


J-1 VISA WAIVER FLOW CHART

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- Step 1:** International Medical Graduate (IMG) receives his/her medical degree outside of the United States.
- Step 2:** IMG completes ECFMG Certification, residency requirements, state licensure requirements, and receives J-1 Visa from Residency Program.
- Step 3:** IMG Enters the United States on J-1 Visa, subject to 212(e) 2 year foreign residency requirement.
- Step 4:** IMG completes first 2 years of medical residency program in the United States. During the summer before their final residency year, the IMG begins to look for J-1 Visa Waiver employers.
- Step 5:** Once J-1 Visa Waiver sponsor employer is identified, IMG should begin preparing J-1 Visa Waiver application. Completed applications are submitted to the State Department of Health.
- Step 6:** The State Department of Health approves the waiver request and submits a waiver recommendation letter to the Department of State (DOS).
- Step 7:** The DOS reviews the petition, grants the waiver request, and sends a letter to the USCIS informing them that a waiver has been granted.
- Step 8:** USCIS then approves the waiver and the IMG is eligible to change his/her status to H-1B. This is necessary to begin working in the United States.
- Step 9:** IMG files H-1B visa petition with USCIS that is not subject to the H-1B cap.
- Final Step:** USCIS approves H-1B Visa Petition and the IMG begins his/her medical career in the USA.

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