



FEDERATION OF
STATE MEDICAL BOARDS

International Medical Graduates GME Requirements
Board-by-Board Overview

- 31 states + DC may grant credit towards accredited GME requirements to IMG applicants that meet certain criteria (such as being specialty board certified, licensed in another state, ECFMG certified, or doing GME internationally, etc.)
 - 21 states + DC may grant licenses to IMG applicants **without** completing accredited GME
 - 16 of these states have “additional pathways” for IMG applicants to become fully licensed without being licensed in another state or being specialty board certified (AR, FL, IA, ID, IL, IN, LA, MA, MN, NV, OK, TN, TX, VA, and WI).
- 19 states + GU, PR, and VI do not accept credit towards accredited GME requirements for IMG applicants

‡ Note: Many states allow for accredited GME requirements to be waived *if the applicant is specialty board certified, or specialty board-eligible*. However, the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) [lists](#) its requirements for Board certification as the following:

1. Finish four years of premedical education in a college or university;
2. Earn a medical degree (MD, DO or other credential approved by an ABMS Member Board) from a qualified medical school;
3. **Complete three to seven years of full-time experience in an ACGME-accredited residency training program;**
4. Provide letters of attestation from the program director and/or faculty; and
5. Obtain an unrestricted medical license to practice medicine in the United States or Canada.

So, an applicant *must* complete an ACGME-accredited residency *and* be licensed to practice medicine in either the U.S. or Canada to be specialty board eligible.

*Note: All osteopathic boards require applicants to have graduated from [American Osteopathic Association \(AOA\)-approved medical schools](#), which are all located in the United States.

SMB	License can be granted w/o accredited GME	May grant credit to GME reqs. to applicants that meet certain criteria	Detail	Citation	Minimum amount of accredited GME required for licensure
AK	No	No	All other applicants for a certificate of qualification who graduated from a college of medicine not accredited by the LCME or a college of osteopathy not accredited by the COCA shall present evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant has completed 3 years of postgraduate or residency training in any of the following programs...	Ala. Code § 34-24-70	3 years
AL	No	No	All other applicants for a certificate of qualification who graduated from a college of medicine not accredited by the LCME or a college of osteopathy not accredited by the COCA shall present evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant has completed 2 years of postgraduate or residency training ...	SB 155 (2023)	2 years

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AR	Yes	Yes	Served three (3) years as an intern or resident in a postgraduate medical education program outside the United States, completed all steps of the USMLE, obtained ECFMG certification, and either completed one (1) year or more of fellowship training accredited by the ACGME in the United States or received ABMS certification by the ABMS; or (3) Completed one (1) year as an intern or resident in an accredited postgraduate medical education program in the United States and be currently enrolled in an accredited postgraduate medical program in Arkansas.	AR Code § 17-95-403 (2020)	None if additional licensure pathway is followed, 1 year if certain conditions are met, including enrollment in AR medical program or specialty board certification, 3 years if not
			Signed into law April 22, 2025, SB 601 requires the foreign medical graduate's medical school be approved by ECFMG instead of the Board (ASMB) and creates a pathway to licensure for FMGs without foreign or domestic (ACGME-accredited) PGT (as prescribed by Ark. Code § 17- 95-403(b)(3)(iii)(b)) for applicants that have: been offered full-time employment as a physician from an Arkansas healthcare provider, defined as an entity "licensed or certified to provide healthcare services... by the ASMB" in an underserved or health professional shortage area; an active, unencumbered license to practice medicine in a foreign country; actively practiced medicine during the four year period preceding their application; credentials evaluated by the ECFMG; ECFMG certification; and "pass the exam used by the ECFMG" (USMLE Steps 1 & 2 and the Occupational English Test (OET) Medicine). After two years of practice under the provisional license, the licensee is eligible for a full, unrestricted license	SB 601 (2025)	
AZ	No	Yes	A. In addition to the requirements for licensure prescribed in sections 32-1422 and 32-1423, an applicant for licensure under this article who attended a foreign school of medicine and successfully completed all the formal requirements to receive the degree of doctor of medicine except internship or social service, and is accordingly not eligible for certification by the ECFMG, may be considered for licensure under this chapter if the applicant meets the following conditions: 1. Satisfactorily completes an approved fifth pathway program of one academic year of supervised clinical training under the direction of an approved school of medicine in the United States. 2. Successfully completes an approved twenty-four month internship, residency or clinical fellowship program upon completion of the fifth pathway program.	Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 32-1424 R4-16-201: Application for Licensure	2 years with ECFMG certificate, 3 years without
CA	No	No	In addition to other requirements of this chapter... shall show by evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant has received credit for at least 12 months of board-approved postgraduate training for graduates of medical schools in the United States and Canada or 24 months of board-approved postgraduate training for graduates of foreign medical schools approved by the board pursuant to Section 2084 other than Canadian medical schools... *California's Physicians from Mexico Pilot Program (MPP) offers nonrenewable licenses, 3 years in duration, to up to 30 Mexican physicians at a time – not an unrestricted license.	CA Bus & Prof Code § 2096 AB 1045 (2002): MPP	None for temporary licensure through MPP 2 years for full licensure
CO	No	No	For international medical graduates, the board shall require one year of postgraduate clinical training approved by the board. An applicant whose international medical school is not an approved medical college is eligible for licensure at the discretion of the board if the applicant meets all other requirements for licensure and holds specialty board certification, current at the time of application for licensure, conferred by a regular member board of the ABMS/AOA...	Colo. Rev. Stat. § 12-240-114	1 year
CT	No	No	(ii) received certification from the ECFMG; (2) has successfully completed not less than 2 years of progressive graduate medical training as a resident physician in a program	Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-10	2 years

