I. **Background and Purpose:** House staff must hold a current medical license to practice medicine. Residents/fellows have a contractual and regulatory obligation to maintain compliance with this policy.

II. **New Residents and Promotion to next level of training:** House staff who do not possess a current, valid medical license in the State of Illinois may not begin or continue their training as a house officer until they have received an appropriate Illinois license. To do otherwise would be construed by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulations as practicing medicine without a license, which is a criminal offense.

III. **House Staff Agreement:** It is stated in the House staff Agreement that “Any house officer without a valid Illinois license is not considered a Rush employee and therefore is not afforded the benefits listed herein”. The letter of appointment that house staff sign each year states that the appointment “is conditioned upon your receipt and retention of a valid license from the State of Illinois for the practice of medicine and surgery”.

IV. **Compensation, Benefits and Professional Liability:** Incoming house staff are not placed on the payroll and they are also not eligible for any benefits including professional liability indemnification until they have received their license.

V. **Length of Training:** House staff cannot receive any academic credit for time (length of training for board eligibility) when they are unlicensed.

VI. **Non-Clinical Activities:** Unlicensed house staff may not perform any duties, including research or other non-patient contact activities. Vacation time also cannot be applied to this time.

VII. **Non-ACGME Accredited Training programs:** House staff in non-ACGME Accredited programs who will be eligible for permanent licensure at the starting date of the training program or during a mid-training reapplication cycle must apply for a permanent license.