

Introduction

The International Rescue Committee serves refugees and communities victimized by oppression or violent conflict worldwide. Founded in 1933, the IRC is committed to freedom, human dignity, and self-reliance. This commitment is expressed in emergency relief, protection of human rights, post-conflict development, resettlement assistance, and advocacy.

The International Rescue Committee, San Diego has been assisting refugees since 1975, providing hope and opportunity to thousands of refugees from all over the world. IRC San Diego's Job Development Department works with clients to help them secure gainful employment in San Diego. To prepare our clients, these are some of the services we provide:

- Skill and language assessments.
- Job Readiness Training. Topics include: applications, interviews, the American workplace, appropriate dress, filling out time sheets, and tips for on-the job success.
- Purchase of tools, uniforms and other work related expenses.
- Transportation assistance, including bus training, free bus passes, driver's license training assistance.
- Assistance with the hiring process, if needed.
- Personalized assistance on an as-needed basis.
- Additional trainings, such as the **Healthcare Professionals Re-certification Workshop**.

The “**Healthcare Professionals Re-certification Workshop**” aims to provide foreign healthcare professionals with information about the re-certification process in the United States, and especially in the State of California. It is our intention to help IRC clients who were certified healthcare professionals in their native country successfully enter the medical field in the United States.

Topics include:

- Document translation
- Testing
- Residency application procedures and tips
- Costs of the re-certification process
- Possible jobs in the medical field
- Alternative employment opportunities
- Information about other helpful organizations
- Much more!

The candidate most likely to succeed will:

- Understand, speak, and write English,
- have made a good adjustment to living in the U.S.,
- enjoy the idea of further study,
- keep all appointments promptly and stay in close touch with job counselor,
- have all original documents and certificates in their possession.

Please keep in mind that getting recertified as a medical professional is costly:

- Translation services for your documentations may cost a few hundred dollars.
- Testing and the re-certification process will cost a minimum of \$3,000.
- Doctors will need an estimated \$20,000 in student loans per year!

But! Also keep in mind that:

- Once you secure yourself a residency, the first year you will receive approximately \$45,000, and this allows you to start paying back the loans.
- When you become a doctor, you can easily work on a loan-forgiveness program where there's a need.
- Remember, there's a scarcity of doctors in many communities!

Alternative Health Care Careers:

- Dietitian
- Occupational therapists
- Social workers
- Psychologists
- Physical therapists
- Speech pathologists
- Clinical laboratory profession
- Pharmacists

Steps to becoming re-certified health care professional in the United States:

1. Confirm eligibility with Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG)
 - www.ecfm.org

2. Obtain an ECFMG Certification
 - Translate your original graduate school documents
 - Pass USMLE Exams:
 - Step 1, Step 2 CK (Clinical Knowledge), Step 2 CS
 - Pass the TOEFL (in some cases)

3. Apply for residency

4. Complete residency

5. Pass the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Exam
 - USMLE Step 2 CS (Clinical Skills), Step 3
 - www.usmle.org

6. Apply to State Medical Board for License
 - www.medbd.ca.gov

7. Receive license to practice medicine

Translation of Credentials

Various institutions require translators to be accredited and/or certified. The American Translators Association (ATA) accredits/certifies individual translators by examination. Although accreditation is available only to individuals, ATA membership includes not only individuals but also companies that employ accredited translators.

www.americantranslators.org/tsd_listings

Revalidation of Credentials

Please note that institutions require revalidated transcripts from specific agencies. Below are samples of various revalidation agencies.

FIRST Recommended Agencies

International Education Research Foundation (IERF), Inc.

PO Box 3665
Culver City, CA 90231-3665
www.ierf.org
(phone) 310.258.9451

Educational Credential Evaluation (ECE)

PO Box 514070
Milwaukee, WI 53203
www.ece.org
(phone) 414.289.3400 (fax) 414.289.3411

Alternate Recommended Agencies

Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute (ACEI)

P.O. Box 6908
Beverly Hills, CA 90212, USA
www.acei1.com
(phone) 310.275.3530
(fax) 310.275.3528

World Education Services

PO Box 745
Old Chelsea Station
New York, NY 10113-0745
www.wes.org
(phone) 212.966.6311

Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG)

ECFMG is a private, nonprofit organization committed to promoting excellence in international medical education. Through its program of certification, the ECFMG assesses the readiness of international medical graduates to enter residency or fellowship programs in the US that are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). Detailed information on ECFMG Certification and ECFMG's other programs and services is available on this site and in the ECFMG Information Booklet: <http://www.ecfm.org/2008ib/2008ib.pdf>

ECFMG's organizational members are: American Board of Medical Specialties, American Medical Association, Association of American Medical Colleges, Association for Hospital Medical Education Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, Inc., & National Medical Association.

Mission Statement:

The ECFMG promotes quality health care for the public by certifying international medical graduates for entry into U.S. graduate medical education, and by participating in the evaluation and certification of other physicians and health care professionals. In conjunction with its Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER), and other partners, it actively seeks opportunities to promote international medical education through programmatic and research activities.

Purposes:

The purposes (goals) that actuate and accomplish ECFMG's mission are to:

- Certify the readiness of international medical graduates for entry to graduate medical education and health care systems in the United States through an evaluation of their qualifications.
- Provide complete, timely, and accessible information to international medical graduates regarding entry to graduate medical education in the United States.
- Assess the readiness of international medical graduates to recognize the diverse social, economic and cultural needs of U.S. patients upon entry into graduate medical education.
- Identify the needs of international medical graduates to become acculturated into U.S. health care.
- Provide international access to testing and evaluation programs.
- Expand knowledge about international medical education programs and their graduates by gathering data, conducting research, and disseminating the findings.
- Improve international medical education through consultation and cooperation with medical schools and other institutions relative to program development, standard setting, and evaluation.
- Improve assessment through collaboration with other entities in the United States and abroad.
- Improve the quality of health care by providing research and consultation services to institutions that evaluate international medical graduates for entry into their country.
- Enhance effectiveness by delegating appropriate activities in international medical education to FAIMER.

Eligibility & Requirements

ECFMG Application Requirements

To **apply** for ECFMG Certification, you must:

- Be an international medical student or graduate.
- Your medical school must be listed in the **International Medical Education Directory (IMED)** of the **Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER®)**. **IMED's website: <http://imed.ecfm.org>**
- If you are a medical school graduate, your graduation year must be included in your school's *IMED* listing. If you are a student, the "Graduation Years" in *IMED* for your medical school must be listed as "Current."

Iraqi Colleges currently listed:

- Al-Anbar University, Al-Anbar
- Al-Kindy College of Medicine, Baghdad
- Al-Nahrain University, Baghdad
- Babylon University, Babylon
- Dohuk College of Medicine, Dohuk
- Hawlair Medical University, Erbil
- Kufa University, Kufa
- Sulaimani College of Medicine, Sulaimani City
- University of Al-Mustansiriyah, Baghdad
- University of Baghdad, Baghdad
- University of Mosul, Mosul
- University of Basra, Basra
- University of Tikrit, Tikrit

Certification Eligibility

To be **eligible for certification**, you must graduate from a medical school that meets the requirements described above, and fulfill the following additional medical education credential requirements:

- **You must have had at least four credit years** at a medical school listed in *IMED*. There are restrictions on credits transferred to the medical school that awards an applicant's medical degree that can be used to meet this requirement.
- **You must document the completion of all requirements for, and receipt of, the final medical diploma.** ECFMG will verify your medical school diploma with the appropriate officials of the medical school that issued the diploma and request that the medical school provide your final medical school transcript. Verification by ECFMG with the issuing school may also be required for transcripts that you submit to document transferred academic credits. Your credentials are not considered complete until ECFMG receives verification directly from the issuing school(s) and accepts this verification.



