

ECFMG CERTIFICATION

The [Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates \(ECFMG\)](#), through its program of certification, assesses whether international medical graduates are ready to enter residency or fellowship programs in the United States.

An international medical graduate is a physician who received his/her basic medical degree or qualification from a medical school located outside the United States and Canada. To be eligible for ECFMG Certification, the physician's medical school and graduation year must be listed in the International Medical Education Directory (IMED) of the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER).

Citizens of the United States who have completed their medical education in schools outside the United States and Canada are considered international medical graduates; non-U.S. citizens who have graduated from medical schools in the United States and Canada are not considered international medical graduates.

ECFMG Certification assures that international medical graduates have met minimum standards of eligibility required to enter Graduate Medical Education programs. ECFMG Certification does not, however, guarantee acceptance into programs.

ECFMG Certification is one of the eligibility requirements for international medical graduates to take Step 3 of the three-step United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE). Medical licensing authorities in the United States require ECFMG Certification, among other requirements, to obtain an unrestricted license to practice medicine.

The ECFMG Information Booklet should be consulted for certification requirements, examination requirements, medical education credentials etc.

[Fifth Pathway](#) graduates are not required to have an ECFMG certificate.

Non United States citizens (including Canadian citizens) will need an appropriate employment authorization/visa status to participate in all University of Connecticut School of Medicine residency/fellowship programs.