

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

IDAHO CONRAD J-1 VISA WAIVER PROGRAM



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Idaho Conrad J-1 Visa Waiver Program (J-1 Program) allows qualifying Idaho healthcare facilities to apply for the placement of a foreign trained physician as a recruitment option of last resort. The J-1 Program authorizes the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) to recommend up to 30 foreign trained physicians, per federal fiscal year, to the U.S. Department of State for a J-1 Visa Waiver. While the primary focus of the J-1 Program is to place primary care physicians in shortage areas, Specialist Physician Waivers and non-shortage area Flex Waiver requests may be considered. Please contact the Bureau of Rural Health & Primary Care with questions at (208) 334-0669 or ruralhealth@dhw.idaho.gov. Please review Idaho Statute, Title 39, Chapter 61 in its entirety.

FLEX WAIVER

Qualifying Idaho healthcare facilities not located in a federally designated shortage area (e.g., health professional shortage area (HPSA), medically underserved area/populations (MUA/MUP)) may submit a Flex Waiver application for a primary care or specialist physician beginning April 1st. Flex Waiver applications will be limited to 10 annually, and will only become available if slots are not utilized during the first six months of the federal fiscal year. No more than 5 of the 10 Flex waiver slots can go to specialist physicians.

SPECIALIST PHYSICIAN WAIVER

From October 1 through September 30 (federal fiscal year) the DHW may grant no more than 10 Specialist Physician Waiver requests for qualifying Idaho healthcare facilities located in federally designated shortage areas. If any of the 30 annually allotted waiver slots remain unfilled on April 1, no more than 10 Flex Waiver slots will become available to qualifying Idaho healthcare facilities not located in federally designated shortage areas. No more than 5 of the 10 Flex Waiver slots can go to specialists.

APPLICATION CYCLE

Application Cycle: October - September

Beginning October 1, thirty (30) shortage designation waiver slots available (10 available to specialists).

Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
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Flex Waivers Available: April - September

Beginning April 1, if unfilled slots remain, a maximum of ten (10) slots will be opened to non-shortage designation, Flex waiver applicants (5 available to specialists).

REQUIRED APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

All applicants should use the *Application Checklist* when preparing an application to ensure documents are submitted in the required order. The following table outlines which appendices are required for the application based on physician specialty (see Idaho Statute, 39-6105) and practice site location.

Document	Title	Required of:
Appendix A	Agreement with Section 214(l) of the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act	All Applicants
Appendix B	Single Waiver Request Attestation	All Applicants
Appendix C	Statement of Attestation, Agreement and Compliance of Applicant Employer	All Applicants
Appendix D	Specialist Physician Waiver	Applicants seeking a specialty physician as defined in Idaho Statute, 39-6105.
Appendix E	Flex Waiver	Applicant practice site is not located in a federally designated shortage area.