

# MD Program

## Student Observership Policy

*Curricular Component: Policy #CC-02 v12.1*

*Approved by Curriculum Committee: September 14, 2023*

*Approved by MD PEC: October 2, 2023*



*Effective Date: September 1, 2023 for the classes of MEDS 2024, 2025, and 2026*

### 1.0 Definitions

- 1.1 The MD Program is committed to supporting student efforts to explore potential career interests through participation in student observerships. A student observership is defined as being a self-directed learning experience that occurs in a clinical setting under the direct supervision of a Queen's University faculty member
- 1.2 Observerships for students in pre-clerkship are referred to as **for-credit observerships**.
- 1.3 Observerships for students in clerkship are referred to as enhanced observerships.

### 2.0 Purpose

The Student Observership Policy sets out the regulations and student responsibilities concerning the scheduling, completion and documentation of student observerships in pre-clerkship and clerkship phases of training.

### 3.0 Student Responsibilities

- 3.1 It is the sole responsibility of students to set specific learning objectives and goals for observerships and to make arrangements to participate in observerships.
- 3.2 Students are responsible for arranging observerships.
- 3.3 Students are responsible for ensuring that all observerships adhere to the regulations outlined in the policy.

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## 4.0 Regulations

### 4.1 Pre-clerkship Observerships:

#### 4.2 Medical observerships:

- Are only available to students before they start their first clerkship clinical rotation.
- **Must** be scheduled and registered in advance in Elentra
- Must be a minimum of a half day (4 hours) in duration
- Can only occur under the direct supervision of a Queen's University faculty member
- Are not insured unless they are entered in Elentra in advance and meet the other required criteria.

4.3 Interprofessional observerships with health professionals who do not hold a faculty appointment can only occur if they are arranged by the MD Program

4.4 A minimum of 2 medical observerships must be completed by the end of Year 1. All required medical observerships (6 in total) must be completed by the end of Year 2.

4.5 Students must complete observerships in a minimum of 6 different CaRMS direct-entry clinical disciplines in the first 2 years of the program.

4.6 Students students must complete interprofessional observership as arranged by the MD Program.

### 4.2 Enhanced Observerships: for the Meds 2024 class only

#### 4.2.1 Enhanced Observerships

- Are only available to students who have completed at least one clinical clerkship course
- **Must** be scheduled and registered in advance in Elentra
- Must be, at a maximum, 3 hrs in duration
- Can only occur under the direct supervision of a Queen's University faculty member
- Are voluntary and will not be awarded credit/eligible for inclusion on the MSPR
- Are not insured unless they are entered in Elentra in advance and meet the other required criteria.

4.2.2 Students can complete up to a maximum of 2 enhanced observerships in each year of the clerkship.

4.2.3 Students are only eligible to participate in an enhanced observership if they have successfully completed the associated core clinical clerkship course.

4.2.4 Enhanced observerships may not be scheduled during school scheduled holiday breaks as designated by the Academic Calendar for Clerkship.

## **5.0 Related Policies**

5.1 Student observerships must adhere to relevant policies for the MD program, including any policies that pertain to Attendance and Absences, and Professionalism.

## **6.0 Supervision**

6.1 Observerships are only permitted under the supervision of a Queen's Clinical Faculty Member or an assigned health professional.

## **7.0 Oversight**

7.1 The Curricular Director will review and address any instances of non-completion, as well as any other concerns or issues that may arise.

## **8.0 Approval**

### **8.1 For-Credit Observerships**

8.1.1 The MD Program Office is responsible for approving observerships submitted through the designated Elentra Form.

8.1.2 Approval of a for-credit observership will only be granted if the observership is in compliance with the regulations set out in Section 4.0 of this policy.

### **8.2 Enhanced Observerships (for Meds 2024)**

8.2.1 The MD Program is responsible for approving observerships and will determine how these are submitted and approved. They will only be approved if they are in adherence with the regulations set out in section 4.0.