Exam Requirements

Applicants for ECFMG Certification must also satisfy the following exam requirements:

- **Medical Science Examination.** USMLE Step 1 and Step 2 Clinical Knowledge (CK) are the exams currently administered that satisfy this requirement. Applicants register for these exams with ECFMG and take these exams worldwide at test centers of Thomson Prometric.
- **Clinical Skills Requirement.** USMLE Step 2 Clinical Skills (CS) is the exam currently administered that satisfies this requirement. Applicants register for Step 2 CS with ECFMG and take the exam at one of several regional clinical skills evaluation centers in the United States. Applicants who have **both** passed the former ECFMG Clinical Skills Assessment (CSA) **and** achieved a score acceptable to ECFMG on an English language proficiency test (i.e. Test of English as a Foreign Language [TOEFL] or the former ECFMG English Test) can use these passing performances to fulfill this requirement.

Please refer to the [ECFMG website](#) for information on exam eligibility, fees, application, scheduling, test centers, preparation, and sample test materials.

Applying for ECFMG Certification

The certification process begins when you apply to ECFMG for a USMLE/ECFMG Identification Number. You must have your number before you can apply for examination. Before applying for examination, you must also read the applicable editions of the ECFMG *Information Booklet* and the USMLE *Bulletin of Information*. Both publications are available on the website. To apply for the required exams, use ECFMG's [Interactive Web Application \(IWA\)](#), available on this website. You can apply for the required exams as soon as you meet the exam eligibility requirements. All of the required exams are offered continuously throughout the year. However, since one of the requirements for ECFMG Certification is verification of your final medical diploma with your medical school, you cannot complete the certification process until you graduate and receive the diploma.

There is no time limit for completing the certification process. However, there are specific time requirements for completing the exams for ECFMG Certification and medical licensure. These requirements are described in the ECFMG *Information Booklet* and USMLE *Bulletin of Information*, respectively.

Applying to Graduate Medical Education Programs

The *Graduate Medical Education Directory*, published by the American Medical Association (AMA), is recognized as the official list of ACGME-accredited graduate medical education programs. For each medical specialty, the *Directory* provides general and special requirements and specific information on each program in that specialty. You can order the *Directory* on the AMA website: www.ama-assn.org Application deadlines vary among programs; contact programs directly for deadline information. Most programs require the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) Application. This is their website: <http://www.aamc.org/audienceeras.htm>



Programs that do not participate in ERAS require applicants to use paper application materials. You should contact programs directly for their requirements.

Contact Applicant Information Services at:

ECFMG

3624 Market Street

Philadelphia, PA 19104-2685 USA

TEL: 215- 386-5900 (9:00am -5:00pm, Eastern Time, Mon-Fri)

FAX: (215) 386-9196

E-MAIL:

Scheduling permits: permits@ecfm.org

Credentials: credentials@ecfm.org

General inquiries: info@ecfm.org

Registration & Credentials Services — www.ecfm.org

ECFMG Frequently Asked Questions:

1. *What is ECFMG Certification?*

Medical schools outside the US vary in their educational standards and curricula. The purpose of ECFMG Certification is to assess the readiness of graduates of these schools to enter U.S. residency and fellowship programs that are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). To be certified by ECFMG, you must pass a series of exams; you must also fulfill ECFMG's medical education credential requirements. These requirements include providing ECFMG with copies of your medical education credentials, which ECFMG will verify directly with your medical school.

2. *Why would I want to be certified by ECFMG?*

If you are an international medical graduate and wish to enter an ACGME-accredited residency or fellowship program in the United States, you must be certified by ECFMG before you can enter the program. You must be certified by ECFMG if you wish to take Step 3 of the three-step United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE). ECFMG Certification is also one of the requirements to obtain an unrestricted license to practice medicine in the United States.

3. *How can I find out if students/graduates of my medical school are eligible for ECFMG Certification?*

To be eligible for certification by ECFMG, among other requirements, your medical school must be listed in the *International Medical Education Directory (IMED)* of the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER). If you are a medical school student and you want to apply for examination, your medical school must be listed in *IMED* and your medical school's "Graduation Years" must be listed as "Current," both at the time you apply for the exam and at the time you take the exam. If you are a medical school graduate, your medical school and graduation year must be listed in *IMED* to be eligible for examination and for ECFMG Certification. To verify that you meet these requirements, access *IMED* on the ECFMG website at www.ecfm.org.



4. How do I begin the certification process?

The certification process begins when you apply to ECFMG for a USMLE/ECFMG Identification Number. The information you provide during the process of obtaining a USMLE/ECFMG Identification Number will become a part of your permanent ECFMG record.

5. How do I get a USMLE/ECFMG Identification Number?

Access IWA on the ECFMG website, where you can find instructions for obtaining a number on-line. You must have your number before you can apply for examination. Go to:

<https://secure2.ecfm.org/requestinstructions.asp>

6. How long does the certification process take?

The time required to complete the certification process is **different for each applicant**. You may apply for then required exams as soon as you meet the eligibility requirements for examination. All of the exams required for ECFMG Certification are offered continuously throughout the year. Both medical school students and graduates may begin the certification process. However, since one of the requirements for ECFMG Certification is that your final medical diploma be verified by ECFMG with your medical school, you cannot complete the certification process until you graduate. The time required for some aspects of the certification process, such as the time required by your medical school to verify your medical education credentials, is beyond the control of ECFMG.

7. In what order do I take the exams required for ECFMG Certification?

To be eligible for ECFMG Certification, you must pass USMLE Step 1, Step 2 CK, and Step 2 CS. Once you meet the eligibility requirements for examination, you can take these exams in any order.

8. How can I have ECFMG confirm to a medical licensing authority or residency/fellowship program that I am ECFMG-certified?

ECFMG will confirm your certification status when it receives a request directly from a medical licensing authority, residency/fellowship program official, or other appropriate organization. For status reports sent to medical licensing authorities, the request can also be made by you. Approximately two weeks are required for the confirmation to be completed. Please note that there may be a fee for this service. If you apply to residency programs through ERAS, ECFMG will send an electronic status report automatically to all of the programs to which you apply.

13. What if I cannot take an exam once I have registered?

Once registered, you cannot cancel or postpone your registration (except as described below for Step 1/ Step 2 CK). If you do not take the exam, you will not receive a refund or credit of your exam fee(s). Although you cannot cancel your registration, there are options that provide flexibility. Registered applicants can change their test date and/or test center, subject to availability. If you are unable to take Step 1/Step 2 CK during your assigned eligibility period, you can request an extension of your eligibility period for a fee.

14. Is there a limit to the number of times I can take an exam?

For the purpose of ECFMG Certification, there is no limit on the number of times you can take a Step or Step Component you have not passed. If you fail or do not complete a Step or Step Component, you may retake it, but you must reapply and pay the appropriate fee(s). Certain restrictions apply when retaking the same Step or Step Component. Once you pass it, you may not repeat it, and you will have seven years to pass the other Step(s) or Step Component(s) required for ECFMG Certification.

For the purpose of medical licensure, the USMLE program recommends to state medical licensing authorities that they require applicants to pass the full USMLE sequence (including Step 3, which is not required for ECFMG Certification) within a seven-year period. The USMLE program also recommends to state medical licensing authorities a limit on the number of attempts allowed to pass each Step or Step Component. You should contact the FSMB for general information and the medical licensing authority of the jurisdiction where you plan to apply for licensure for definitive information, since licensure requirements vary among jurisdictions.