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			accredited by the ACGME, the AOA or an equivalent program approved by the board with the consent of the department		
DC	Yes	Yes	The Board may grant a license to practice medicine to an applicant educated in a foreign country who: ... An applicant under this section shall be certified by the ECFMG. An applicant under this section shall complete three (3) years of postgraduate clinical training in a program or programs approved by the Accreditation ACGME or the AOA. For applicants who hold or have held an unrestricted medical license in another state , or who hold [ABMS/AOA] Board certification, the Board may find that: (a) A non-ACGME or non-AOA approved postgraduate clinical training program is substantially equivalent to the requirements of an ACGME or AOA program and meets the educational requirements...; and (b) Significant clinical practice in addition to at least one year of post-graduate clinical training is substantially equivalent to and meets the educational requirements of § 4603.5."	D.C. Mun. Regs. tit. 17, § 4603	None or one year if licensed in another state and other conditions are met, 3 years if not
DE	No	No	c. A degree of Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathy, or an equivalent degree, from a legally incorporated medical college or school located in a country other than the United States or Canada, which medical college or school is not listed in the International Medical Education Directory (IMED), but the applicant has completed 3 years of postgraduate training in a residency program which has been approved by the ACGME and has successfully passed the examination administered by the ECFMG and the FSMB.	Del. Code tit. 24, § 1720	3 years
FL	Yes	Yes	(f) Meets one of the following medical education and postgraduate training requirements: ... 2.a. Is a graduate of an allopathic foreign medical school registered with the WHO and certified pursuant to s. 458.314 as having met the standards required to accredit medical schools in the United States or reasonably comparable standards; ... c. Has completed an approved residency of at least 1 year . 3.a. Is a graduate of an allopathic foreign medical school which has not been certified... c. Has completed an approved residency of at least 1 year; however, after October 1, 1992, the applicant shall have completed an approved residency or fellowship of at least 2 years in one specialty area . However, to be acceptable, the fellowship experience and training must be counted toward regular or subspecialty certification by a board recognized and certified by the ABMS.	Fla. Stat. § 458.311	None if additional licensure pathway is followed, 1 year if IMG attended WHO-certified medical school, 2 years if not
			On March 21, 2024, SB 7016 was signed into law, which allows IMGs that completed "substantially similar" PGT in their home country, have ECFMG certification, have an active license in good standing, have practiced for at least the last four years preceding application, and have an offer of employment in the state to be provisionally licensed. After two years of practice in good standing, it is implied that the license can be converted to full.	SB 7016 (2023)	
GA	Yes	Yes	Persons who graduated after July 1, 1985, from medical schools or osteopathic medical schools which are not approved by the board must complete 3 years of residency, fellowship, or other postgraduate medical training that is approved by the ACGME, the AOA, or the board to be eligible for a license to practice medicine in this state. Current certification of any applicant by a member board of the ABMS may be considered by the board as evidence that such applicant's postgraduate medical training has satisfied the requirements of this paragraph...	Ga. Code Ann. § 43-34-26	None if specialty board certified, 3 years if not ‡ See page 1 note
GU	No	No	Such applicants shall possess the degree of Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathy, Bachelor of Medicine or Osteopathy, or a Board-approved equivalent based on	Guam Code Ann. § 12206	3 years

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			satisfactory completion of educational programs acceptable to the Board... (f) The Board shall be authorized to establish regulations requiring all such applicants to satisfactorily complete at least thirty-six (36) months of Board approved, progressive postgraduate medical training.	Guam R.R. § 10404	
HI	No	No	No applicant shall be eligible for the examination sooner than the first year of residency; provided that if the applicant is a graduate of a foreign medical school, the applicant shall be eligible no sooner than the second year of residency.	Haw. Rev. Stat. § 453-4	2 years
IA	Yes	Yes	c. Satisfactory evidence that the applicant has successfully completed one year of postgraduate internship or resident training in a hospital approved for such training by the board. An applicant who holds a valid certificate issued by the ECFMG shall submit satisfactory evidence of successful completion of 2 years of such training. An applicant who is a graduate of an international medical school shall have successfully completed 24 months of such training... For those required to have 24 months of training, the program shall have been 24 continuous months of progressive training in not more than two specialties and in not more than two programs approved for resident training by the board.	Iowa Code § 148.3 Iowa Admin. Code r. 653—9.3(147,148)	None if additional licensure pathway is followed, 2 years if not
			On May 3, 2024, SF 277 was signed into law, effective January 1, 2025; which allows the Board to grant provisional licenses to IMGs that graduate from a foreign medical schools evaluated by the ECFMG, are licensed and in good standing in their home country for the immediately preceding five years, without pending disciplinary action, have completed a residency or “substantially similar” PGT in their resident country, have practiced for at least five years following their PGT, possess basic English fluency and Federal immigration status, have an offer of employment at an Iowa health care facility, and have passed the USMLE (which steps not explicitly mentioned). The provisional license may be converted to a full license after three years of practice in good standing and without violation, among other requirements.	SF 277 (2024)	
ID	Yes	Yes	Original documentation of successful completion of two (2) years of progressive postgraduate training at one (1) training program accredited for internship, residency, or fellowship training by the ACGME, AOA or the RCPS or its successor organization, provided however, a resident who is attending an Idaho based residency program may be licensed after successful completion of one (1) years of progressive post graduate training, if the following conditions are met: ... Signed written contract with the Idaho residency program to complete the entire residency program...	IDAPA 24.33.01.051	None if additional licensure pathway is followed, 1 year with contract to finish 2 nd year of residency in state, 2 years if not
			On March 28, 2024, H 542 was signed into law, which allows non-American or Canadian IMGs that completed PGT in their home country, have an active license in good standing, practiced at least 3 years post-PGT or practiced 500+ hours, passed USMLE Steps 1 & 2, and have an offer of employment in the state to be provisionally licensed. After three years of practice in good standing, the license is eligible to be converted to full.	H 542 (2024)	
IL	Yes	Yes	(b) that the applicant is a graduate of a medical or osteopathic college located outside the United States, its territories or Canada... has completed 24 months of postgraduate clinical training , as approved by the Department.	225 ILCS 60/11	None if additional licensure pathway is followed,

