Dear AMS Medical Student:

Taking time away from medical school studies can be a very enriching and necessary experience for a medical student. At Alpert Medical School, approximately 50 students each year make the decision to take time, either a single semester or even a full year. It has become a very common practice for our student population.

In the AMS Office of Financial Aid, we meet with students after Student Affairs advisors discuss Academic Scholars Program (ASP) and leave of absence options. Our office discusses the financial implications associated with each possibility.

Students choosing the Academic Scholars Program remain active members of the AMS community and are required to pay 1/40th of full tuition per semester. They are eligible for Brown health insurance and federal loans to cover living expenses. Students in ASP must relinquish Brown scholarship and loans during this time away. Loans received before and during medical school will remain in deferment. Upon reentry, the Office of Financial Aid will work to keep the expectation of parent help at the same level as long as a family’s financial needs have not changed.

After careful thought the decision is made to take a leave of absence, a student becomes separated from the medical school and is not required to pay tuition and fees. A student may be ineligible for Brown health insurance and federal loans would not be available for living expenses. Students must relinquish Brown scholarship and loans when out on leave. Pre-med and medical school loans will enter a six month grace period and payments will begin in the seventh month of time away. Upon reentry, the Office of Financial Aid will work to keep the expectation of parent help at the same level as long as a family’s financial needs have not changed. Loans will also be placed back into deferment status.

Alpert Medical School is part of the Brown University system and the tuition refund policy follows the undergraduate calendar. As a second year medical student, a student would receive a full tuition and fee refund if an enrollment change occurs prior to the start of the undergraduate academic year.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Linda Gillette, Director of Financial Aid
Warren Alpert Medical School