
National Interest Waiver Program



BACKGROUND

The program allows for foreign physicians with exceptional ability and members of the professional holding, advanced degrees to request a waiver of the job offer and labor certification requirement as administered by the Department of Labor.

A letter of attestation from a federal agency or state health department, is needed in support of the physician requesting a National Interest Waiver.

This program is one path to achieving permanent residency.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Foreign primary care or specialty physicians with a current PA Medical License may apply.

HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

The employer submits a formal application, which includes information about the physician, practice site and sponsor. The physician must agree to work full-time in a clinical practice located in a Health professional Shortage Area (HPSA), Medically Underserved Area (MUA) or Medically Underserved Population for a total of 5 years.

Completion of a Conrad 30 waiver may count towards the five years of service, as long as the practice site was located in a underserved location.

WHO DOES THE PROGRAM IMPACT?

Persons or population groups living in health professional shortage areas (HPSA) or medically Underserved areas (MUA) who are unable by reasons of poverty or other circumstances to obtain access to a physician.

To recruit and retain primary care physicians within designated shortage areas of the Commonwealth who are engaged in providing service to the underserved residents of their area.

RESOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION

Physician Visa Waiver Program

Pennsylvania Department of Health – Primary Care Office

(717) 772-5298 E-mail: waiverprograms@pa.gov Website: WaiverPrograms