

J-1 VISA WAIVER PROGRAM NATIONAL INTEREST WAIVER PROGRAM



The J-1 Visa Waiver Program improves the accessibility of health care in underserved areas by supporting J-1 Visa Waiver requests on behalf of J-1 physicians willing to practice in medically underserved areas.

The federal National Interest Waiver (NIW) Program allows certain foreign workers including foreign physicians (MDs) with advanced degrees or exceptional abilities to work in the United States.

Provider Eligibility

- Have an offer of full time employment at 40 hours per week at an eligible service site
- Serve a 3 year minimum obligation (J-1 Visa Waiver), two additional years (NIW)
- Provide primary care or specialty services in an approved site
- Have an AZ license or eligible for an AZ license

Eligible Disciplines

MDs with primary care discipline (Internal Medicine, Family or General Practice, Pediatrics, OB/GYN or Psychiatry) or specialists

Service Site Eligibility

- Located in a designated Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) or Medically Underserved Area/Population (MUA/MUP)
- Accept Medicare and Medicaid (AHCCCS)
- Have a non-discriminatory policy in the provision of health services
- Implement a Sliding Fee Scale, Policy, Notice of Discount
- Demonstrate unsuccessful recruitment efforts of a US citizen physician
- Must be operational and providing care for at least six months as of the date of the

J-1 Visa Waiver and NIW Program Policies

- Thirty (30) slots are available per year. Preference points
- are used if more applications are received than slots available.
- Annual application cycle is from October 1st through September 30th

ADHS will ONLY consider requests for NIW support from Arizona J-1 physicians meeting the following conditions:

Practiced full-time at an eligible service site (within designated HPSA/MUA) for at least one year immediately preceding the request for an NIW support and will continue to practice in the same or similar setting to a total aggregate of 5 years (including J-1 Visa Waiver obligation)

ADHS' application review takes about 8 to 12 weeks.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