15. What is a Certification of Identification Form (Form 186)?

The *Certification of Identification Form* (Form 186) is the paper certification required by ECFMG for **graduates** who apply for exams on-line using IWA. Form 186 requires that an authorized official certify the applicant's identity. Once submitted and accepted by ECFMG, Form 186 remains valid for 5 years.

16. What is the difference between a Certification Statement (Form 183) and a Certification of Identification Form (Form 186)?

The *Certification Statement* (Form 183) is the paper certification required by ECFMG for **students** who submit on-line exam applications. A new Form 183 is generated with each on-line application. Form 183 must be completed by the student and an authorized medical school official and submitted to ECFMG for **each** on-line application, or the application will be rejected. The *Certification of Identification Form* (Form 186) is the paper certification required by ECFMG for **graduates** who submit on-line exam applications. Once the form is received and accepted by CFMG, it remains valid for five years. During this time, graduates may submit on-line exam applications without submitting another paper certification. It is expected that the *Certification of Identification Form* (Form 186) will replace the *Certification Statement* (Form 183) for **students**. Monitor the ECFMG website for more information.

17. Do I have to submit a new Certification of Identification Form (Form 186) every time I apply for an exam?

No. Once the *Certification of Identification Form* (Form 186) is accepted by ECFMG, it is valid for five years. Applicants with a valid *Certification of Identification Form* (Form 186) can apply for exams using IWA by completing only the on-line part of the application.

18. I am a medical school graduate and have submitted a Certification Statement (Form 183) previously. Do I still have to submit a Certification of Identification Form (Form 186)?

Yes. The *Certification of Identification Form* (Form 186) must be submitted by graduates who apply for an exam on-line and do not have a valid *Certification of Identification Form* on file with ECFMG.

19. How do I fulfill the clinical skills requirement for ECFMG Certification?

USMLE Step 2 CS has replaced the ECFMG CSA as the exam that satisfies the clinical skills requirement for ECFMG Certification. Applicants who have not passed the ECFMG CSA must take USMLE Step 2 CS.

20. What if I have already passed the ECFMG CSA?

If you have passed the ECFMG CSA, you will not be required to pass Step 2 CS for ECFMG Certification. Additionally, applicants who have passed the CSA will not be required to pass Step 2 CS to meet the eligibility requirements for Step 3, provided their **most recent** clinical skills performance (ECFMG CSA or USMLE Step 2 CS) is a pass. Effective June 14, 2004, passing performances on the CSA that took place on or after June 14, 2001 do not expire for the purpose of entering graduate medical

education. If you are certified by ECFMG and the CSA pass date on your certificate is June 14, 2001 or later, you may request a permanent validation sticker for your CSA date. If you passed the CSA before June 14, 2001, your passing performance on the CSA remains subject to expiration for the purpose of entry into graduate medical education.

21. *What is a final medical school transcript?*

The final medical school transcript is an official document that is the record of the graduate's medical education, issued by the medical school or university, upon or after graduation. The format of the final medical school transcript may vary among institutions. The final medical school transcript contains the name of the medical school or university and the name of the graduate. Other items that may be contained in the final medical school transcript include, but are not limited to, the dates of attendance, courses taken, credits for each course, grade in each course, summary of transfer credits accepted and the name of the institution from which the credits were accepted, title of the degree awarded, date degree was awarded, program of study (i.e., medicine), and date the transcript was issued.

22. *Do I need to send my final medical school transcript to ECFMG?*

When ECFMG sends your medical diploma to your medical school for verification, ECFMG will request the medical school to include your final medical school transcript when the school returns the verification of your medical diploma to ECFMG. If ECFMG is unable to obtain your final medical school transcript directly from your medical school, ECFMG will contact you and request that you submit to ECFMG two copies of your final medical school transcript. If ECFMG has previously verified your medical diploma with your medical school but not the final medical school transcript, you must send copies of the final medical school transcript to ECFMG. ECFMG will then send a copy of your final medical school transcript to your medical school for verification.

23. *How will I know if ECFMG has received verification of my medical diploma and transcript from my medical school?*

ECFMG will notify you when it sends the request for verification of your medical education credentials to your medical school. After ECFMG receives the verification of your diploma and/or your final medical school transcript from your medical school and evaluates it, ECFMG will send you another notification. You can check the status of your medical education credentials using OASIS (see page v).

25. *What medical specialties are participating in the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) in 2008?*

Most specialties participate in ERAS. For the list of participating specialties, visit the ERAS website of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) at www.aamc.org/eras. Programs participating in ERAS will, in principle, no longer accept paper applications. However, there may be exceptions by individual program directors. You should contact the programs directly for their policies.

26. *How do I pay for the exam(s)?*

If you apply for an exam or request a service on-line, you can pay the required fees **on-line** with a credit card (Visa, MasterCard, or Discover) or with an electronic payment from your U.S. checking account. If you submit a paper request for service and you have a USMLE/ECFMG Identification Number, you can pay in advance using OASIS. All applicants submitting paper requests can pay by credit card or check with their paper request forms. Payment for all services is due at the time of application. **If you do not include full payment, your application/request for service will be rejected.**

United States Medical Licensing Examination

USMLE

The USMLE is a **three-step examination** for medical licensure in the United States and is sponsored by the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) and the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME). In the US, the individual medical licensing authorities ("state medical boards") of the various jurisdictions grant a license to practice medicine. Each state sets its own rules and regulations and requires passing an examination that demonstrates qualification for licensure. Results of the USMLE are reported to these authorities for use in granting the initial license to practice medicine.

USMLE Mission Statement

The USMLE program supports medical licensing authorities in the US through its leadership in the development, delivery, and continual improvement of high quality assessments across the continuum of physicians' preparation for practice.

Goals:

- To provide to licensing authorities meaningful information from assessments of physician characteristics—including medical knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes—that are important to the provision of safe and effective patient care.
- To engage medical educators and their institutions, licensing authority members, and practicing clinicians in the design and development of these assessments.
- To assure fairness and equity to physicians through the highest professional testing standards.
- To continue to develop and improve assessments for licensure with the intent of assessing physicians more accurately and comprehensively.

The Three Steps of the USMLE

Step 1 assesses if you understand and can apply important concepts of the sciences basics to the practice of medicine, with emphasis on principles and mechanisms underlying health, disease, and therapy. It ensures mastery of not only the sciences that provide a foundation for the safe and competent practice of medicine in the present, but also the scientific principles required for maintenance of competence through lifelong learning.

Step 2 assesses whether you can apply medical knowledge, skills, and understanding of clinical science essential for the provision of patient care under supervision and includes emphasis on health promotion and disease prevention. Step 2 ensures that due attention is devoted to principles of clinical sciences and basic patient-centered skills that provide the foundation for the safe and competent practice of medicine.

Step 3 assesses whether you can apply medical knowledge and understanding of bio-medical and clinical science essential for the unsupervised practice of medicine, with emphasis on patient management in ambulatory settings. Step 3 provides a final assessment of physicians assuming independent responsibility for delivering general medical care.

Eligibility

STEP 1, STEP 2 CK, AND STEP 2 CS

To be eligible, you must be in one of the following categories at the time of application:

- a medical student officially enrolled in, or a graduate of, a US medical school program leading to the MD degree that is accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME),
- a medical student officially enrolled in, or a graduate of, a US medical school leading to the DO degree accredited by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), or
- a medical student officially enrolled in, or a graduate of, a medical school outside the United States and Canada and eligible for examination by the ECFMG.

