

MEDICAL STUDENT POLICY

Title: Religious Observation Policy and Procedure	
Relevant LCME Element(s): N/A	Last approved: 5/3/2023

I. **PURPOSE**

Policy and procedures for excused absences due to religious observations.

II. **PERSONS AFFECTED:**

Medical students

III. **POLICY AND PROCEDURE STATEMENT**

Students who choose not to attend classes or take examinations on certain days because of their religious beliefs will be given an opportunity to make up the work requirements or examinations they miss, without penalties. If the requested accommodations result in students not participating in required educational experiences, the Associate Dean of Student Affairs and the course/clerkship director will determine if granting such accommodations will substantially alter the depth and integrity of the educational requirements for medical students. Such decisions are made on a case-by-case basis.

Phase 1 students who anticipate absences from scheduled educational activities due to religious observances are required to provide written notification to the Associate Dean of Student Affairs of the anticipated days they will be absent. This request should be made no later than the first two weeks of the academic year.

Phase 2 and 3 students should provide written notification to the Associate Dean of Student Affairs and their affected clerkship director(s) at least four weeks in advance of the anticipated absence.

IV. **APPROVING BODY:**

Curriculum Committee