

**RADIOLOGY DEPARTMENT  
POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR APPROVING REQUESTS  
TO THE RRC FOR DUTY HOUR EXCEPTIONS**

The residency/fellowship program must be accredited and in good standing with IUSM and the RRC.

The Program's Training Director and Chair must prepare a written request to the IUSM COGME that justifies an exception is needed for educational purposes. This request should address:

1. Patient Safety: Describe how the program will monitor, evaluate, and ensure patient safety with extended resident work hours.
2. Educational Rationale: Provide a sound educational rationale which should be described in relation to the program's stated goals and objectives for the particular assignments, rotations, and levels of training for which the increase is requested. Blanket exceptions for the entire educational program should be considered the exception, not the rule.
3. Moonlighting Policy: Include specific information regarding the program's moonlighting policies for the periods in question.
4. Call Schedules: Provide specific information regarding the resident call schedules during the times specified for the exception. Provide a one-month study of resident duty hours (completed in the last six months).
5. Faculty Monitoring: Provide evidence of faculty development activities regarding the effects of resident fatigue and sleep deprivation.

COGME will:

1. Formally review each proposal at its next regularly scheduled meeting.
2. Judge whether the request justifies granting approval of the extension of the maximum weekly number of duty hours from 80 up to 88 hours, averaged over four weeks.
3. Specify the assignments and levels of training to which the proposal applies if the exception is approved.
4. Stipulate the duration of the exception, which will be no longer than the next internal review.
5. Monitor and reevaluate the educational purpose for the exception at the end of the initial year for the exception. The form for the monitoring may be a progress report, time study, resident survey, internal review, or other method.
6. Reevaluate the patient safety aspects and educational rationale for the exception at the time of the next internal review. The Internal Review Committee, in their report to COGME, will recommend that the exception be continued, denied, or modified.

COGME must approve the exception by a majority of members present. The action of the COGME is not subject to appeal. If approved, an endorsement letter will be prepared and signed by the Chair of the COGME. This letter will be included in the program's submission to their own RRC.