STEP 3

To be eligible for Step 3, prior to submitting your application, you must:

- obtain the MD degree (or its equivalent) or the DO degree,
- pass Step 1, Step 2 CK, and, if required, Step 2 CS,
- obtain certification by the ECFMG, and
- meet the Step 3 requirements set by the medical licensing authority to which you are applying.

Information taken from the USMLE Bulletin 2008:

http://www.usmle.org/General_Information/bulletin/2008/2008bulletin.pdf

Application Procedures:

Registration Entity and Test Delivery Entity, Step 1 and Step 2

ECFMG serves as the registration entity for international medical students/graduates taking Step 1 and Step 2 (CK and CS). This means that ECFMG processes your application and payment, determines your eligibility, and notifies you of the outcome of your application. The NBME serves as the registration entity for students/graduates of U.S. and Canadian medical school programs accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) and U.S. medical schools/programs accredited by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA).

For eligible Step 1/Step 2 CK applicants, ECFMG forwards registration information to NBME, and NBME issues the exam scheduling permits. Scheduling and test centers for USMLE Step 1 and Step 2 CK are provided by Thomson Prometric, a part of The Thomson Corporation. Prometric serves as the test delivery entity for all examinees taking Step 1/Step 2 CK. Step 1 and Step 2 CK are delivered at Prometric test centers worldwide. ECFMG is not responsible for errors or any associated computer problems that may occur in issuing Step 1/Step 2 CK scheduling permits or in delivering these exams. These functions are the responsibility of NBME and/or Prometric.

For eligible Step 2 CS applicants, ECFMG issues the exam scheduling permits. The Clinical Skills Evaluation Collaboration (CSEC), a collaboration of ECFMG and NBME, is responsible for delivery of the Step 2 CS exam. Step 2 CS is delivered to all examinees at regional CSEC Centers in the United States.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Step 2 CS has replaced the former ECFMG CSA. ECFMG-certified Physicians must have taken and passed either Step 2 CS or the CSA in order to register for Step 3.



Step 3

The FSMB serves as the registration entity for **all** Step 3 applicants. To be eligible for Step 3, international medical graduates must have passed Step 1 and Step 2 and must be certified by ECFMG, among other requirements. For detailed information and application procedures for Step 3, contact the individual medical licensing authorities or the FSMB. Scheduling and test centers for Step 3 are provided at Prometric test centers in the United States.

Medical School Graduates

To be eligible for Step 1, Step 2 CK, and Step 2 CS, you must be a graduate of a medical school located outside the US that is listed in *IMED*. Your graduation year must be included and you must have had at least four credit years in attendance with the medical school that is listed in *IMED*. You must also submit two photocopies of your medical diploma if you have not sent the diploma to ECFMG previously and one full-face, passport-sized, color photograph, taken within six months of the your application.

If you have graduated and met all requirements for your medical diploma but your medical diploma has not yet been issued, you must submit with the application a current, full-face, passport-sized, color photograph and a letter signed by your Medical School Dean, Vice Dean, or Registrar. The letter must include the following statement:

This is to confirm that [applicant name] has graduated and completed all requirements to receive the [degree title] degree from [university name]. The degree will be issued [month and year].

You must then send the photocopies of your medical diploma to ECFMG when your diploma is issued.

If English is not your first language, it is **recommended but not required** that you take the Test of Spoken English (TSE), offered by the Educational Testing Service (ETS), and achieve a score of at least 45 before taking Step 2 CS. For more information visit www.ets.org/tse or call ETS at (609) 921-9000.

Applying for Examination

To apply, use ECFMG's Interactive Web Application (IWA):

<https://iwa2.ecfmg.org/studentgradoverview.asp>

A complete application consists of the on-line part, the *Certification Statement* (Form 183) or *Certification of Identification Form* (Form 186), which you obtain through IWA; and any other required documents, as outlined in IWA and in this publication. **If your application is not complete, it will be rejected.** ECFMG will notify you by e-mail when your application is received. You can check the status of your exam application on-line using OASIS. ECFMG will process your application within three weeks and notify you of the outcome of your application.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Application and other requests for services will not be processed if it is determined that doing so would be volatile of any applicable federal laws or regulations.

Graduates

Medical school **graduates** must print a *Certification of Identification Form* (Form 186) after completing the on-line part of the application and send the completed Form 186 to ECFMG. Once accepted by ECFMG, this form remains valid for on-line applications received during the following five-year period,



and subsequent applications during this period can be completed entirely on-line. Form 186 must be completed by the graduate and certified by an appropriate official. This certification must be **current**; the official must have signed the form within four months of its receipt by ECFMG. Any additional documentation that is required at the time of application must be accompanied by a completed *IWA Document Submission Form* (Form 187).

When to Apply

Step 1, Step 2 CK, and Step 2 CS are offered regularly throughout the year; however there may be occasional, brief periods when all test centers are closed or the exam is not available.

IMPORTANT NOTE: It is solely the responsibility of the applicant to complete the required exams in time to meet deadlines imposed by the NRMP and/or GME programs. Since the number of applicants seeking to complete these exams may exceed the spaces available in time to meet those deadlines, there is no guarantee that sufficient spaces will be available for all applicants to meet deadlines imposed by the NRMP and/or GME programs. ECFMG assumes no liability of any kind if an applicant does not complete the exams in time to have results available to meet NRMP and/or GME program deadlines.

Fees

You must pay all applicable fees at the time of application. If you apply for more than one exam at the same time, you must pay applicable fees for **all** exams at the time of application. **If you do not pay all fees, your application will be rejected.** If your application is rejected, any payment received with that application will be credited to your ECFMG financial account.

For all exams, there is an examination fee. All fees are subject to change without notice.

Examination Fees 2008

Step 1	\$680*	For Step 1 and Step 2 CK 3-month eligibility periods beginning 11/1/07 to 1/31/08 and ending 10/1/08 to 12/31/08.
Step 2 CK	\$680*	
Step 2 CS	\$1,225	For applications submitted starting 1/1/08.

Examination Fees 2009

Step 1	\$695*	For Step 1 and Step 2 CK 3-month eligibility periods beginning 11/1/08 to 1/31/09 and ending 10/1/09 to 12/31/10.
Step 2 CK	\$695*	
Step 2 CS	\$1,255	For applications submitted starting 1/1/09.

* For information about taking Step 1 and Step 2 CK at international centers and regional surcharges call 215-590-9700 or email USMLEreg@nbme.org

Your Scheduling Permit

When your registration is complete, you will be issued an exam scheduling permit. If you apply for more than one exam at the same time, you will be issued separate scheduling permits for each exam. The scheduling permit includes instructions for scheduling your testing appointment and a description of the form(s) of identification you must bring to the test center on your exam date.

The scheduling permit is a very important document. If you do not bring your scheduling permit to the test center on your exam date you will not be allowed to take the exam. Also, your name as it appears on your scheduling permit and your form(s) of identification **must match exactly.**

Scheduling

You can schedule your testing appointment as soon as you receive your exam scheduling permit. Your scheduling permit provides instructions for reviewing available test dates and centers and scheduling a testing appointment. Testing appointments are available on a “first-come, first-served” basis. **If you do not schedule and take the exam during your eligibility period, you will lose your payment for the exam and you will need to reapply, including payment of applicable fees, to take the exam again.**

Step 1 and Step 2 CK

You can schedule your testing appointment with Prometric up to six months in advance of the beginning of your eligibility period. You must schedule before 12:00 noon (local time at the Regional Registration Center for your testing region) at least five business days prior to the exam date that you want. You will receive your Prometric Confirmation Number which you will if you need to reschedule.

