Policy on Resident Moonlighting
Emory University School of Medicine

Moonlighting is defined as professional and patient care activities that occur outside of the residency training program. Moonlighting is considered internal if it occurs in one of the affiliated hospitals (VA, GMH, EUH, EUH-M and WW). Moonlighting outside of this scope is classified as external. It is the responsibility of the Program Director to assure that moonlighting activities do not interfere with the emotional well-being of the resident, their educational training, or the care of patients.

- Residents are not required to moonlight.
- Residents who elect to moonlight must do so on their own time; i.e., on weekends they are not on call, vacation days, and after hours.
- Residents must have a valid license to practice medicine in Georgia or in which every state in which they do external moonlighting.
- Residents must use their individual DEA numbers. The institutional DEA number cannot be used for external moonlighting activities.
- The Emory malpractice insurance does not cover unsupervised medical practice outside the scope of the Emory residency training program.
- It is the responsibility of the resident and the hiring institution to determine whether the resident has the training skills appropriate for the medical activities that occur during moonlighting.
- Residents must request permission to moonlight from the Program Director using the form approved by the GME office and in existence in the Housestaff Manual. A copy of this form will be kept in the resident’s file.
- Internal and external moonlighting is counted toward the 80 hours per week duty hours limits. It is the responsibility of the individual resident to assure this limit is not exceeded with moonlighting activities.
- If the Program Director feels moonlighting activities are interfering with residency training or patient care, permission to continue moonlighting may be withdrawn.
- If a resident is moonlighting during routine workday (not on vacation) or while taking “sick” time, permission to continue moonlighting will be withdrawn and the resident may be subject to disciplinary actions.
Moonlighting Definitions

External Moonlighting – professional activity that is outside the course and scope of your educational program, and takes place at a hospital/clinic that is not a participating institution for your program. You must have professional liability insurance coverage that either you or the entity hiring you for moonlighting service has purchased. You are not covered by your Emory professional liability insurance for this work and you are not supervised by an attending. You must have a full Georgia medical license. The hours worked COUNT towards Duty Hours. PGY-1 residents are not allowed to moonlight under this scenario.

Internal Moonlighting – professional activity that is outside the course and scope of your educational program, and takes place at a participating institution for your program. You must have professional liability insurance coverage which either you or the entity hiring you for moonlighting service has purchased. You are not covered by Emory professional liability insurance for this work and you are not supervised by an attending. You must have a full Georgia medical license. The hours worked COUNT towards Duty Hours. PGY-1 residents are not allowed to moonlight under this scenario.

Residents must agree to obtain a signed contract with the facility and provide a copy of the signed contract to the Program Director. The contract must state that a non – Emory Healthcare facility will provide professional liability insurance coverage for the moonlighting services and that the resident has received privileges. If the non – Emory Healthcare facility does not provide insurance coverage, residents must obtain their own professional liability insurance, for no less than limits of $1mm per claim and $3mm in the annual aggregate, and provide proof of such insurance to the Program Director before moonlighting begins. Emory’s Liability Insurance Program provides malpractice insurance for residents who moonlight within Emory Healthcare facilities.

When residents are moonlighting in one of the hospitals used by Emory’s training programs, i.e., Emory Healthcare facilities, Grady Hospital, CHOA Hospitals and the VAMC, moonlighting services may occur only in an outpatient setting or in the emergency department. Federal Medicare regulations are very clear on this point. (42 CFR 415.208)

Extra Call for Extra Pay – professional activity that in the same specialty as the training program or approved by the program director as a training area related to the specialty; is in compliance with the training requirements established by an approved accrediting body, including but not limited to requirements for faculty supervision and work hour limitations; occurs under the direction of a faculty member that is associated with the training program; and is provided only at a participating institution for your program. Your Emory professional liability insurance covers this activity. You are supervised by an attending and this activity can be done with a physician in training permit. The hours worked COUNT towards Duty Hours. PGY-1 residents are not allowed to moonlight under this scenario.