

Project Vida Health Center  
Community Psychiatry Residency  
Graduate Medical Education Policies and Procedures

**J1 Visa Policy**

APPROVED: 11/1/2023

EFFECTIVE DATE: 11//1/2023

REVISED:

Purpose: To facilitate the recruitment and engagement of international medical graduates (IMGs) as residents within our healthcare institution. The policy is designed to ensure compliance with the regulations established by the U.S. Department of State and the Exchange Visitor Program (EVP) while also recognizing the immense value that international residents bring to our medical education and patient care programs.

Policy:

Project Vida Health Center is committed to providing exceptional graduate medical education opportunities to international medical graduates who seek to advance their training and skills in the United States. To facilitate this mission, Project Vida Health Center supports the exchange of medical professionals on J-1 visas for residency training programs.

Policy Guidelines:

1. Eligibility for J-1 Visa Sponsorship:

International medical graduates are eligible for J-1 visa sponsorship by Project Vida Health Center if they meet the following criteria:

- a. Successful acceptance into a residency training program at Project Vida Health Center.
- b. Compliance with the eligibility criteria set by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG).

2. Application Process:

- a. International medical graduates must apply through the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) and be eligible for the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP).

b. If selected for a residency program at Project Vida Health Center, the candidate must work with the institution's designated Training Program Liaison (TPL) to initiate and complete the J-1 visa application process, including Form DS-2019 issuance.

3. Duration of J-1 Visa:

a. The J-1 visa sponsorship will be granted for the duration of the residency program, as specified in the Graduate Medical Education Agreement.

4. Support and Responsibilities:

a. Project Vida Health Center will provide support and guidance to J-1 visa holders throughout their training.

b. J-1 visa holders are responsible for maintaining valid visa status, including compliance with any reporting requirements stipulated by the U.S. government.

c. Project Vida Health Center may require J-1 visa holders to return to their home countries for a period of time, as necessary, to fulfill the "two-year home country physical presence requirement" in accordance with federal regulations.

5. Compliance and Monitoring:

a. Project Vida Health Center will maintain strict compliance with all regulations and reporting requirements established by the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

b. The institution will monitor the progress and well-being of J-1 visa holders throughout their training period.

Review and Updates:

This policy will be reviewed as needed to ensure compliance with any changes in U.S. immigration regulations and to address any concerns or recommendations from J-1 visa holders.

Project Vida Health Center is committed to fostering a welcoming and supportive environment for international medical graduates who choose to undertake their graduate medical education through J-1 visa sponsorship. This policy reflects our dedication to excellence in medical education, cultural exchange, and adherence to U.S. immigration laws.