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			<p>On June 16, 2023, SB 1298 was signed into law, which allows the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) to issue limited licenses to qualified IMGs, pursuant to forthcoming rules.</p> <p>On January 14, 2025, IDFPR duly promulgated rules, which define eligible IMGs as medical graduates trained outside the U.S. whose education has “been certified by the ECFMG,” having passed all steps of the USMLE, an unencumbered license from another country, and not licensed to practice medicine in the U.S. Applicants must also provide an official transcript and diploma, their ECFMG certificate (waivable if the applicant hails from a “non-cooperating country”), have practiced in at least three of the last 10 years, and if the applicant has not practiced within the last three years, they must show evidence of U.S. clinical experience, submit to a background check, and enter into an agreement with a sponsoring entity, that “provides an assessment and evaluation program designed to develop, assess, and evaluate the physician’s nonclinical and clinical skills and familiarity with standards appropriate for medical practice.” After at least two years of limited practice and two more of restricted practice in a HPSA, (at least four years total), the licensee is eligible to apply for a full, unrestricted medical license.</p>	<p>SB 1298 (2023)</p> <p>IDFPR 1/25 Rules</p>	2 years if not
IN	Yes	Yes	<p>(1) has been graduated from a medical school outside the United States, its possessions, or Canada; and (2) submits evidence satisfactory to the board that prior to passing the examination the applicant has successfully completed a minimum of at least two (2) years of postgraduate training in a hospital or an institution located in the United States or Canada which meets the standards... (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the board may waive the second year of postgraduate training in the United States or Canada required of a graduate of a foreign medical school.</p>	IC 25-22.5-3-2	None if additional licensure pathway is followed, 1 year possible based on Board discretion, typically 2 years
			<p>On May 6, 2025, HB 1555 was signed into law, effective July 1, 2025; which authorizes the Board to issue a limited license to an ITP that pays a \$100 application fee; has a medical doctorate or substantially similar degree from an international medical program in good standing as determined by the Board; has ECFMG certification; is in good standing with the medical licensing or regulatory institution in their country of practice and has no pending discipline; completed a residency, clinical training, or PGT “substantially similar, as determined by the Board” to those ACGME-accredited; has practiced medicine or osteopathic medicine for at least five years of the last six years preceding application; passed all Steps of the USMLE; has Federal immigration status; is proficient in English; and has a written offer of employment at a health care facility, defined as a hospital, birthing center, or “other medical facility,” in an underserved area, which are designated by the Dept. of Health; and that facility both agrees to sponsor and supervise the provisional licensee. The limited license must be renewed biennially and is valid for six years. After a minimum of five years, the limited license may be converted to full at the discretion of the Board.</p>	HB 1555 (2025)	
KS	No	No	Each applicant for licensure by examination in medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery who graduates from an accredited or unaccredited school of medicine on or after January 1, 2021 shall present to the board proof of completion of at least 36 months of a postgraduate training or residency training program...	Kan. Stat. Ann. § 100-6-2	3 years (min. 2 years in ACGME approved program)
KY	No	No	Pursuant to KRS 311.571(1)(d), an applicant for a regular license shall have satisfactorily completed: (a) At least two (2) years of prescribed courses of postgraduate training in accordance with this administrative regulation...	201 KAR 9:021	2 years

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LA	Yes	Yes	To be eligible for a license, an international medical graduate applicant shall: ... 4. have completed at least 3 years of postgraduate clinical training in the United States or in Canada in a medical residency or equivalent program accredited by the ACGME of the AMA, or by the RCPS of Canada, and approved by the board.	La. Admin. Code tit. 46, § 323	None if additional licensure pathway is followed, 3 years if not
			On June 11, 2024, HB 972 was signed into law, effective August 1, 2024; which allows the Board to issue licenses to IMGs that hold a medical degree from an international medical program that is "substantially similar" to the education or training required to practice in the state, have a license in good standing, have completed a residency or similar PGT in their licensing country, or have at least five years' experience as a practicing physician, have citizenship in the U.S. or Canada, or legal work status in the U.S., as well as English proficiency, and an offer of employment at a facility owned or operated by state-licensed hospitals. Licensees can only practice at these facilities for the first two years of their licensure but "after such time the licensee is no longer subject to this limitation," and the Board can revoke the license with "clear and convincing evidence" that services rendered violated medical safety, competency, or conduct standards established by the Board.	HB 972 (2024)	
MA	Yes	Yes	Each applicant for a full license must have satisfactorily completed at least 2 years of postgraduate medical training in an ACGME or AOA approved or accredited Canadian program. Effective January 1, 2014, each applicant for a full license must have satisfactorily completed at least 3 years of postgraduate medical training in an ACGME or AOA approved or accredited Canadian program...	243 CMR 2.03	None if additional licensure pathway is followed, 3 years of ACGME-accredited GME if not
			On November 20, 2024, H 5100 was signed into law, which creates a limited license for an internationally-trained physician (ITP) that has an ECFMG certificate, unless granted an exemption by the board; passed USMLE Steps 1 and 2; received a degree of doctor of medicine or its equivalent from a legally chartered medical school recognized by the World Health Organization; been licensed and practiced medicine for at least one year; and entered into an agreement with a participating healthcare facility that will "develop, assess and evaluate the applicant's familiarity with nonclinical skills and standards appropriate for medical practice in the Commonwealth" according to criteria developed or approved by the board. The board may require additional criteria to limited practice. The limited license is valid for one year, with one possible renewal. ITPs that pass USMLE Step 3, their facility's assessment, and any additional requirements may apply for a once-renewable, two-year restricted license to practice medicine only in a physician shortage area. However, any additional eligibility prerequisites "shall not include post-graduate clinical training" and the restricted licensee may practice independently in a primary care specialty, psychiatry or other specialty as approved by the board. After at least two years (three to six years overall) of restricted practice, the ITP may apply for a full, unrestricted license to practice medicine.	H 5100 (2024)	
MD	No	No	(3) Have a doctor of medicine degree from any other medical school, have successfully completed the requirements for and obtained ECFMG certification, and have successfully completed 2 years of post-graduate training at an accredited training program...	Md. Code Regs. 10.32.01.03	2 years
ME	Yes	Yes	2. Postgraduate training... Each applicant who has graduated from an accredited medical school on or after July 1, 2004 or an unaccredited medical school must have	Me. Stat. tit. 32, § 3271	None if completed GME in selected

