

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

TITLE: ECFMG Certification of International Medical Graduates
(Required Status Report)

APPROVED: 4/22/1998

REVISED: 1/9/2009

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/1999; 7/1/2009

PURPOSE: To ensure appropriate verification of medical education training for a graduate of a foreign medical school via the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG).

POLICY STATEMENT: Medical schools outside the United States and Canada vary in their educational standards and curricula. As such, to enter programs of graduate medical education in the United States that are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), an international medical graduate must hold a Standard ECFMG Certificate without expired examination dates, (i.e., should be stamped “Valid Indefinitely”). ECFMG certification is just one of the steps required to enter a program of graduate medical education in the United States.

For a program of graduate medical education at the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, certification status via the DS-2019 certificate is required for each applicant from a foreign medical school and must be received by the Office of Graduate Medical Education before actual employment begins.

Procedures to be followed to assure timely processing of the J1 application for ECFMG certification shall be as follows:

- the GME office prepares the Institutional Section of the application when informed by a training program that an IMG applicant has matched and forwards the application to the program;
- the training program forwards the application to the prospective resident who shall complete the application with required documentation and submit same to the ECFMG; and,
- based successful completion of the application and approval by the ECFMG, the DS-2019 certificate is issued to the GME office which shall then forward the certificate to the training program whose responsibility it shall be to “overnite” the certificate to the prospective resident.

At the time of time of actual employment, the IMG resident shall be required to provide the GME office a copy of the DS-2019 certificate acknowledgment by the Immigration and Naturalization Service in addition to a copy of the I-94 arrival/departure card and visa.

The IMG resident shall be required to complete the SEVIS (Student and Exchange Visitor Information System) required by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and forwarded to the ECFMG.