Step 2 CS

A schedule for reporting Step 2 CS results is available on the ECFMG and USMLE websites. After you confirm your testing appointment, you will be able to print a confirmation notice that includes your scheduled test date, arrival time, test center, and other important information.

Examination Content

STEP 1 includes test items in the following content areas: anatomy, behavioral sciences, biochemistry, microbiology, pathology, pharmacology, physiology, interdisciplinary topics, such as nutrition, genetics, and aging. Step 1 is a broadly based, integrated examination. Test items commonly require you to perform one or more of the following tasks: interpret graphic and tabular material, identify gross and microscopic pathologic and normal specimens, and apply basic science knowledge to clinical problems.

STEP 2 CLINICAL KNOWLEDGE (CK) includes test items in the following content areas: internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, preventive medicine, psychiatry, surgery, other areas relevant to provision of care under supervision. Most Step 2 CK test items describe clinical situations and require that you provide one or more of the following: a diagnosis, a prognosis, an indication of underlying mechanisms of disease, the next step in medical care, including preventive measures. Step 2 CK requires interpretation of tables and laboratory data, imaging studies, photographs of gross and microscopic pathologic specimens, and results of other diagnostic studies. Step 2 CK classifies test items along two dimensions: disease category and physician task.

STEP 2 CLINICAL SKILLS (CS) assesses whether you can demonstrate the fundamental clinical skills essential for safe and effective patient care under supervision. There are three subcomponents: Integrated Clinical Encounter (ICE), Communication and Interpersonal Skills (CIS), and Spoken English Proficiency (SEP). Step 2 CS uses standardized patients, i.e., people trained to portray real patients. You are expected to establish rapport with the patients, elicit pertinent historical information from them, perform focused physical examinations, answer questions, and provide counseling when appropriate. After each interaction with a patient, you will record pertinent history and physical examination findings, list diagnostic impressions, and outline plans for further evaluation, if necessary. The cases cover common and important situations that a physician is likely to encounter in common



medical practice in clinics, doctors' offices, emergency departments, and hospital settings in the US. Presentation categories include, but are not limited to, cardiovascular, constitutional, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, musculoskeletal, neurological, psychiatric, respiratory, and women's health.

STEP 3 is organized along two principal dimensions: clinical encounter frame and physician task. Step 3 content reflects a data-based model of generalist medical practice in the US. They range from encounters with patients seen for the first time for nonemergency problems, to encounters with regular patients seen in the context of continued care, to patient encounters in emergency situations. Encounters occur in clinics, offices, skilled nursing care facilities, hospitals, emergency departments, and on the telephone. Each test item in an encounter frame also represents one of the six physician tasks. Clinician experts assign clinical problems related to these diseases to individual clinical encounter frames to represent their occurrence in generalist practice. *Primum*® Computer-Based Case Simulations (CCS) Step 3 examinees test using two formats: multiple choice questions and *Primum* computer-based case simulations (CCS), a testing format that allows you to provide care for a simulated patient. You decide which diagnostic information to obtain and how to treat and monitor the patient's progress. The computer records each step you take in caring for the patient and scores your overall performance.

Test Lengths and Formats

- **Step 1:** 350 multiple-choice test items, seven 60-minute blocks, total time: 8 hrs.
- **Step 2 CK:** 370 multiple-choice test items, eight 60-minute blocks, total time: 9 hrs.
- **Step 2 CS:** 12 patient cases, you will have 15 min./each patient encounter and 10 minutes to record each patient note. Total time: 8 hrs.
- **Step 3:** 480 multiple-choice test items, divided into blocks of 35 to 50 items. You will have 45 to 60 min. per block. There are nine computer-based case simulations with one case in each block. You will have a 25 min max per blocks. Step 3 is administered in two eight hour testing sessions.

Applying for Step 1, Step 2 CK and Step 2 CS

Students and graduates of medical schools outside the US and Canada should apply for Step 1, Step 2 CK, and Step 2 CS by following the instructions at the ECFMG website <http://www.ecfmg.org>

Communicating about Step 1 and Step 2 (CK or CS)

NBME Examinee Support Services

3750 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-3190

Telephone: (215) 590-9700

Fax: (215) 590-9457

Website: <http://www.nbme.org>

E-mail: webmail@nbme.org

ECFMG

3624 Market Street

Philadelphia, PA 19104-2685



Telephone: (215) 386-5900
Fax: (215) 386-9196
Website: <http://www.ecfmg.org>
E-mail: info@ecfmg.org

Applying for Step 3

Follow the instructions at the FSMB website (<http://www.fsmb.org>), or contact the FSMB or the medical licensing authority to which you wish to apply.

Communicating about Step 3

FSMB

Department of Examination Services
PO Box 619850
Dallas, TX 75261-9850
Telephone: (817) 868-4041 Fax: (817) 868-4098
Website: <http://www.fsmb.org> E-mail: usmle@fsmb.org

For the State of California:

Medical Board of California

1426 Howe Avenue, Suite 54
Sacramento, CA 95825-3236
Licensure inquiries: (916) 263-2389
Step 3 inquiries: call FSMB at (817) 868-4041
Website: <http://www.medbd.ca.gov/>

Osteopathic Medical Board of California

2720 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 350
Sacramento, CA 95833-3500
Telephone: (916) 263-3100
Website: <http://www.ombc.ca.gov>

Prometric Test Center

5075 Shoreham Place, Suite 180
San Diego, CA 92122
Phone: 858-866-2120
Site Code: 0525
Website: www.prometric.com

Sample Test Materials

The best preparation for the USMLE is a general, thorough review of the content reflected in the examination descriptions. You should also review further information on the exam content and test formats available on the USMLE website or from your registration entity and run the sample test materials available on the USMLE website or on the 2008 USMLE compact disc (CD). The 2008 USMLE CD is available through your registration entity. There are no test preparation courses affiliated with or sanctioned by the USMLE program. Information on such courses is not available from the ECFMG, FSMB, NBME, USMLE Secretariat, or medical licensing authorities.

Sample test materials and further information on test content are available from your registration entity and at the USMLE website: www.usmle.org

NBME Self-Assessments

The NBME offers web-based self-assessments to help medical students and graduates evaluate their readiness for computer-based Steps and Step Components (Step 1, Step 2 CK, and Step 3).

- The Comprehensive Basic Science Self-Assessment (CBSSA), which is built to the same content specifications as Step 1, covers material in basic science medical education courses. There are 4 CBSSA forms available, each featuring 200 multiple-choice questions divided into 4 sections.
- The Comprehensive Clinical Science Self-Assessment (CCSSA), which is built to the same content specifications as Step 2 CK, covers material in core clinical clerkships. There are three unique CCSSA forms available, each featuring 184 multiple-choice questions divided into four sections.
- A self-assessment built to the same content specifications as the multiple-choice component of Step 3 is also available.

The self-assessments are available for \$45.00 per form. For complete information, to view a sample assessment, or to purchase an assessment, go to the NBME website at www.nbme.org.

Step 1/Step 2 CK Practice Session at a Prometric Test Center

If you have received your scheduling permit for Step 1 or Step 2 CK, you can register to take a practice session for this exam at a Prometric test center. You must pay a fee to Prometric for this service. The materials used for the practice sessions at Prometric test centers are the same USMLE sample test materials that are available on the USMLE website. You can register for a practice session on the USMLE website. Once your scheduling permit is available, ECFMG will send a notification to the e-mail address in your ECFMG record; this message will include instructions for accessing the electronic practice session scheduling permit using IWA.

USMLE Preparation Books are also available on the KAPLAN website:

http://www.kaptest.com/med_home.jhtml

Books include preparation for all steps of the USMLE, as well as other medical fields, such as dentistry, nursing and pharmacy.

