NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

INTERNATIONALLY-TRAINED PHYSICIAN EMPLOYEE (ITPE) LICENSURE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The Internationally-Trained Physician Employee License (ITPE) is for individuals who have obtained medical education and postgraduate training outside the United States. You are eligible for an ITPE application if you meet the following qualifications:

- The Internationally-Trained Physician Employee License (ITPE) is for individuals who have obtained medical education and post-graduate training outside the United States and who have been offered employment by qualifying employers in North Carolina. You are eligible for an ITPE application if you submit satisfactory documentation verifying the following:
- Must have an offer of full-time employment from an NC-licensed hospital or a rural medical practice with an on-site NC-licensed physician.
- Must have a license to practice medicine in a foreign country that is currently active and in good standing or expired in good standing no more than five years from submission of application.
- Must have completed all the steps to be eligible for ECFMG certification. This includes having your medical school verified by the ECFMG, passing both USMLE Step 1 and Step 2, demonstrating English proficiency, and completing any additional assessments required under your selected Pathway within the time frame set by the ECFMG. ECFMG certification is not required, but it will expedite the application process.
- Must have completed two years of postgraduate training in a graduate medical education program approved by the applicant's country of licensure or have a minimum of 10 years of practicing medicine after graduation.
- Must demonstrate additional competency, which may be done by various means, including passing Step 3 of the USMLE within three attempts, providing proof of board certification, passing an examination that is considered comparable to the USMLE and recognized by certain established international regulatory medical boards, or submitting a plan to demonstrate additional competency through an assessment that is approved by the Board. 0-1 Visa holders may request a waiver to this requirement, but must pass a designated exam within one year.
- Must have practiced medicine for at least 5 years (does not include postgraduate training).
- Must have no disciplinary actions or pending investigations in any jurisdiction, and no criminal convictions.

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