

**TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER AT EL PASO**  
**Paul L. Foster School of Medicine**  
**GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION**  
**Standard Policy and/or Procedure**

**TITLE:** J-1 Visa Candidates

**APPROVED:** 4/17/2009

**REVISED:** 1/13/10; 10/9/18; 12/19/2019

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 7/1/2009; 1/13/10; 12/19/2019

**PURPOSE:** To ensure compliance with the established legislative performance standard of training physicians for service to west Texas by reducing the number of J-1 visas sponsorships extended to international medical graduates.

**POLICY STATEMENT:** It is the mission of the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine (PLFSOM), as a state-supported medical school, to train and provide physicians who will serve the health needs of the population in west Texas as well as the United States. However, the PLFSOM also participates in the national effort to provide graduate medical training opportunities to graduates of foreign medical schools who are expected to acquire additional knowledge and skills in the United States and return to their respective home countries to practice medicine through sponsorship of J-1 visas.

To facilitate the maximization of the use of state funds to educate and train physicians who will practice medicine in the State of Texas and other parts of the United States, training programs shall make every reasonable effort to fulfill the stated mission of the PLFSOM by minimizing the number of sponsored J-1 visa applications for medical graduates who are not citizens or eligible non-citizens of the United States but who are selected via participation in the National Resident Matching Program.