Scoring and Score Reporting

Reporting of Scores

Once your result is available, ECFMG will issue your score report.

Results for Step 1/Step 2 CK are typically available within 3-8 weeks after your test date.

Results for Step 2 CS are available according to the Step 2 CS Schedule for Reporting Results, available on the USMLE and ECFMG websites. Score reports are issued in electronic format and can be accessed using ECFMG's OASIS. Once your score report has been issued, ECFMG will send a notification to the e-mail address in your ECFMG record. Score reports are available in OASIS for approximately 120 days and after that available only in the form of an official USMLE transcript. **See USMLE website for current passing levels.**

USMLE Transcripts

To request official copies of your USMLE scores, you must contact the appropriate registration entity. You must contact the Federation of State Medical Boards if you are registered for or have taken Step 3 and/or you want to send your transcript to a medical licensing authority. In all other cases, submit your transcript request to ECFMG by sending a completed *Request for Official USMLE™ Transcript* (Form 172) and the appropriate fee to ECFMG.

If you apply to residency programs through the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS), you may request electronic transmittal of your USMLE transcript to these programs. For additional information, go to: www.ecfmg.org/eras

Reexamination & Reapplication

For the purpose of ECFMG Certification, there is no limit on the number of times you can take a Step or Step Component you have not passed. If you pass a Step or Step Component, you may not retake it, and you will have seven years to pass the other Step(s) or Step Component(s) required for ECFMG Certification. This seven-year period ends **exactly seven years from this exam date**. If you **fail or do not complete** a Step or Step Component, you may retake it, but you must reapply, including payment of the appropriate fee(s). The following restrictions apply:

- You may take Step 1 no more than **four times** in any 12-month period.
- You may take Step 2 CK no more than **four times** in any 12-month period.
- You may take Step 2 CS no more than **three times** in any 12-month period.

IMPORTANT NOTE: These policies apply only to ECFMG Certification. The USMLE program recommends to state medical licensing authorities that they require applicants to pass the full USMLE sequence within a seven-year period and to put a limit on the number of attempts allowed to pass each Step or Step Component. You should contact the FSMB for general information and the medical licensing authority of the jurisdiction where you plan to apply for licensure for definitive information. Additionally, applicants who retake a previously passed Step or Step Component to comply with a time limit should understand the implications for Step 3 eligibility of a failing attempt on a retake.

Applying for Residency

To enter programs of graduate medical education in the United States that are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), international medical graduates must hold a Standard ECFMG Certificate without expired examination dates, if applicable.

Residency Training Programs

Residency programs, usually referred to as “residencies,” provide training at institutions, such as universities, medical schools, and hospitals. Residencies provide medical specialty training at the graduate level.

ACGME Accreditation

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) is the body that accredits U.S. graduate medical education programs. The ACGME has established general requirements for all residencies as well as special requirements for each medical specialty. The ACGME accredits individual programs, not institutions.

The Graduate Medical Education Directory (GMED)

The *GMED* is published by the American Medical Association (AMA), is recognized as the official list of ACGME-accredited graduate medical education programs. *GMED* lists all accredited residency programs by specialty including: the name and location of the residency program, the size of the program, the official program number, and contact information for the residency program director. This publication may be available in your medical school’s library or you can purchase it by visiting the AMA website www.ama-assn.org or by contacting the AMA at 800-621-8335.

Number and Availability of Residency Positions

The number of positions available in any given year depends on a variety of factors, including the amount of funding available to the program and the program’s staffing needs. In recent years, more than 6,000 international medical graduates have entered U.S. programs in Post Graduate Year 1 (PGY 1) positions annually. For the 2005-2006 academic year, approximately 6,900 international medical graduates entered U.S. PGY 1 positions.

Selecting Residency Programs

Before you can begin the application process, you must select one or more medical specialties. Selecting a medical specialty is best done with the help of advisors. Detailed information on the number of positions, by specialty, offered and filled by the NRMP is available on the NRMP website at www.nrmp.org

ERAS—The Electronic Residency Application Service—is a service that transmits residency applications, letters of recommendation, MSPEs, transcripts, and other supporting credentials from applicants and medical schools to fellowship, osteopathic internship, and residency programs using the Internet.

<http://www.aamc.org/audienceeras.htm>



The National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) is a private, not-for-profit corporation established in 1952 to provide a uniform date of appointment to positions in graduate medical education (GME) in the United States. The NRMP is not an application processing service; rather, it provides an impartial venue for matching applicants' and programs' preferences for each other consistently. Each year, approximately 16,000 U.S. medical school students participate in the residency match. In addition, another 18,000 "independent" applicants compete for the approximately 25,000 available residency positions. Independent applicants include former graduates of U.S. medical schools, U.S. osteopathic students, Canadian students, and graduates of foreign medical schools. In 2008, NRMP enrolled 4,214 programs in the Match, which altogether offered 25,066 positions. A total of 35,956 applicants participated in the Match. Of those, 15,692 were 2008 graduates of accredited U.S. med schools and 20,264 were independent applicants.

Specialties Matching Service

The NRMP also conducts matches for fellowship positions in 34 sub-specialties through its Specialties Matching Service. Those positions involve further training after completion of the initial residency program and lead to certification in a specialty (i.e., cardiology). The fellowship matches are conducted throughout the year. Please verify each fellowship's respective Schedule of Dates on the website. Please contact the NRMP at 202-862-6077 or 866-617-5834 if you have any further questions

<http://www.nrmp.org/>

Important Dates for the 2008 Match:

August 15, 2007	Registration opens on the NRMP website
November 30, 2007	Registration deadline (registrations after this date are accepted with an additional late fee)
February 27, 2008	Late registration deadline, and rank order list certification deadline
March 20, 2008	Results of Match announced

Tentative Dates for the 2009 Match:

August 2008	Registration opens on the NRMP website
November 2008	Registration deadline
February 2009	Late registration deadline, and rank order list certification deadline
March 2009	Results of Match announced

For additional information, visit the NRMP website at www.nrmp.org or E-mail: nrmp@aamc.org

Additional helpful resources:

American Medical Association: <http://www.ama-assn.org/>

Career Voyages is the result of collaboration between the U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Department of Education. It is designed to provide information on high growth, high demand occupations along with the skills and education needed to attain those jobs. <http://www.careervoyages.gov/healthcare-main.cfm>

Fact sheets on refugee professional re-licensing are available from The Employment & Training Administration (ETA) and the Health and Human Services/Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/resources>



Professional Licensing Process and Access Nurses

-RN & NP-

Board of Registered Nurses (BRN)

P.O. Box 944210

Sacramento, CA 94244-2100

www.rn.ca.gov

TEL: (916) 322-3350

-LVN-

Board of Vocational Nurses and Psychiatric Technician's Examiners (BVNPT)

2535 Capital Oaks Drive Suite 205

Sacramento, CA 95833

www.bvnpt.ca.gov

TEL: (916) 322-3350

-CNA-

Department of Health Services License and Certification Programs

Aid and Technician Certification Section

1800 3rd St. #210

P.O. Box 942732

Sacramento, CA 94234

www.dhs.cahwnet.gov

TEL: (916) 327-2445

Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS)

3600 Market Street, Suite 400

Philadelphia, PA 19104-2651

www.cgfns.org

TEL: (215) 349-8767

Dentists

Dental Board of California
1432 Howe Avenue, Suite 85
Sacramento, CA 95825
Tel: (916) 263-2300
www.dbc.ca.gov

American Dental Association National Board Dental Hygiene Examination
211 E. Chicago Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611-2678
Tel: (312) 440-2500
www.ada.org

