

Augusta University  
House Staff Policies and Procedures

Policy

HS 36.0 Accommodations for Lactating House Officers

Source

Graduate Medical Education Office

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1.0 Purpose

To provide August University (AU) Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs with guidance on the minimum level of support that will be provided to all lactating house officers.

2.0 Support for breastfeeding house officers

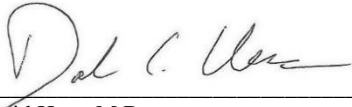
- 2.1 Postpartum house officers will be allowed to breastfeed for as long as they desire.
- 2.2 GME programs will not disadvantage house officers who are breastfeeding by denying certain privileges, positions, or rotations.
- 2.3 House officers that are pumping breastmilk for storage will be treated the same as house officers that are directly breastfeeding an infant.

3.0 Protected time for lactation


- 3.1 GME programs will allow breastfeeding house officers to take a break for lactation no less frequently than every 3 hours during the workday.
- 3.2 Lactation breaks will be no less than 30 minutes plus the amount of time it takes to travel back and forth to the lactation room.

4.0 Lactation rooms

- 4.1 Augusta University Medical Center will designation at least one room within the hospital as a lactation room. These rooms need not be designated only for housestaff. It is permissible for these rooms to be available to other AU employees as well. Programs are encouraged to designate a room within their space as a lactation room if possible.
- 4.2 Lactation rooms must be secure and be able to provide privacy for the house officer. Doors should either have a key code lock or badge access lock. Privacy can be accomplished by doors that can lock from the inside or through curtains that can be pulled to provide privacy.
- 4.3 A refrigerator where breastmilk can be stored must be present within lactation rooms or very close by. These refrigerators will be designated for breastmilk only.
- 4.4 Lactation rooms should have either a hardwired computer connected to the hospital network, or secure hospital Wi-Fi that allows connection via a laptop.
- 4.5 Program Directors must work with Site Directors to develop ad hoc lactation rooms for lactating house officers on off-site rotations if they do not already exist at the participating site.

  
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7/1/21  
Date

  
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