ELECTIVES POLICY:

Elective opportunities are available to students throughout the four years of medical school. Requests for elective courses must be made through the “Student Scheduler” at least 14 days prior to the start date of the elective.

Students who are required to remediate a course may not be eligible to take summer electives.

Prior to the fourth year, a student may take a fourth year elective if permission has been granted by the respective course director. Permission to take the course must be established prior to the start of the elective by the submission of a permission statement to the Office of Academic Affairs. Only two weeks of fourth year elective requirements for graduation can be satisfied prior to the fourth year.

Under certain circumstances, third year students participating in clerkship remediation might have short blocks of time in their schedule where they cannot be actively enrolled in a clerkship. In order to minimize the potential negative impact of this “lost” time, these students may enroll in and receive credit for up to two weeks of non-patient contact 4th year electives.

Electives that satisfy fourth year requirements for graduation have the following restrictions:

- Must be designated as a 4th year level course.
- Must be a minimum of two weeks in duration -- With exception of Essentials of EKG (CVS 800) and Residency Survival Skills (EMS 745).
- Non-patient Contact electives are limited to 6 weeks with the following exception: Students may, with permission of the course director, schedule up to 12 weeks of a basic science research elective. All remaining electives that are scheduled to fulfill the graduation requirements must be “patient contact” type electives.
- Out of State electives are limited to 16 weeks. Only 8 weeks can be scheduled consecutively; after which it is expected that the students will return to West Virginia for at least one month.

For a list of elective offerings available to first year students during the summer between first and second year, refer to the webpage for MS1 Student Resources.

Refer to the webpage for MS4 Student Resources for a link to the current list of fourth year elective offerings.

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