Registered Dental Assistant Committee on Dental Auxiliaries
Board of Dental Examiners
1428 Howe Avenue, Suite 58
Sacramento, CA 95825
Tel: (916) 263-2595
<http://www.comda.ca.gov>

Advanced Standing Programs for International Dentist Programs in California

- **University of Southern California**
School of Dentistry
Advanced Standing Program for International Dentists (ASPID)
925 West 34th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0641
(213) 740-2800
http://www.usc.edu/hsc/dental/academic_programs/index.htm

- **University of California, Los Angeles**
School of Dentistry
Professional Program for International Dentists (PPID)
A0-111 Center for the Health Sciences
Los Angeles, CA 90095
(310) 825-6218
<http://uclasod.dent.ucla.edu/admissions/index.asp?id=389&ph=1>

- **Loma Linda University**
School of Dentistry, International Dentist Program (IDP)
Loma Linda University
Loma Linda, CA 92350
(909) 558-4621 or (800) 422-4558
<http://www.llu.edu/llu/dentistry/idp/admnidp.html>

- **University of the Pacific**
School of Dentistry, International Dentist Studies (IDS)
2155 Webster Street
San Francisco, CA 94115
(415) 929-6400
<http://dental.pacific.edu/admissions1/IDS/admission.htm>

- **University of California San Francisco**
School of Dentistry, International Dentist Program (IDP)
707 Parnassus Avenue, Suite D-4010, Box 0636
San Francisco, CA 94143
(415) 476-1101
http://dentistry.ucsf.edu/admissions/admiss_program9.html

Psychologists

- **Board of Behavioral Sciences**
Marriage and Family Therapist
'Intern Registration Application Packet'
400 R Street, Suite 3150
Sacramento, CA 95814-6240
Tel: (916) 445-4933
www.bbs.ca.gov

- **California Board of Psychology**
1422 Howe Ave., Suite 22
Sacramento, CA 95825-3200
Tel: (916) 263-2699
www.psychboard.ca.gov

- **Additional training for Psychologists:**
National Association of Social Workers (California Chapter)
www.naswca.org/ce/ce.html

Social Workers

- **Board of Behavioral Sciences**
‘Associate Clinical Social Worker Registration Application Packet’
400 R Street, Suite 3150
Sacramento, CA 95814-6240
Tel: (916) 445-4933
Fax: (916) 323-0707
www.bbs.ca.gov/pdf/aswapp.pdf
- **Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)**
1725 Duke St., Suite 500
Alexandria, VA 22314-3457
Tel: (703) 683-8080
Fax: (703) 683-8099
www.cswe.org

Chemists / Biologists / Lab Scientists

- **National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences**
8410 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Suite 670
Chicago, IL 60631
Tel: (773) 714-8880
info@naaccls.org
<http://www.naaccls.org>

Pathologists

- **National Professional Association**
American Society for Clinical Pathology
2100 W. Harrison St.
Chicago, IL 60612
Tel: (312) 738-1336
www.ascp.org

Radiologists

- **Department of Health Services Radiology Department**
Radiologic Health Branch, MS 7610
P.O. Box 997414
Sacramento, CA 95899-7414
Tel: (916) 327.5106
www.dhs.ca.gov/rhb

Pharmacists

- **California State Board of Pharmacy**
Pharmacy Technician
400 R St., Suite 4070
Sacramento, CA 95814
Tel: (916) 445-5014
Fax: (916) 327-6308
www.pharmacy.ca.gov

- **National Association of Board of Pharmacy
Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Examination Committee (FPGEC)**
1600 Feehanville Drive
Mount Prospect, IL 60056
Tel: (847) 391-4406
www.nabp.net

Physical Therapists

- **Physical Therapy Board of California**
1418 Howe Ave., Suite 16
Sacramento, CA 95825-3204
Tel: (916) 561-8200
www.ptb.ca.gov

- **Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy**
www.fsbpt.org

- **Prometric Test Center**
www.2test.com

- **National Physical Therapy Exam**
<http://www.fsbpt.org/download/candidatehandbook.pdf>

Speech Language Pathologists or Audiologist

- **California Speech-Language-Hearing Association**
www.csha.org

- **California Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board**
REQUEST FOR: Professional Experience Packet (RPE)
1422 Howe Ave., Suite #3
Sacramento, CA 95825
Tel: (916) 263-2666, www.slpab.ca.gov

- **The Praxis Series – Educational Testing Service**
Rosedale Road
Princeton, NJ 08541
Tel: (609) 921-9000
www.ets.org

Optometrists

- **Board of Optometry**
400 R St., Suite 4090
Sacramento, CA 95814
Tel: (916) 323-8720
Fax: (916) 445-8711
www.optometry.ca.gov

- **National Board of Examiners in Optometry**
200 S. College Street, #1920
Charlotte, NC 28202
Tel: (704) 332-9565
Fax: (704) 332-9568
www.optometry.org

Dietitians

-Dietetic Technician-

- **Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR)**
120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6995
Phone: 312-899-0040 Ext. 5500
Fax: 312-899-4772
E-mail: cdr@eatright.org
www.cdrnet.org

- **Commission on Accreditation for dietetics education**
www.eatright.org/cade/intfactsheet.html

- **Accredited Dietetics Programs**
www.eatright.org/cade

Exploration of Alternative Careers

Substitute Teaching

California Basic Education Skills Test (CBEST)

National Evaluation Systems, Inc
P.O. Box 340880
Sacramento, CA 95834-0880
(916) 928-4001
www.cbest.nesinc.com

➤ Other Helpful Websites on Teaching:

California Commission on Teacher Credentialing
www.ctc.ca.gov.

Education Job Opportunities information network
www.ed-join.org

CSET information and practice tests
www.cset.nesinc.com

Updates on teacher education programs at California Community
Colleges.
www.cccteach.org

Healthcare Careers

➤ *GROSSMONT COLLEGE*

○ **CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGY**

- * Cardiac Ultrasound
- * Echocardiography
- * Cardiology Technician
- * Vascular Ultrasound
- * Electrocardiography

Coordinator: Rick Kirby

Tel: (619) 644-7303

E-mail: Rick.Kirby@gcccd.edu

○ **ORTHOPEDIC TECHNOLOGY**

Coordinator: Rick Kirby

Tel: (619) 644-7303

E-mail: Rick.Kirby@gcccd.edu

○ **RESPIRATORY THERAPY**

Coordinator: Lorenda Seibold-Phalan

Tel: (619) 644-7448

E-mail: Lorenda.Seibold-Phalan@gcccd.edu

○ **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT**

Coordinator: Christi Viciano

Tel: (619) 644-7448

E-mail: Christi.viciano@gcccd.edu

○ **SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY ASSISTANT (SLPA)**

Faculty Contact: Donna Swanson-Perrelet

Tel: (619) 644-7430

E-mail: Donna.Swanson-Perrelet@gcccd.edu



California Physician Assistant Schools

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine & Science
College of Science & Health
1731 East 120th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90059
(323) 563-5849
www.cdrewu.edu/cosh/physician_assistant/physician_assistant.htm
Email: mavalero@cdrewu.edu

University of Southern California/Keck School of
Medicine
Primary Care Physician Assistant Program
1000 S Fremont Ave
Unit 7 Bldg A6 4th Fl
Alhambra, CA 91803
(626) 457-4240
www.usc.edu/schools/medicine/education/degrees_programs/pa.html
e-mail: uscpa@usc.edu

Riverside County Regional Medical Center/
Riverside Community College
16130 Lassel Street
Moreno Valley, CA 92551
(909) 485-6135
www.rcc.edu/academicPrograms/physicianAssistant/

