

TTUHSC at El Paso

DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS

DUTY HOURS POLICY

June 2008

1. Resident's duty hours must be limited to 80 per week, averaged over a 4-week period, including in-house call
2. 1 day (one continuous 24 hour-period) in 7 must be free of educational and clinical responsibilities
3. There must be a 10-hour period between daily duties and after in-house call
4. In-house call may occur no more frequently than every 3rd night, averaged over 4 weeks
5. Continuous on-duty is for a maximum of 30 hours (24 hours +6 hours, where the additional 6 hours may be for transfer patient care, participate in didactic activities, outpatient clinics or maintain continuity of care)
6. No new patients may be admitted after 24-hours of duty
7. If the resident is called to hospital from home, the in-house hours are counted towards the 80-hour limit
8. At-home call is not counted towards the 80-hours per week
9. Institutional Supervised Experiences (ISE) are considered part of the 80 hours per week
10. Each resident is responsible for keeping his/her duty hour log and reporting his/her hours at the end of each month.
11. If at any time a resident approaches the 80-hr limit, the resident must report immediately to the Chief Resident.

RELATED REQUIREMENTS ABOUT COMMUNICATIONS

Pager and Telephone messages - All residents should carry their pagers and answer any call within 1 hour period, except for residents who are post-call or on vacation.

E-mail - All residents should check their e-mails at least every 2 days, except residents on vacation.