



**MOUNT SINAI  
SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE**

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## **MOUNT SINAI EMERGENCY MEDICINE RESIDENT CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE POLICY**

### **BACKGROUND**

Academic conference attendance is an opportunity for professional enrichment and development and a requirement of residency. Both the Mount Sinai Department of Emergency Medicine and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) review academic conference attendance when evaluating the residency program and individual residents.

### **EXPECTATION**

Residents are expected to attend conference each and every week unless on vacation or rotating off-service where clinical duties are not suspended for conference. These are the only two acceptable reasons to forego conference. Residents must view conference as a vital part of training responsibilities and understand that attendance is mandatory. Freedom from clinical obligations on the night prior to conference and the day of conference is predicated on conference attendance, and it is unacceptable to miss conference for unapproved reasons.

### **POLICY SPECIFICS**

1. Conference attendance is mandatory for all residents unless on vacation or rotating off-service where clinical duties are not suspended for conference. In these instances a resident is formally excused from the conference.
2. All residents except interns are exempted from clinical duties during conference hours for all off-service rotations in order to allow for academic conference attendance. Problems in this regard this should be referred to the chief residents.
3. Timely arrival at conference is expected and conference credit will not be granted to those who arrive more than 15 minutes past the start of conference. As a professional courtesy to the distinguished speakers and colleagues who are lecturing, please arrive on time.
4. Residents are expected to attend the entirety of conference. Partial conference attendance will result in partial conference credit.
5. Conference credit will be granted if a conference is missed due to attendance of a state / national / international academic conference.
6. A resident's conference attendance must be satisfactory prior to resident promotion and in order to participate in moonlighting opportunities and Mets coverage.
7. This policy may be augmented or revised as necessary during the course of year.



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Examples:

1. You work a 12-hour ED shift the night before conference. You are not expected to attend conference. This will not be an excused conference nor will you get conference credit, but this is why the requirement (from Mount Sinai and the ACGME) for graduation is 70%. Ideally you will only have one of these per block, and it will be paired with a Wednesday overnight.
2. You have the night prior to conference off, but are scheduled to work the night of conference at 7pm. You are expected to attend all of conference.
3. You work an 8-hour overnight shift prior to conference and are expected to return for the same 11pm-7am shift following conference. You are expected to attend conference until 1pm. Ideally you will only have one of these during per block.
4. You are on an away elective and cannot attend conference. You are excused from conference, but you do not get conference credit. If your attendance has been excellent for all other conferences you will still be above the 70% mark. Away electives are a privilege and thus carry responsibilities. One of those responsibilities is to have excellent conference attendance. In rare instances, on a case-by-case manner, credit may be given.