Samuel Merritt College
Physician Assistant Program
450 30th Street
Oakland, CA 94609
(510) 869-6623
www.samuelmerritt.edu
Email: admission@samuelmerritt.edu

Stanford University School of Medicine
Primary Care Associate Program
School of Medicine
1215 Welch Road, Modular G
Palo Alto, CA 94304-5408
(650) 725-6959
www.stanford.edu/program/pa.html
Email: pcap-information@lists.stanford.edu

Western University of Health Sciences
Primary Care Physician Assistant Program
College Plaza
309 E. Second Street
Pomona, CA 91766-1854

(909) 623-6116
www.westernu.edu/cahp/mspa_about.xml
Email: admissions@westernu.edu

University of California – Davis
Physician Assistant Program/Family Nurse Practitioner
Program
Department of Family and Community Medicine
2516 Stockton Blvd. Suite 254
Sacramento, CA 95817
(916) 734-3551
<http://fnppa.ucdavis.edu/>
Email: patty.frank@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu

Touro University at Mare Island College
Masters in Physician Assistant Studies/ MPH
Office of Admissions
1310 Johnson Ln., Mare Island
Vallejo, CA 94592
(707) 638-5200
<http://www.tumi.edu/cohs.html>
sdavis@touro.edu

San Joaquin Valley College
Primary Care Physician Assistant Program
8400 W. Mineral King Avenue
Visalia, CA 93291
(866) 544-7898
<http://www.sjvc.edu/programs/pa2.php>

Loma Linda University
Physician Assistant Program
School of Allied Health Professions
Loma Linda, CA 92350
(909) 558-7295
<http://www.llu.edu/llu/sahp/bulletin>
Email: admissions@sahp.llu.edu

Central Application Service for
Physician Assistants (CASPA)
www.caspaonline.org



Programs at SDSU

www.sdsu.edu

- **GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH**
<http://publichealth.sdsu.edu/>
DEGREE:
Public Health

- **DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELING AND SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY**
<http://edweb.sdsu.edu/csp/>
DEGREES:
Marriage and Family Therapy
School Counseling
School Psychology
Community-Based Block Program (1 Year Master's in Education with an emphasis in Counseling)

- **SDSU COLLEGE OF EXTENDED STUDIES**
<http://www.ces.sdsu.edu/>
Certificates:
Cultural & Community Trauma Studies
Healthcare Education
Gerontology
Translation & Court Interpreting
Instructional Technology
Applied Linguistics & English as a Second Language



UCSD – Extension Master’s Level Academic & Certificate Programs

www.extension.ucsd.edu/healthcare

www.extension.ucsd.edu

<http://oaped.ucsd.edu>

- **Healthcare & Behavioral Science**
UCSD Graduate Degrees for Professionals:
Master’s Degree in Clinical Research
Master’s Degree in the Leadership of Healthcare Organizations
Certificate Programs:
Healthcare Executive Leadership Program
Clinical Laboratory Scientist
Nuclear Medicine Technology
Clinical Trials
Lactation Consultant
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counseling
Fitness Instruction/Exercise Science
Specialty Courses:
Medical Practice Immersion Program
Nursing: Forensic, Re-Entry, Case Management
Lactation Educator/Counselor
Clinical Trials
- **Bioscience**
Certificate Programs:
Biotechnology Manufacturing
Regulatory Affairs for the Biomedical Industry
- **English Language Institute**
Medical English
Medical English Online
Pronunciation and Fluency
- **Education**
Specialized Certificates:
College Counseling
Community College Instruction
Adult Education Credential
Professional Certificates:
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)



Employment Opportunities

- Many IHTW's lack the skills to search, apply and interview for employment. In many countries, jobs are assigned after completing an educational program or internship. Understanding cultural differences and a good grasp of the English language are crucial for successful employment.
- Community college career centers and county One-Stop Career Centers offer free assistance with job searching, application process, interviewing skills, salary negotiation, computer basics, and much more.
- Most positions require experience or some type of certification or license. Even so, after completion of professional credential's revalidation some of our participants have applied for positions such as, Health Program Educator, Case Manager, Teacher, Research Associate, Health Program Coordinator, or Outreach Worker/Promotora. Your case manager will help you determine whether you may be qualified to apply for some of these positions.
- Volunteer opportunities can also help the ITHW become exposed to the healthcare setting and understand cultural norms around patient provider communication. Talk to your case manager about volunteer opportunities.



Local Hospital Sites & Clinic Websites

Alvaro Hospital Medical Center	www.alvaradohospital.com
Children's Hospital & Health Center	www.chsd.org
Fallbrook Hospital District	www.kindredhealthcare.com
Kaiser Permanente Medical Center	www.kaiserpermanentejobs.org
Naval Medical Center San Diego	www.nmcscd.ed.navy.mil
Palomar Medical Center	www.pphcareers.org
Paradise Valley Hospital	www.paradisevalley.org
Pomerado Hospital	www.pphcareers.org
San Diego Health Centers	www.sdhospiice.org
Scripps Green Hospital - La Jolla	www.scrippshealth.org
Scripps Memorial Hospital - Chula Vista	www.scrippshealth.org
Scripps Mercy Hospital - Encinitas	www.scrippshealth.org
Scripps Mercy Hospital - La Jolla	www.scrippshealth.org
Scripps Mercy Hospital	www.scrippshealth.org
Sharp Cabrillo Hospital	www.scrippshealth.org
Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center	www.sharp.com
Sharp Coronado Hospital	www.sharp.com
Sharp Mary Birch Hospital	www.sharp.com
Sharp Memorial Hospital	www.sharp.com
Sharp Mesa Vista	www.sharp.com
Tri-City Medical Center	www.tri-citymed.com
UCSD Thornton Hospital - Hillcrest	www.health.ucsd.edu
UCSD Thornton Hospital - La Jolla	www.healthcusd.edu
UCSD Veterans Affairs - La Jolla	www.health.cusd.edu
San Ysidro Health Centers	www.syhc.org

Health Jobs Search Engines

Health Careerweb.com	www.healthcareerweb.com
Health Care Job Store	www.healthcarejobstore.com
HireHealth.com	www.hirehealt.com
Other	www.simplyhired.com

Research jobs

Scripps Clinic Research Institute	www.scripps.edu/e_index.html
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Biotechnology Jobs

San Diego Biotechnology Education Consortium	www.sdbiotechcareers.org
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One- Stop Career Center San Diego Workforce Partnership

<http://www.sandiegomatwork.com/>

The San Diego Workforce Partnership provides employment related services to local businesses and job seekers through a network of countywide One Stop Career Centers. Businesses look to the Workforce Partnership for skilled employees, expertise in job training and supportive services. Job seekers, both adult and youth, look to us for referral to and placement in high quality jobs, education, and training programs.

OUR VISION:

To be the leader and primary voice for workforce issues, both regionally and nationally.

OUR MISSION:

To lead the development and implementation of creative solutions to regional workforce issues, and fuel economic growth and prosperity through research, community engagement, and innovative collaborations and partnerships.

East County Career Center

924 E. Main Street
El Cajon, CA 92021
619-590-3900

Orientation: Monday – Friday, 1:30 pm. Orientation lasts about one hour and tour of the Career Center is provided. Please arrive 10 minutes early.

Metro Career Center –

3910 University Avenue
San Diego, CA 92105
619-516-2200

Orientation: Tuesdays 9 am, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays – 5:30 pm.
Orientation lasts about one hour; a tour of the Center, training information and scheduling of eligibility appointments are provided