the program as a PGY-2 resident and spends only one year must complete 48 weeks of training in that year in order to receive credit for successfully completing that year
 - o Any leave greater than outlined above will extend your residency
 - o Leave >12 weeks in any PGY year will not be granted and will require the trainee to repeat the entire PGY year