

Nonimmigrant Status/Visa Supported by Cleveland Clinic

Graduate Medical Education (residency, fellowship)

- H-1B Temporary Worker
- J-1 Exchange Visitor in the Alien Physician category (sponsored by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates-ECFMG)
- F-1/J-1 Students: If you are graduating from a U.S. medical school or graduate program (MPH), you may be eligible to use your post-graduate employment authorization (OPT for F-1, Practical Training for J-1) to start your residency program. You must contact the Designated School Official (DSO) who signed your Form I-20 or the Responsible Officer (RO) who signed your DS-2019 for information and assistance. The final approval of your use of OPT or Practical Training for residency lies with the DSO or RO at your university.

Research Fellowships in Clinical Departments:

- H-1B Temporary Worker (if department is providing salary at the required level)
- J-1 Exchange Visitor in the Research Scholar category (sponsored by Cleveland Clinic)
- F-1/J-1 students with approved post-graduate or curricular practical training authorization
- TN (Trade NAFTA) Canadian and Mexican citizens only; research only
- E-3 (Australian Free Trade Agreement), Australian citizens only (all positions).

Requirements:

H-1B Temporary Worker (Clinical Training Program)

- Passing score on USMLE Step 1, Step 2, and Step 3
 - Please note: Step 3 is not required for graduates of U.S. medical schools
 - Graduates of Canadian medical schools must pass all 3 steps of USMLE. Canadian examinations are not recognized for H-1B purposes.
 - Applicants participating in the NRMP must have their USMLE Step 3 scores by April 30. *If results are not received or you failed the exam, then you must use the J-1. Cleveland Clinic will not wait for a re-test or for delayed score reports.*
- Valid ECFMG Certificate
- Training certificate or permanent license issued by the State Medical Board of Ohio

H-1B Temporary Worker (postdoctoral research fellows, research fellows)

- M.D. or Ph.D.
- An offer for a *paid* research fellowship; salary must meet prevailing wage requirements
- Description of the research project from the principal investigator
- J-1 Exchange Visitors may also need a waiver of the two-year home residence requirement, see page 12.
- Third party funding and personal funds are not acceptable for H-1B purposes.

J-1 Exchange Visitor (ECFMG sponsored)

- Valid ECFMG Certificate or a medical degree from a U.S., Puerto Rican or Canadian medical school
- A statement of need from your country of origin or last legal permanent residence following the format required by the U.S. Department of State. More information and the required format are available online at <https://www.ecfm.org/evsp/son-instructions-moh.pdf>.