

VISA SPONSORSHIP – WORK PERMITS FOR HOUSE STAFF

The amount of time required to obtain visas is unpredictable but can be significant, so all incoming house staff should promptly begin the process to apply for a new visa or transfer a current visa.

J-1 Exchange Visitor Visa - The J-1 has been the visa most commonly held by international medical graduates (IMGs) engaged in residency training in the United States. The Graduate Medical Education Office of St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital is responsible for the processing of J-1 visa applications for physicians participating in clinical training programs. If you have been identified as an individual who is going to receive J1 visa sponsorship, we had enclosed a pre-filled form with your contract. Processing time for sponsorship applications may take up to 10 weeks. For more information about the J-1 visa process, go to <http://www.ecfm.org/>

Please complete the application, attach all required documentation and send to the ECFMG directly. Any missing information will delay the processing significantly, so please make sure your application is complete.

H1-B Temporary Worker Visas

Under certain circumstances, SLRHC may sponsor IMGs for H1-B visas for the purpose of receiving graduate medical education training. For H1-B sponsorship, the Graduate Medical Education Office is the only department at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital authorized to sponsor IMG physicians participating in clinical training programs. If you are expecting to receive this sponsorship, please make sure that your program director or program coordinator has notified the GME Office.

The only candidates who will be considered for H1-B sponsorship must be categorical candidates entering a training program of at least 2 years in length, who are (1) ECFMG certified and (2) must have ALSO passed and received their USMLE step 3 by the time of the MATCH.

All sponsored candidates for H1-B visas must use the services of the lawyer associated with SLRHC.

Other Work Permits – If you are expecting to receive a work permit by means other than the J-1 or H1-B visas, please review the circumstances with your program director or coordinator who should communicate this information to the GME Office.