

<b>Policy Title:</b>	<b>VISA STATUS AND ELIGIBILITY FOR APPOINTMENT</b>
Most Recent Approval Date:	April 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2021
Contact:	Rush University Medical Center Designated Institutional Official (DIO)
Related Policies/Documents:	1. House Staff Agreement of Appointment 2. Selection, Evaluation, Promotion, & Dismissal of House Staff
Regulatory Elements:	2021 ACGME Institutional Requirements (Section IV.B.), 2020 Common Program Requirements (Section II.A.), 2021 NRMP Participation Agreement

*Interviewing programs must provide the contents of this policy to any applicant invited to interview for a Graduate Medical Education (GME) training position at Rush. Applicants may be informed in writing or by electronic means.*

**Purpose:**

This policy defines the eligibility requirements for applicants applying to accredited and non-accredited GME programs sponsored by Rush University Medical Center.

**Policy:**

General Eligibility Criteria:

**I.** Applicants must meet **one** of the following qualifications to be eligible for appointment to a GME residency or fellowship program at Rush University Medical Center:

- Graduate from a United States or Canadian medical school accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME)
- Graduate from a United States college of osteopathic medicine accredited by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA)
- Graduate from a medical college outside the United States or Canada and **one** of the following qualifications:
  - possession of a currently valid certificate from the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) and passing score for Step 1 and Step 2 of the USMLE; or
  - currently holds a full and unrestricted medical license to practice in the United States licensing jurisdiction in which the program is located; or
  - graduated from a non-US medical school **and** completion of a Fifth Pathway program provided by an LCME-accredited medical school.

**II.** All applicants must meet program eligibility requirements as defined by the ACGME’s respective specialty Review Committee and certifying specialty board (for accredited programs) or requirements defined by the department (for non-accredited programs).

**III.** Individuals must be a U.S. citizen or a legal permanent resident, or holder of a nonimmigrant status which allows employment authorization in the U.S.

- Typical nonimmigrant status include:
  - F-1 OPT or J-1 (either requires Steps 1 and 2 of USMLE (or equivalent) and ECFMG certification (if applicable) and approval from Rush Legal); and
  - H-1B (requires approval from Rush Legal and satisfactory completion of Steps 1, 2 and 3 of USMLE, and possession of a valid Illinois medical license)
- Not all GME training programs at Rush are structured to accommodate residents/fellows requiring visa sponsorship. Prior to recruitment programs should confirm their program may accommodate trainees that require visa sponsorship.

**IV.** Meet Illinois Department of Professional Regulation (IDPR) licensure requirements

Requirements After Match/Accepted Offer of a Position:

Upon accepting a formal offer, applicants must meet all of the following requirements:

- Consent to a criminal background check.
- Complete Rush Employee Health screening and pass a pre-employment drug test.
- Meet Illinois Department of Professional Regulation (IDPR) eligibility requirements to obtain and maintain a training or permanent medical license in the State of Illinois.
- Foreign medical graduates must provide documentation of a currently valid Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) certification.
- Non- U.S. citizens must have Permanent Resident Status, current Employment Authorization Card or obtain the appropriate immigration status no later than the date of hire.
- Meet all conditions of appointment and employment at Rush as described in the House Staff Agreement.

The Rush values of Innovation, Collaboration, Accountability, Respect, and Excellence provides the foundation of how we treat each other, our patients, and their loved ones.

Approved at GMEC 2018

Revised and Approved at GMEC 07/12/2021