



**THE GEORGE  
WASHINGTON  
UNIVERSITY**

WASHINGTON, DC

**Responsible University Official:**  
Associate Dean for Clinical Education  
**Responsible Office:**  
Office of Medical Education, SMHS  
**Most Recent Revision:** 10/2023

## **POLICY ON MEDICAL STUDENT SUPERVISION BY RESIDENTS, FELLOWS, AND FACULTY**

---

### **Policy Statement**

---

#### **Student Supervision:**

It is necessary that supervising physicians (faculty, fellows, or residents) provide appropriate levels of supervision to medical students during patient care at required and elective clinical experiences at all educational sites. Direct supervision of trainees must be provided until they have demonstrated satisfactory competence in the relevant clinical process (e.g., interviewing and physical examination) or procedure (e.g., phlebotomy, intravenous line insertion) to permit independent practice. Assessing student competence requires direct observation of skills unless independent documentation of competence is provided by the school (e.g., certification of completion of special training such as Basic Life Support, etc.).

#### **Student Concerns and Monitoring:**

For any student with concerns about supervision, there are multiple ways to report this in real time or after the clerkship, including to the clerkship director, to the deans, to the ombudspeople, via the listening post, and/or on the required end-of clerkship evaluations. These data are reviewed by clerkship directors, Office of Evaluation, and the associate dean for clinical education, and acted upon as needed.

### **Reason for Policy/Purpose**

---

As per LCME DCI element 9.3, this policy is to ensure that medical students in clinical learning situations involving patient care are appropriately supervised.

---

### **Who Needs to Know This Procedure**

---

Clerkship directors, Medical Students, Faculty, Residents, Fellows

---

### **Who Approved This Policy**

---

Committee on the Undergraduate Medical Education Curriculum:  
Most Recent Approval: 08/3/2015