

SSM Health/St. Louis University School of Medicine (SSM/SLUSOM) Program
Away Rotation Policy

The SSM/SLUSOM Program supports the position that away rotations should not be routinely permitted. However, recognizing the benefit of unique educational experiences outside of the SSM Health affiliated sites, away rotations may be allowed when following a structured process and meeting necessary training requirements.

Away rotations are those clinical, educational, or research experiences that are not required, not a recurring rotation for the program, and not conducted at a site for which the program already has an established training experience. Experiences that are not considered away rotations include board review courses, attendance at scientific meetings, leadership programs, procedural/skills courses, standardized exams, job or training program interviews, and educational/scholarly presentations. Both clinical and non-clinical experiences require a designated site supervisor. Generally a clinical away rotation will be under the supervision of a non-SLUCare affiliated teaching physician.

Participation in an away rotation is a privilege, not a right. The SSM/SLUSOM program's clinical, educational, and scholarship activities must be given priority and not compromised by the away experiences. The away rotation must not interfere with the education of others nor burden peers with excess call or clinical coverage duties. Away rotations must fulfill an acceptable ACGME experience toward completion of the training program with pre-defined learning goals and objectives.

To participate in away experiences, trainees must be in good standing within the program. The program director must approve the away rotations in advance followed by the GME office. Approval for the away experience may be rescinded based on trainee performance in the program.

Programs must document away rotation time, and trainees must track away rotation hours in New Innovations. ACGME duty hours requirements must be followed during the rotation. Trainees are expected to abide by the policies and expectations of the away rotation site and its supervising faculty. Based on location, some away rotations may incur unreimbursed costs to the trainee and/or program including but not limited to: parking, housing, meals, state licensure fees, transportation, application fees, badges, travel insurance, immunizations, and malpractice insurance.

Programs that wish to allow away rotations must have a programmatic policy approved by the Program Evaluation Committee (PEC), that outlines the following conditions:

- how and when away elective time can be requested and approved
- amount of away time the program as a whole can accommodate each year
- which trainees can request away elective time
- when and how much away time can be taken by a trainee
- what types of experiences can be requested (e.g. clinical, research, educational, administrative)
- geographic locations allowed for away training (e.g. Missouri, national, international)
- how coverage will be managed while the trainee is away
- who is responsible for costs associated with the away experience
- how the program will equitably provide opportunity for away time within the program
- how the program will assess the request for an away rotation when equivalent opportunities exist within the SSM Health and affiliated clinical sites

See link that can be used to create a policy https://slu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0j0FmNidYv3go3s

PEC Implementation Date:

Program Director