NYU WINTHROP HOSPITAL
GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

POLICY: Resident Visas

Purpose
To establish a policy for all ACGME post-graduate training programs at NYU Winthrop related to requirements for appropriate visa for graduate medical education.

Definitions
- J-1 Visa: The J-1 Exchange Visitor Program, as administered and sponsored through the Educational Commission on Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG), is intended to foster international exchange, not immigration. Physicians are subject to a two-year home residency requirement following their U.S. training before being eligible for certain other U.S. visas.

- H1-B Visa: The H-1B Temporary Worker authorizes employment in a “specialty occupation”, interpreted to include graduate medical education. H-1Bs are sponsored by the employer (training institution) which must file a labor condition application with the U.S. Department of Labor, and an H-1B Petition with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Unlike the J-1 visa, there are administrative and legal costs associated with support of an H-1B, which must be borne by the sponsoring institution, not the trainee. In any case where expediting processing of the visa is required due to any incomplete requirements on the trainee’s part, the trainee will be responsible for the additional costs.

Policy
Residents in NYUWH ACGME-accredited programs who are not United States citizens or permanent residents, or who cannot otherwise satisfy Federal Form I-9 Employment Eligibility requirements, must have the appropriate visa in order to commence training in a graduate medical education program. If on a visa, the resident must meet the requirements to maintain his/her visa throughout the duration of training.

J-1 sponsorship is available through the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) and is the expected visa for training at NYU Winthrop.

NYU Winthrop does not offer H-1B sponsorship for house staff, residents, or fellows, except under specialized circumstances.
Procedure

J-1 Visa
1. Residents seeking J-1 visas apply directly to the ECFMG, as the sponsoring agency.
   Submission requirements include: ECFMG certification, passage of Step 1 and Step 2 of the
   USMLE, a contract or official letter of offer for position in an approved graduate medical
   education or training program, a Statement of Need from the Ministry of Health of the country of
   most recent legal permanent residence.

2. The Office of Academic Affairs’ designated Training Program Liaison (TPL) serves as the
   official representative to communicate with the ECFMG to ensure regulatory compliance and
   administrative oversight for J-1 physicians.

3. For initial J-1 sponsorship for incoming residents, the TPL submits an on-line appointment
   profile through EVNet, confirming the ACGME accreditation of the program, and the resident’s
   stipend information as provided in the resident’s NYU Winthrop contract. The resident completes
   the on-line application, pays the fee and submits the required documentation. The TPL must also
   provide confirmation of the J-1 physician’s arrival in the U.S. with the ECFMG.

4. For continued sponsorship for current residents, the TPL submits an on-line continuation of
   sponsorship appointment profile through EVNet, confirming the ACGME continued accreditation
   of the program, and the resident’s stipend information as provided in the resident’s NYU
   Winthrop contract. The resident completes the on-line application, pays the fee and submits all
   the required documentation.

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