
Conrad 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program



BACKGROUND

This program is for International Medical Graduates (IMG) who enter the United States on a J-1 visa to completed medical education through a residency or fellowship program. The terms of the visa stipulates that upon completion of their program, they must return to their home country for at least two years before petitioning to re-enter the United States, unless they can receive a waiver of the visa stipulation.

The program allows state health departments to recommend up to 30 waivers per federal year of the two-year home residency requirement, if the agency can attest to the public health need for the physician.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

International Medical Graduates in their last year of residency or fellowship, who are on a J-1 Visa may apply.

HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

The employer submits a formal application to the Department of Health (DOH) which includes information about the organization, the practice site, and the physician.

If the Department agrees to support the physician, a written recommendation letter is then submitted along with an application packet to the U.S. Department of State (USDOS).

Up to 30 waiver recommendation may be made.

WHO DOES THE PROGRAM IMPACT?

Persons or population groups living in health professional shortage areas (HPSA) or medically Underserved areas (MUA) who are unable by reasons of poverty or other circumstances to obtain access to a physician.

RESOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION

Physician Visa Waiver Program

Pennsylvania Department of Health – Primary Care Office

(717) 772-5298 E-mail: waiverprograms@pa.gov Website: WaiverPrograms