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			<p>satisfactorily completed at least 36 months in a graduate educational program accredited by the ACGME, the Canadian Medical Association, the RCPS or the Royal Colleges of England, Ireland or Scotland...</p> <p>The board may waive the requirements of subsection 2 for a physician who does not meet the postgraduate training requirements but who meets the requirements of this subsection. (1) Be a graduate of a foreign medical school, not including a medical school in Canada or Great Britain; (2) Be licensed in another state; and (3) Have at least 3 years of clinical experience in the area of expertise.</p> <p>B. If the physician meets the requirements of paragraph A, the board shall use the following qualifications of the physician to determine whether to grant a waiver: (1) Completion of a 3-year clinical fellowship in the U.S. in the area of expertise. The burden of proof as to the quality and content of the fellowship is placed on the applicant; (2) Appointment to a clinical academic position at a licensed medical school in the United States; (3) Publication in peer-reviewed clinical medical journals recognized by the board; (4) The number of years in clinical practice; and (5) Other criteria demonstrating expertise, such as awards or other recognition</p>		countries, or licensed in another state, and myriad of other qualifications are met, 3 years if not
MI	No	No	Certification of Completion of a minimum of 1 year postgraduate clinical training	Medical Doctor Licensing Guide	1 year
MN	Yes	Yes	<p>(d) The applicant shall present evidence satisfactory to the board of the completion of one year of graduate, clinical medical training in a program accredited by a national accrediting organization approved by the board or other graduate training approved in advance by the board as meeting standards similar to those of a national accrediting organization. This requirement does not apply: (1) to an applicant who is admitted as a permanent immigrant to the United States on or before October 1, 1991, as a person of exceptional ability in the sciences... or (2) to an applicant holding a valid license to practice medicine in another country and issued a permanent immigrant visa after October 1, 1991, as a person of extraordinary ability in the field of science or as an outstanding professor or researcher...</p>	Minn. Stat. § 147.037	None, if applicant qualifies as "as a person of exceptional ability in the sciences," OR the additional licensure pathway is followed, one year if not.
			<p>Enacted June 14 and effective January 1, 2026, authorizes the Board to issue ("may") a limited license to an individual that has satisfied specified requirements in MN Sec. 147.037, including: a degree medical or osteopathic school approved by the board as equivalent to accredited United States or Canadian schools based upon its faculty, curriculum, facilities, accreditation, or other relevant data; not being under license suspension or revocation; filed an application with the Board and paid a fee (\$192 initial fee for limited licensure and a \$392 fee for the nonrenewable 24 month limited license), and ECFMG certification; Federal immigration status; practiced medicine for at least 60 months (five years) within the last 12 years outside the U.S.; evidence of an offer to practice medicine "within the context of a collaborative? agreement [detailed specifically in the legislation] within a hospital or clinical setting" where the limited licensee and physicians work together to provide patient care in a designated rural area or underserved urban community; submitted two letters of recommendation, one from a physician the applicant has worked with and another from an administrator of the hospital or clinical setting where applicant previously worked, that "attest to the applicant's good medical standing," or accept alternate proof of good standing if extenuating</p>	HF 2 (2025)	

