

STATEMENT 1.3.12 – Student Return to UME Curriculum After Granted Leave for Personal and/or Health Reasons

Undergraduate Medical Education

Approved by:	Curriculum Committee
Date of original approval:	October 2014
Date of last review:	June 2014
Date of next scheduled review:	December 2015

I. PURPOSE

The Undergraduate Medical Education program at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at Western University (Schulich Medicine) values the principals of student wellness and ensuring that a return to the academic environment is safe and successful.

Accordingly, when Schulich Medicine Learner Equity and Wellness (LEW) and/or Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) grant an individual student a leave of absence for personal and / or personal health reasons, the student will return only if and when they are found in compliance with the following conditions.

II. STATEMENT

- a. On return to the UME program, the student will provide adequate documentation from the student’s specialty physician or MRP and care provided to satisfy the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Medical Education and Assistant Dean (Undergraduate) Learner, Equity and Wellness that the student:
 - i. Has fulfilled the stated conditions of the Leave of Absence
 - ii. Is physically and mentally competent to safely undertake studies in medicine
 - iii. Is motivated and agrees to undertake supervision and aftercare
 - iv. Will comply with all rules and regulations of Western University, Schulich Medicine and all teaching or affiliated health care centers
 - v. Is competent and safe to return to all aspects of learning with peers, faculty, allied health professionals, standardized and clinical patients
 - vi. Agrees to supervision and reporting as per the return to medical school learning agreement drafted between the student and decanal leadership
 - vii. Continues to show progress in treatment plans and timelines for the individual issue that prompted the lead
 - viii. Agrees to share regular written documentation of progress in or regression of the precipitating illness / leave issue with the decanal team (term to be outlined in agreement).
- b. Over the duration of the student’s medical training, the student will commit to compliance with aftercare outlined by their specialist and provide written documentation of such to the offices of UME and LEW.
- c. Non-compliance with this policy and or aftercare will be interpreted as a breach of professionalism and addressed as such accordingly under the terms outlined in the Academic Calendar of Western University.

III. The following terms shall be used for purposes of interpreting this policy:

- a. **Aftercare**
 - i. For purposes of this policy “aftercare”¹ shall be interpreted as:
 1. Any treatment or follow-up delivered in the course of providing patient/client care by the treating and/or monitoring:

- a. Physicians
- b. Health care professionals
- c. Organizations
- d. Therapists

2. As agreed to in the plan of care for the learner.

IV. Return to UME Curriculum Documentation:

- a. The importance of adequate documentation for granting leaves, agreeing to reentry and follow-up is critical to student success.
 - i. UME and LEW will request that the student's Most Responsible Physician (MRP) and if relevant primary therapist involved in directing care and who is the most qualified caregiver in the student's care provide such documentation.
 - ii. This correspondence shall and will include an update on the student's status, an opinion on the student's requested return to studies and a plan for ongoing treatment including timelines, cautions and if possible prognosis.

Bibliography

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. "Guidelines for College Supervision." *cpsso.on.ca*. November 21, 2008. (accessed September 2, 2012).

<http://www.cpsso.on.ca/uploadedFiles/policies/guidelines/office/GuidelinesCollegeDirectedSupervision.pdf>