Message Sent:
03-19-20

Subject:
U Mich COP - Information About APPE Rotation Changes

Message:

Hello Preceptors,

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we have been working to develop plans to enable our P4 students to complete APPE requirements and graduate on time. Your response to our many questions and requirements has been remarkable! We really appreciate your flexibility and willingness to help us at this critical juncture, and we thank you!

The situation with COVID-19 continues to evolve, which has made creating plans quite challenging. As you likely know, we have had to suspend clinical rotations at many health system sites due to COVID-19 concerns. Given the rapidly changing circumstances and the potential for losing more rotation sites, we have had to make decisions that maximize the chances that all students could complete graduation requirements on time. This email outlines the plans that we have developed. It contains a lot of information; it outlines changes that we are making to students’ schedules and how the changes will impact your assigned Rotation 9 students. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding of these necessary schedule changes to ensure all students have an on-time graduation.

There are two required pieces that a student must meet to graduate: ACPE-required rotation hours (1440 hours) and University of Michigan-required credit hours (138 total throughout P1-P4 year).

Our P4 students fall into one of three groups based on what they still need to complete:

Group 1 - Students who need to complete one of the ACPE required APPE rotations (ambulatory care, community, health system/hospital, and inpatient acute care).

- These required rotations will be completed in a 4-week rotation in block 9 (versus the usual 5-week rotation), meeting the minimum of 160 required hours. If a student is assigned to you to complete a required rotation, he/she may complete it over a traditional 4-week period (e.g. four 40-hour work weeks, M-F) or through a modified schedule as agreed upon by you and your student (e.g. 16 10-hour work days, may or may not include weekends).

- Some or all of this work may be done remotely at the discretion of the preceptor.

- These rotation types will only be scheduled in block 9 for students who have not yet completed this requirement. If you are a preceptor for one of these rotation types, it is possible that you may no longer have a student for block 9.

Group 2 – Students who have completed all required APPE rotation types, but who need additional
rotation hours to meet criteria for full time enrollment and graduation will be assigned to a newly created nontraditional APPE experience focusing on research related to emergency responses to the coronavirus. Most students are in this group. None of these students will be completing their originally scheduled block 9 rotation with you. Instead, students will work remotely to complete this 4-week project-based rotation under the mentorship of COP faculty. This approach will avoid potential rotation cancelations due to the instability in healthcare systems and other practice settings as they continue to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Group 3 – Students who have completed all required APPE rotations and at least 1440 hours. These students have completed requirements for the PharmD degree and will not have any further rotations. Any student who had a rotation scheduled in block 9 will have that rotation block cancelled. This is the smallest group.

Adjustments to student schedules to reflect these changes will be made in CORE ELMS. You and your students will either receive a message from CORE ELMS or the OEE regarding any schedule changes.

We know that these changes significantly impact rotation plans and projects that you have in anticipation of your rotation 9 student’s arrival next week. We apologize for the inconvenience these changes in plans may cause you. The unfortunate circumstances created by COVID-19 are unavoidable.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation during this extraordinarily difficult time.

Paul C. Walker, PharmD, FASHP

Message Sent By: Paul Walker (ADMIN)