

Immigration for Residents and Fellows

Effective: July 1, 2018
Reviewed by GMEC: December 12, 2017
Initial Approval by GMEC: November 2, 1999

Statement

It is the Policy of Palmetto Health to employ physician trainees (Residents and Fellows) requiring immigration authorization only under the J-1 Exchange Visitor Program, sponsored by the Educational Commission of Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG). Exceptions to this policy may be made only by the DIO (Designated Institutional Official) in rare circumstances.

Associated Policy(ies)

Eligibility
Selection

Responsible Positions (Title)

Residents/Fellows
Program Directors
DIO
GME Office

Equipment Needed

None

Procedure Steps, Guidelines, Rules, or Reference

1. The Program Director shall communicate the circumstances surrounding a request for an exception to the DIO.
2. If the request is approved, the processing of all USCIS (US Citizenship and Immigration Services) related documentation leading to the approval of a non-immigrant visa will be managed by the Department of Medical Education in conjunction with the corporate legal office. This includes all communication with outside legal counsel.
3. Signature authority for all visa paperwork, including that required by the ECFMG, USCIS, and/or the DHS (Department of Homeland Security) shall be granted to only the DIO or his/her designee in the Department of Medical Education.

All questions regarding visa status of any physician trainee shall be directed to the DIO or his/her designee.

References

ACGME Institutional Requirements
ACGME Common Program Requirements