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			circumstances preclude the letters; and Passed Steps 1 and 2 of the USMLE or COMLEX, within three attempts.		
MO	Yes	Yes	An applicant must be certified by the ECFMG and have completed three (3) years of AMA-approved postgraduate training in one (1) recognized specialty area of medicine. The board may waive the three (3) years of postgraduate training if the applicant is American Specialty Board eligible. ECFMG certification may be waived for a foreign graduate who is currently certified by the ABMS.	Mo. Code Regs. tit. 20 § 2150-2.100	None if specialty board eligible, 3 years if not ‡ See page 1 note
MS	No	Yes	D. Applicants who graduated from an international medical school must present documentation of having completed either: 1. three (3) or more years of ACGME-approved postgraduate training in the United States or training in Canada approved by the RCPSC; or 2. one (1) year of ACGME-approved postgraduate training in the United States or training in Canada approved by the RCPSC, be currently board certified by a specialty board recognized by the ABMS and must have approval by the Board.	Miss. Code R. 2605	1 year if specialty board certified, 3 years if not ‡ See page 1 note
MT	Yes	Yes	(1) A license will not be granted to a foreign medical graduate unless: ... (b) the graduate has had 3 years of postgraduate training education in a program approved by or affiliated with the World Health Organization and has sufficient fluency in spoken and written English to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety; or (c) the graduate has been granted board certification by a specialty board which is approved by and a member of the ABMS or the AOA, or provides verification of being a certificant of the CFPC, a fellow of the RCPS...	Mont. Admin. R. 24.156.607	None if applicant has specialty board certification, 3 years if not ‡ See page 1 note
NC	Yes	Yes	To be eligible for licensure under this section, an applicant who is a graduate of a medical school not approved by the LCME, the Committee for the Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools, or the AOA shall submit proof satisfactory to the Board that the applicant has met all of the following: (1)The applicant has successfully completed 2 years of training in a medical education program approved by the Board after graduation from medical school, or provides proof of current certification by a specialty board recognized by the ABMS, Certificate of the College of Family Physicians, Fellowship of the RCPS...	N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-9.2	None if specialty board certified, 2 years if not ‡ See page 1 note
ND	No	Yes	Graduates of international schools ... An applicant who has graduated from a medical school not located in the United States, its possessions, territories, or Canada, must present evidence, satisfactory to the board, that the applicant has successfully completed thirty months of postgraduate training in a program located in the United States, its possessions, territories, or Canada, and accredited by a national accrediting organization... However, if such an applicant has not completed thirty months of postgraduate training in a program approved by the board or by an accrediting body approved by the board, but has met all other licensing requirements and has successfully completed one year of postgraduate training in the United States or Canada in a program approved by the board, and if the board finds that the applicant has other professional experience and training that is substantially equivalent to the last eighteen months of postgraduate training, then the applicant may be deemed eligible for licensure... An applicant seeking licensure under this exception must present evidence satisfactory to the board that: (1) The applicant is certified by a specialty board recognized by the ABMS or by a specialty board recognized by the RCPS; or (2) The applicant has passed the special purpose examination	N.D. Cent. Code § 43-17-18	1 year if ABMS or other specialty board certified or passed the SPEX exam, plus Board approval. 30 months if not. ‡ See page 1 note

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NE	No	No	Official documentation showing: Successful completion of 2 years of approved graduate medical education	Medicine And Surgery Guidelines	2 years
NH	Yes	Yes	(c) Applicants shall have completed at least 2 years of postgraduate medical training , postgraduate year 1, postgraduate year 2, in a program accredited by ACGME, AOA, or its equivalent which shall include, at a minimum, the following: (1) Board certification in the applicant's area of specialty; or (2) Completion of 10 or more years of practice combined with proof of 2 years of post-graduate training outside the United States or Canada. (d) Applicants who have not completed 2 years of postgraduate training in an institution accredited by ACGME or AOA shall petition the board pursuant to Med 205.01 to determine if the applicant's qualifications meet the requirements of (d) above. Such petitions shall provide any information in addition to that specified in (d) above which the applicant wishes the board to consider in making a determination of equivalency.	N.H. Code Admin. R. Med. 302 N.H. Code Admin. R. Med. 205.01	None , if Board determines applicant meets certain requirements; 2 years if not
NJ	No	No	An applicant, who has graduated from a medical school on or after July 1, 2003... the applicant has completed, and received academic credit for, at least 2 years for post-graduate training in a program accredited by the ACGME, the AOA, or any other equivalent group or agency which the Board, upon review, has determined has comparable standards, and has a signed contract for a third year of postgraduate training in a program accredited by the ACGME, the AOA, or any other equivalent group or agency...	N.J. Admin. Code § 13:35-3.11 (E)	2 years + contract for third year in accredited program
NM	No	No	C. A graduate of a board-approved medical school located outside the United States or Canada may be granted a license to practice medicine in New Mexico, provided the applicant presents evidence to the board that the applicant is a person of good moral character and is in compliance with the United States immigration laws and provided that the applicant presents satisfactory evidence to the board that the applicant has successfully passed an examination as required by the board and has successfully completed 2 years of postgraduate medical training in an approved postgraduate training program...	NM Stat § 61-6-11	2 years
NV	Yes	Yes	Has completed at least 36 months of postgraduate education , not less than 24 months of which must have been completed as a resident after receiving a medical degree from a combined dental and medical degree program approved by the Board. Authorizes the Board to issue a limited license to a qualifying applicant that that has (or has held): a valid and unrestricted license to practice medicine in good standing issued by a foreign country other than Canada (if the applicant is no longer licensed, their license must have been in good standing when deactivated); graduated from a foreign medical school whose curriculum is judged to be acceptable by the Board; completed a residency program "or other PGT program" or practiced medicine <i>within the last five years</i> immediately preceding application ("or within such other time period as the Board deems acceptable"); basic fluency in the English language, as determined by the Board; "good moral character and reputation;" and passed all Steps of the USMLE (For physicians that have not practiced within two years, the Board may require the applicant to take an exam "similar to USMLE Step 2" to evaluate clinical skills). After two years of limited practice, the Board may issue an unrestricted license, so long as the limited licensee is in good standing and has received written recommendations from each supervising physician.	NRS 630.160(c)(2) SB 142 (2025)	None if additional licensure pathway is followed 3 years, but GME may be completed in selected countries

