I. **SCOPE:**
Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) adopts this policy for the following selected licensed entities:

☑ Lehigh Valley Hospital  ☐ Lehigh Valley Hospice
☐ Lehigh Valley Hospital – Hazleton  ☐ Transitional Skilled Unit
☐ Lehigh Valley Hospital – Pocono  ☐ Fairgrounds Surgical Center
☐ Lehigh Valley Hospital – Schuylkill  ☐ LVHN Children’s Surgery Center
☐ Lehigh Valley Home Care  ☐ LVHN Surgery Center – Tilghman

**Medical and Dental Resident and Fellow Physicians**

**Purpose:**
To provide graduate trainees guidelines for understanding the effect of a leave of absence on their training duration and eligibility to complete board examination.

II. **POLICY:**
If a leave of absence for a graduate trainee for any reason results in missing time that the Program Director considers necessary to achieve academic and educational goals, the graduate trainee may be required to make up such time. Such additional time may be necessary in order to adhere to specialty Board requirements, or it may be deemed to be appropriate by the Program Director with input from the Clinical Competency Committee in order to achieve departmental educational goals for the trainee. The program must give the graduate trainee and the GME office written notice of the training extension once the need is identified.

III. **DEFINITIONS:** N/A
IV. **PROCEDURE:** N/A
V. **REFERENCES:** N/A
VI. **ATTACHMENTS:** N/A
VII. **DISCLAIMER:** N/A

This policy and the implementing procedures are intended to provide a description of recommended courses of action to comply with statutory or regulatory requirements and/or operational standards. It is recognized that there may be specific circumstances, not contemplated by laws or regulatory requirements that make compliance inappropriate. For advice in these circumstances, consult with the Departments of Risk Management and/or Legal Services and the Ethics Committee, as appropriate.

VIII. **REVIEWS:**
Approved by the Graduate Medical Education Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approved by:</th>
<th>Margaret Hadinger (Dir Grad Med Educ / Dio)</th>
<th>Approval Date:</th>
<th>07/31/2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Version:</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Publication Date:</td>
<td>07/31/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Original Creation Date:</td>
<td>02/09/2009</td>
<td>Next Review Date:</td>
<td>07/31/2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>