Amended Student Duty Hours Policy
(as approved by the MEC in May 2011)

All clinical rotations and electives must adhere to the medical student learning/work hour policy as follows:

1. The frequency of on-call schedule for each clerkship will be established by the respective clerkship director, with the intent of optimizing the total educational experience for each student. No student should be on call more often than one night in three.

2. On average, at least one 24 hour period every week will be free of all patient care and scheduled educational activities, and should be spent outside the hospital.

3. Students must work no more than 80 hours per week in the hospital/clinic.

4. Students must work no more than 30 consecutive hours in the hospital/clinic.

5. If the clerkship allows, a student may switch call days during the course of the clerkship if an event of significant educational opportunity is at a time when the student is scheduled to be post-call. However, the student must complete the total number of required call nights for the clerkship.

6. Didactic conferences for students should be scheduled so that as many students as possible can attend. Post-call students should attend required teaching conferences when they fall within the above-outlined learning/work hours. However, post-call students may need to miss some didactic conferences in order to be in compliance with these learning/work hour restrictions.

7. On-call rooms at DHMC will be available twenty-four hours a day for post-call students wishing to take a nap prior to driving home after their nights on call, if they feel too tired to drive home safely. The Office for Clinical Education should work with other affiliated hospitals that have night call for DMS students, and try to set up a similar arrangement for having rooms available to students during the afternoon while they are post-call.

To implement this policy, the following shall occur:

• Clerkship directors must arrange the clerkship schedule (i.e. on-call shifts, didactic sessions, etc.) to comply with this proposal
• Clerkship directors must announce this policy to all attendings and residents who work with students (including the contact physicians at away sites)

• Clerkship directors must announce this policy at all clerkship orientations

• The work hours policy should be easily accessible on the DMS website

• Students will keep track of their own hours and two questions will be added to the end of clerkship survey:

1. During this clerkship, how many weeks did you work over 80 hours? (0,1,2,3,4,5,6)
2. During this clerkship, how many times did you work beyond 30 consecutive hours? (0,1,2,3,4,5,6,>7)

• The MEC will evaluate student work hours and re-assess enforcement of this policy in 6 months from implementation