SMB	License can be granted w/o accredited GME	May grant credit to GME reqs. to applicants that meet certain criteria	Detail	Citation	Minimum amount of accredited GME required for licensure
			"Has completed at least 36 months of postgraduate education in the United States or an equivalent foreign country"... defined as "Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand".	AB 319 (2025)	
NY	No	Yes	B. For issuance of a license to practice medicine, graduates of medical education programs neither registered by the department nor accredited by an accrediting organization acceptable to the department, except those applicants seeking licensure pursuant to section 6528 of the Education Law, shall meet the following requirements: ... (2) those individuals who make application for licensure on or after July 1, 1981, shall have completed at least 3 years of postgraduate training approved by the ACGME or the American Osteopathic Association or their predecessors or successors... D. Fellowships determined to be other than clinical or postgraduate hospital training obtained outside the United States or Canada may be accepted on a pro rata basis at the discretion of the Committee on the Professions, based on the content of the experience as compared to the experience obtained in the postgraduate training prescribed in subdivision (b)(2) of this section.	N.Y. Comp. Codes R. & Regs. § 60.3	3 years, but GME completed outside of the U.S. and Canada may be accepted at a pro rata basis to defray the normal requirement
OH	No	No	(A) An applicant for a license to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery must meet all of the following requirements: ... (b) Hold certification from the ECFMG and have successfully completed not less than twenty-four months of graduate medical education through the second-year level of graduate medical education or its equivalent as determined by the board.	Ohio Rev. Code § 4731.09 Ohio IMG License Application	2 years
OK	Yes	Yes	The applicant shall have satisfactorily completed twelve (12) months of progressive postgraduate medical training approved by the Board or by a private nonprofit accrediting body approved by the Board in an institution in the United States, its territories or possessions, or in programs in Canada, England, Scotland, Ireland, Australia or New Zealand approved by the Board or by a private nonprofit accrediting body approved by the Board.	Okla. Stat. tit. 59 § 493.1 (C)	None if GME completed in selected countries or if additional licensure pathway is followed, 1 year if not
			On May 7, 2025, HB 2050 was signed into law, which authorizes the Board to issue limited licenses to qualifying IMGs that: graduated from a medical school which meets ECFMG requirements; pay an application fee; complete a three-year PGT program in the licensing country or practiced medicine for at least three of the last five years outside of the U.S.; has English proficiency, determined by the ECFMG; and has an offer of employment as a physician at a health care provider in the state that operates an ACGME-accredited PGT program. After three years of limited practice, the Board may grant a full license, so long as the limited licensee is in good standing without disciplinary actions or investigations pending and has passed all steps of the USMLE.	HB 2050 (2025)	
			SB 443 removes the existing statute (Okla. Stat. tit. 59 § 493.1(C)) that allows for PGT done in "programs in Canada, England, Scotland, Ireland, Australia or New Zealand approved by the Board" and replaces it by requiring the Board to "consider as evidence of acceptability the sponsoring institution" accreditation by ACGME, the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons (RCPS) of Canada , the College of Family Physicians of Canada, the Royal College of Surgeons (RCS) of Edinburgh , RCPS of Glasgow, RCS of England , or RCS in Ireland ."	SB 443 (2025)	
OR	No	No	(b) Have satisfactorily completed the following post-graduate requirement: ... (C) 3 years of training in an approved program if a graduate of an unapproved school of medicine.	OR Rev Stat § 677.100	3 years
PA	No	Yes	(4) Have successfully completed the following graduate medical training requirement: ... (ii) 2 years of graduate medical training at a first and second-year level if the applicant	49 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 17.1	2 years if IMG attended

SMB	License can be granted w/o accredited GME	May grant credit to GME reqs. to applicants that meet certain criteria	Detail	Citation	Minimum amount of accredited GME required for licensure
			is a graduate of an accredited medical college... (iii) 3 years of graduate medical training at a first, second and third-year level if the applicant is a graduate of an unaccredited medical college...		accredited medical school, 3 years if not
PR	No	No	(d) Candidates shall be certified by the ECFMG or by Board-approved successors, or by an equivalent Board-approved entity. (e) Candidates shall satisfactorily complete at least one (1) year of progressive post-graduate medical training approved by the Board or by a nonprofit private accreditation entity approved by the Board, at an institution in the United States of America, Canada or Puerto Rico approved by the Board or by a nonprofit private accreditation entity approved by the Board.	P.R. Laws tit. 20, § 133d	1 year
RI	Yes	Yes	Foreign Medical Graduates: An applicant seeking licensure to practice medicine in Rhode Island who is a Foreign Medical Graduate must: ... (d) applicants must have satisfactorily completed two (2) years of progressive postgraduate training, internship and residency or a comparable fellowship in a training program accredited by the ACGME. The Board may grant up to twelve (12) months of credit at the internship level to an applicant with a minimum of three (3) years of progressive international postgraduate training when advanced standing is also granted by the ABMS.	R.I. Code R. § 3.1.3	None if additional pathway is followed, 1-year if applicant has completed 3+ years of GME internationally and specialty board certified, 2 years if not
			Enacted June 23 and effective immediately, authorizes the Board to issue international physician registrations (IPRs) to qualifying internationally-trained physicians (ITPs) that have: received a degree of doctor of medicine or its equivalent from a legally chartered medical school outside the U.S. recognized by the ECFMG; completed "the required years of training" in a residency program accredited by ACGME-I, World Federation for Medical Education (WFME), or other accreditation authority approved by the Board (explicitly clarifying that ACGME-accredited residencies in the U.S. and RCPS-accredited residencies in Canada do not qualify); been licensed or authorized to practice medicine <i>and</i> has practiced medicine for at least three years; ECFMG certification (that can be waived at the Board's discretion if the applicant hails from a non-cooperating country); passed USMLE Steps 1 & 2 within three attempts per step; entered into an agreement with the participating healthcare facility, defined as FQHC, CHC, hospital, or other facility approved by the Board; that "that provides a Board-approved assessment, training and evaluation program designed to develop, assess, train and evaluate... clinical and non-clinical skills;" and satisfied any other criteria required by the Board.	HB 5108 and SB 347 (2025)	
SC	No	Yes	(A) To obtain a permanent license to practice medicine in this State an applicant shall comply with the requirements of this section. ... (2) An applicant who graduated from a medical school located outside of the United States shall: (a)(i) possess a permanent Standard Certificate from the ECFMG; and (ii) document a minimum of 3 years of progressive postgraduate medical residency training in the United States approved by the ACGME, AOA, or postgraduate training in Canada approved by the RCPS, except that if an applicant has been actively licensed in another state for the preceding five years or more without significant disciplinary action, the applicant need only document one year of postgraduate residency training approved by the board.	S.C. Code Ann. § 40-47-32	1 year if the individual has been practicing in another state for at least 5 years without disciplinary action, 3 years if not
SD	No	No	The applicant shall also present evidence satisfactory to the board of successful completion of a program as an intern or resident, or of equivalent service approved by the board, in a hospital approved by the board, for such time as the board requires by rule adopted pursuant to chapter 1-26. If the applicant completed graduate medical education training after July 1, 1987, submit a certificate showing that the applicant has successfully completed a program of graduate	S.D. Codified Laws § 36-4-11 S.D. Admin. R. 20:47:03:03	Completion of GME program, <i>minimum</i> of 2 years

