



Career goals of individual residents should be taken into consideration when making decisions about rotations/learning experiences outside Northern Ontario.

## **2.0 Scope**

This policy applies to all NOSM residency programs.

## **3.0 Principles**

- 3.1 NOSM has the specific social accountability mandate to meet the health needs of the people and communities of Northern Ontario.
- 3.2 Context is crucial to most clinical learning, thus wherever possible residents should be learning to care for patients from Northern Ontario in Northern Ontario communities, clinics and teaching hospitals.
- 3.3 Rotations/educational experiences should be sought that provide residents the best possible opportunities to meet the competencies required for practice in Northern Ontario.
- 3.4 Career goals of individual residents should be taken into consideration when making decisions about rotations/learning experiences outside Northern Ontario.

## **4.0 Definitions**

### 4.1 Northern Ontario

- 4.1.1 Defined as the Districts of Algoma, Cochrane, Kenora, Manitoulin, Muskoka, Nipissing, Parry Sound, Rainy River, Sudbury, Thunder Bay and Timiskaming.

### 4.2 Core rotations/learning experiences

- 4.2.1 Defined by each Program to meet accreditation requirements either Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) or College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC).

### 4.3 Selective

- 4.3.1 Selective rotations/learning experiences are defined by each Program to meet accreditation requirements.

### 4.4 Elective

- 4.4.1 Elective rotations/learning experiences are chosen and organized by residents' to meet their own personal/career learning objectives. They must be approved by the Residency Program Director and may be taken anywhere in Canada or internationally.

## **5.0 Procedures**

### 5.1 Elective Rotations/Learning Experiences

5.1.1 Proposals for elective rotations (including Goals and Objectives) must be submitted to the Residency Program Director for approval.

5.1.2 Subject to Program Director approval electives may be taken anywhere in Canada or internationally.

5.1.3 Funding is not provided for travel and housing outside of Northern Ontario (*Note if NOSM housing exists in a specific community and is not occupied at the time of the elective residents may apply to live there*)

## 5.2 Selective Rotations/Learning Experiences

5.2.1 Selectives may be done outside Northern Ontario subject to the following conditions:

- Approval by the Residency Program Director AND
- The experience is not available in Northern Ontario OR
- The experience outside Northern Ontario has been demonstrated to be more effective in enabling residents to achieve the needed competencies OR
- The experience is essential for a resident pursuing a potential fellowship opportunity OR
- The learning experience supports ongoing or developing partnerships relevant to NOSM's vision, mission and mandate.

## 5.3 Core Rotations

5.3.1 Core rotations shall not be done outside Northern Ontario except under the following circumstances:

- The experience is not available in Northern Ontario OR
- The experience outside Northern Ontario has been demonstrated to be more effective in enabling residents to achieve the needed competencies

## 6.0 Roles and Responsibilities

### 6.1 Residents

6.1.1 Residents should begin the electives application process a **minimum of 6 months** prior to the beginning of the elective block. NOSM requires proof of confirmed rotation

a **minimum of 3 months** prior to the start of the rotation. Residents are encouraged to perform due diligence to ensure that all requirements and deadlines are met.

6.1.2 Final approval of the elective by the program must occur three months prior the start of the elective. If there is not a finalized elective confirmed with the program at the 3-month deadline, the program will lead the creation of a clinical placement in consultation with the resident.

6.2 Residency Programs and the Postgraduate Medical Education Office

6.2.1 Each program shall develop a specific program policy related to rotations/learning experiences outside Northern Ontario, approved at the Residency Program Committee. The RPC may choose to use the Postgraduate Policy as the Residency Program Policy.

6.2.2 If a Residency Program plans an ongoing core rotation outside Ontario they must let residents know that travel and accommodation would not be provided unless there is specific prior approval from the MOHLTC.

7.0 Getting Help

Postgraduate Medical Education Office  
 Phone: 807-766-7508  
[postgrad@nosm.ca](mailto:postgrad@nosm.ca)

DO NOT REMOVE THIS VERSION RECORD FROM THIS DOCUMENT		
Version	Date	Authors/Comments
1.0	2016 07 14	Approved by NOSM Postgraduate Education Committee.
2.0	2018 07 23	Reformatted in new policy template.
3.0	2019 08 19	Change from PGE to PGME.
4.0	2020 11 12	“Policy” reclassified to a “Guideline” and approved by PGEC.