UNIVERSITY OF
South Carolina
School of Medicine Columbia

Scholarly Requirement Policy

Prepared by: Scholarly Requirement Working Group	Creation Date: 2022
Reviewed by: Distributed Curriculum Subcommittee, Curriculum Committee	Review Date: January 2024
Approved by: Academic Standards Committee	Effective Date: July 2023
Category: Academic Affairs	General Review Cycle: 24 months (Fall)

LCME Standards
3.2 Community of Scholars/Research Opportunities
6.3 Self-directed and Lifelong Learning
9.6 Setting Standards of Achievement

Scope
University of South Carolina (USC) School of Medicine Columbia faculty, staff, and students, beginning with the entering class of Fall 2023.

Policy Statement
Beginning with the entering class of Fall 2023, all University of South Carolina School of Medicine Columbia students are required to complete an approved scholarly activity graduation requirement for the Doctor of Medicine degree program.

Reason for Policy
The LCME expects that a medical school provides support for medical student participation in research and other scholarly activities. and ensure that opportunities exist for self-directed learning. The scholarly requirement embraces our commitment to the development of scholarship.

Definitions
Scholarly Activity: Scholarly activity in the medical field includes activity in foundational/translational biomedical research, quality improvement/patient safety, community health/improvement, and medical education research.

Requirements
- Completion of a formal, peer-reviewed presentation. Work must be, at minimum, presented at Discover USC (or similar event hosted by the University), a hospital research showcase, or a state, regional, national, or international professional conference/meeting. The student must be the presenting or co-presenting author regardless of where the work is presented. Seminar series presentations at USC may not be used in lieu of a more formal presentation, but students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of these opportunities to practice their professional communication skills.
- Creative endeavors with a medical/health sciences theme that engage the community shall also

meet the scholarly activity requirement. Examples include (not an exhaustive list): a written work, theatrical play, visual art (painting, sculpture, mural, etc.), song/musical composition, or public service announcement under the approval and direction of a three-member committee.

- M4 students may also meet the scholarly activity requirement by completing an extended case report or literature review in an area of their choosing (e.g., residency interest) under the approval and direction of a three-member committee.
- Submission of Scholarly Activity Attestation form to the Office of Undergraduate Medical Education Blackboard site for review and approval by:
    - **December 1st** for May and August graduates
    - **July 1st** for December graduates

Procedures

- Opportunities to fulfill the scholarly activity requirement include:
    - [Student Opportunities for Academic Achievement Through Research (SOAR)](#)
    - [QUEST – Quality Education and Systems Training](#)
    - [Praxis in Social Medicine (PRISM)](#)
    - [March Seabrook Leadership Program (MSLP)](#)
    - Any degree program pursued concurrent with the MD which includes a thesis/dissertation requirement (e.g., PhD, MS)
    - Research elective
    - For creative projects, extended case reports, and literature reviews, the project must be carried out under the approval and direction of a three-member committee; one of whom will serve as the director and must be an USCSOMC faculty member. The other two will serve as reviewers. Creative endeavors must still be documented, and if possible, their effect(s) assessed, for purposes of the presentation requirement as described above.

Program Assessment

The Distributed Curriculum Subcommittee (DCS) shall work with the Director of Program Assessment to evaluate the scholarly activity requirement and report its findings annually to the Curriculum Committee.

History

Date of Change	Change
January 2024	Revised to provide a clear outline of procedures and requirements.