SMB	License can be granted w/o accredited GME	May grant credit to GME reqs. to applicants that meet certain criteria	Detail	Citation	Minimum amount of accredited GME required for licensure
			medical education of at least 2 years through a hospital approved by the board. The records of the graduate medical education program must establish the degree of proficiency of the applicant's performance.		
TN	Yes	Yes	In order to meet the qualifications for full licensure, applicants for a full medical license who are graduates of international medical schools must provide proof of the following: ... Successful completion of a three (3) year US residency program approved by the ACGME... This requirement may be deemed satisfied if the applicant is board certified by an ABMS specialty board.	Licensure FAQ – TN Board of Medical Examiners	None if additional licensure pathway is followed or specialty board certified, 3 years if not
			On April 24, 2023, SB 1451 was signed into law (effective July 1, 2024), which allows the Board to grant provisional licenses to qualified IMGs who completed a 3 year PGT program in their home country or have practiced as a physician outside of the country for at least 3 of the last 5 years, have English proficiency, can legally work in the country, and have an offer of employment from a healthcare provider with an ACGME-accredited residency program, among other requirements. Provisional licenses transfer to a full, unrestricted licenses after 2 years if the practitioner is in good standing.	SB 1451 (2023)	
TX	Yes	Yes	(B) graduated from a medical school located outside the United States or Canada and has successfully completed 2 years of graduate medical training approved by the board in the United States or Canada.	TX Occ Code § 155.004	None if additional licensure pathways is followed, 2 years if not
			On June 20, 2025 HB 2038 was signed into law, which allows the Board to grant provisional licenses to IMGs who have completed a doctorate or equivalent ECFMG-qualified program; are licensed and in good standing in another country, without any pending investigations; have completed a residency program or a substantially similar postgraduate medical training in their country of licensure; have passed the Texas medical jurisprudence examination; have English language proficiency; have Federal work authorization; passed USMLE Steps 1 & 2 or an equivalent exam (LMCC, NBOME, NMBE, FLEX (TX Occ Code § 155.0511); and have an offer of employment by a qualified employer. Provisional licenses cannot be issued to applicants <i>without visas</i> from countries deemed by the U.S. Director of Intelligence as a “threat to national security”. The Board shall issue a full license to an applicant that has passed all parts of one the LMCC, NBOME, NMBE, FLEX, or USMLE (TX Occ Code § 155.0511), is not subject to pending discipline, Board investigation.	HB 2038 (2025)	
UT	No	No	(e) satisfy the division and board that the applicant: (i) has successfully completed 24 months of progressive resident training in a program approved by the ACGME, the RCPS, the CFPC, or any similar body in the United States or Canada approved by the division in collaboration with the board; or (ii) (A) has successfully completed 12 months of resident training in an ACGME approved program after receiving a degree of doctor of medicine as required under Subsection (1)(d); (B) has been accepted in and is successfully participating in progressive resident training in an ACGME approved program within Utah	UT Code § 58-67-302	2 years, or one year completed and a second in progress in the state
VI	No	No	The applicant must have satisfactorily completed a postgraduate medical training program approved by the Board or by a private nonprofit accrediting body approved by the Board in an institution in the United States, its territories or possessions or Canada approved by the Board or by a private nonprofit accrediting body approved by the Board. The program must be at least thirty-six (36) months .	V.I. Code tit. 27, § 5(d)	3 years

