

LICENSURE EXEMPTION AND PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

Licensure Exemption

Under the State of Tennessee statute T.C.A. 63-6-207, medical interns, residents, and fellows who do not hold a special training license are exempt from the requirement of a license to practice medicine or surgery in this state when participating in an accredited training program in the state of Tennessee. The Graduate Medical Education office will apply to the Tennessee Medical Board for a licensure exemption for each resident or fellow while training under the supervision and control of University of Tennessee College of Medicine faculty. Residents and fellows are not permitted to practice medicine or surgery outside of their training program (moonlight) without being fully licensed to practice medicine or surgery in the state in which the moonlighting activity occurs.

Prescribing Information

- DEA Number
Since UT residents are exempted from the requirement of having an unrestricted Tennessee medical license, they cannot obtain individual DEA numbers that are required for prescribing controlled substances. However, they may dispense, administer, and prescribe controlled substances under the registration of the individual teaching hospital in which the patient care is being provided. The GME Office will provide each resident with a specific internal code number (DEA Number suffix) to be used along with the appropriate hospital's institutional number. These internal codes are supplied to the pharmacies of our teaching partners and are available to law enforcement agencies upon request for the purpose of verifying the authority of the prescribing individual practitioner. Residents are provided the hospital institutional numbers and are responsible for using them appropriately. The institutional numbers are only valid for patients within that facility and cannot be used for any other purpose. The DEA number should only be used on prescriptions for controlled substances.

The hospital institutional DEA numbers and individual suffixes can only be used for residency education rotations. Residents are responsible for immediately reporting any incidents that suggest compromise to the GME Office and/or hospital pharmacy. Misuse of an institutional DEA number could result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the training program.

If moonlighting, a resident must obtain an individual federal DEA number (requires an unrestricted state medical license).

- NPI Number
All residents must obtain a National Provider Identifier (NPI) number. Information on obtaining the NPI number is located on the GME website. The NPI number must be included **on all prescriptions** including those requiring a DEA number.