SMB	License can be granted w/o accredited GME	May grant credit to GME reqs. to applicants that meet certain criteria	Detail	Citation	Minimum amount of accredited GME required for licensure
VA	Yes	Yes	Has completed at least 12 months of satisfactory postgraduate training in one program or institution approved by an accrediting agency recognized by the Board for internships or residency training.	VA Code § 54.1-2930	None if additional licensure pathway is followed, 2 years if not
			On April 4, 2024, HB 995 was signed into law (effective July 1, 2024), which allows IMGs with medical degrees from WHO-recognized schools that are licensed and have been practicing for at least 5 years, have a valid ECFMG certificate, passed USMLE Steps 1 & 2, and have an offer of employment from a qualifying medical care center to receive a provisional license that is valid for 2 years. After the 2 year period, licensees may apply for a renewable two-year extension if they practice in a medically underserved area, pass USMLE Step 3, and enter into a full-time employment agreement with a qualifying medical care center. After at least 2 years of practice under the renewable license (at least 4 years overall), the physician may apply for a full, unrestricted license.	HB 995 (2024)	
VT	No	No	(2) A graduate of a Board-approved medical school outside the United States or Canada shall submit evidence of success of completing at least 3 years of postgraduate training in a U.S. or Canadian program accredited by an organization that is acceptable to the Board and that meets such other requirements as the Board may establish by rule.	26 V.S.A. § 1391	3 years (Canadian GME not accepted)
WA	No	No	IMG Clinical Experience License: Those meeting specific criteria and requirements below can be licensed for 2 years, with the option for one renewal for a total practice time of four years. 1) Be a Washington state resident for at least one year; 2) Be ECFMG certified; and 3) Pass all steps of the USMLE... 2) Complete a background check; and 3) Maintain practice agreement between the license holder and the supervising physician with the medical commission. Application—Eligibility requirements—Foreign graduates... (b)(i) Except as provided in (b)(ii) of this subsection, that he or she meets all the requirements which must be met by graduates of the United States and Canadian school of medicine... (b) That the applicant has completed two years of postgraduate medical training in a program acceptable to the commission	IMG Clinical Experience License SHB 1129 (2021) RCW 18.71.051 RCW 18.71.050	2 years (the clinical experience license is a “bridge to residency” license, accredited PGT is still required)
WI	Yes	Yes	Except as provided in pars. (c) to (f), an applicant for a license to practice medicine and surgery who is a graduate of a foreign medical college must supply evidence satisfactory to the board of all of the following: 1. That the applicant is a graduate of and possesses a diploma from a foreign medical college credentialed by an agency approved by the board. 2. That the applicant has obtained certification by the ECFMG or a successor organization. 3. That the applicant has passed all steps of the USMLE administered by the NMBE and the FSMB, or their successor organizations. 4. That the applicant satisfies one of the following: a. The applicant has successfully completed and received credit for 24 months of postgraduate training in one or more programs accredited by the ACGME, the AOA, or a successor organization. b. The applicant is currently enrolled in a postgraduate training program accredited by the ACGME, the AOA, or a successor organization; the applicant has successfully completed and received credit for 12 consecutive months of postgraduate training in that program ; and the applicant has received an unrestricted endorsement from the postgraduate training program director that includes confirmation that the applicant is expected to continue in the program and complete at least 24 months of postgraduate training.	Wis. Stat. § 448.05	None if additional licensure pathway is followed, 2 years if not.

SMB	License can be granted w/o accredited GME	May grant credit to GME reqs. to applicants that meet certain criteria	Detail	Citation	Minimum amount of accredited GME required for licensure
			On March 22, 2024, AB 954 was signed into law, which allows IMGs with a medical degree from an international medical program approved by the ECFMG, have completed a residency program or PGT substantially similar to a residency, ECFMG certification, passed all Steps of the USMLE, has federal immigration status, practiced for at least five years post-PGT and at least one continuously of the last five before application, and with an offer for employment at a qualifying healthcare facility to be provisionally licensed. Provisional licensees must practice under supervision, but the provisional license can convert to full licensure after three consecutive years of practice in good standing.	AB 954 (2024)	
WV	No	Yes	Minimum qualifications for initial licensure as a medical doctor for applicants who have received the degree of doctor of medicine or its equivalent from a school of medicine outside of the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or Canada... Has successfully completed at least 2 years of ACGME approved postgraduate clinical training ; Has successfully completed a graduate medical education residency program outside of the United States and a minimum of 2 years of fellowship training in the United States in a clinical field related to the applicant's residency training which was completed... OR Holds current certification by a member board of the ABMS and a minimum of one year of graduate clinical training which comports with the accreditation requirements	W.V. Code R. § §11-1A-4	1 year if specialty board certified, 2 years if not ‡ See page 1 note
WY	No	Yes	All applicants for licensure other than a training license must demonstrate one (1) or more of the following: (A) Successful completion of not less than two (2) years of postgraduate training in an ACGME, AOA, or RCPS accredited program; or, (B) Successful completion of not less than one (1) year of postgraduate training in an ACGME, AOA, or RCPS accredited program and: (1) Current certification by a medical specialty board that is a member of the ABMS or the BOSBOC; or (2) Continuous full and unrestricted medical licensure in good standing in one or more states and/or the District of Columbia for the preceding five (5) years.	Wyo. Board of Medicine Rules § 4	1 year if specialty board certified or licensed in another state, 2 years if not ‡ See page 1 note

For more information on additional pathways legislation, please see our "[States with Enacted and Proposed Additional Pathways Legislation Chart](#)"

Acronym Key: ACGME: Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education; AOA: American Osteopathic Association; BOSBOC: Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists and Boards of Certification; CFPC: College of Family Physicians of Canada; COCA: Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation; COMLEX: Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination of the United States; ECFMG: Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates; LCME: Liaison Committee on Medical Education; NBME: National Board of Medical Examiners; RCPS: Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada; USMLE: United States Medical Licensing Exam; WHO: World Health Organization

For informational purposes only: This document is not intended as a comprehensive statement of the law on this topic, nor to be relied upon as authoritative. Non-cited laws, regulation, and/or policy could impact analysis on a case-by-case or state-by-state basis. All information should be verified independently.

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