VIRGINIA

CONRAD 30

Office of Health Equity
VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

WAIVER PROGRAM

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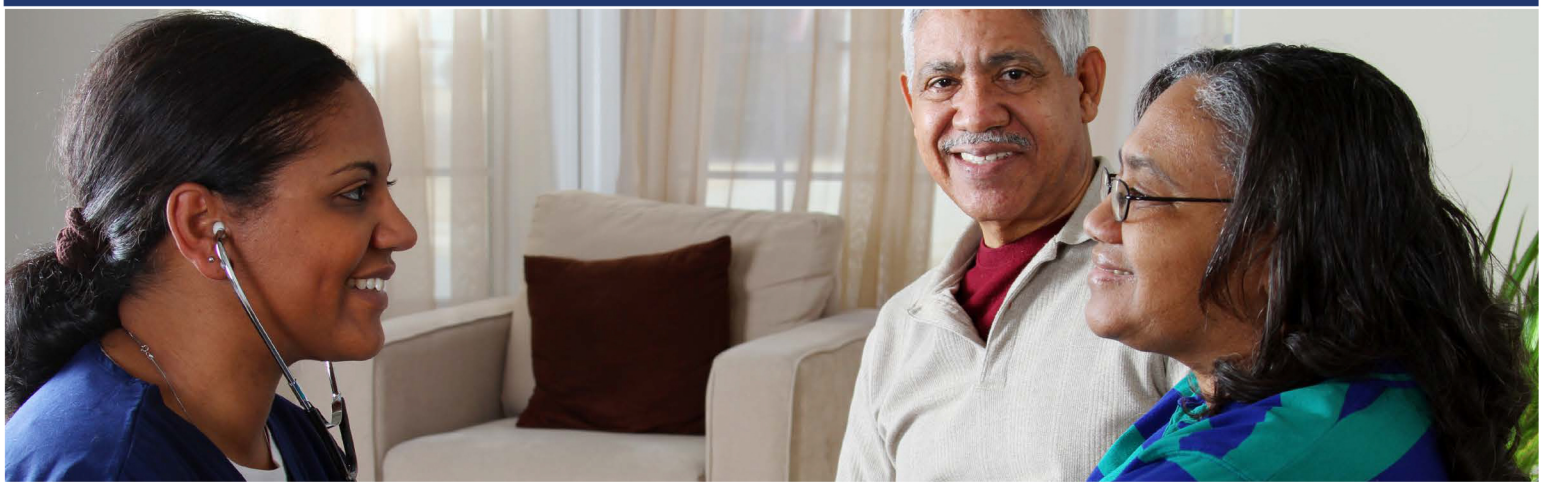

The Virginia Conrad 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program agrees to waive the "two-year home country physical presence requirement" by sponsoring J-1 Physicians who agree to serve in designated shortage areas of the Commonwealth.

This national physicians exchange agreement is for a three-year service obligation in a health professional shortage area (HPSA) or medically underserved area (MUA) in Virginia.

This program accepts primary care and some specialty disciplines in its eligibility requirements.

Criteria

Full eligibility criteria may be found on the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Office of Health Equity (OHE) website at: www.bit.ly/2q9S7vh

The program has a limited number of 30 available slots each year. Recommendation is given to:

- Physicians trained in the following eligible disciplines: family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology and general psychiatry.
- Eligible non-primary care physicians who fill a documented community health care need.
- Eligible J-1 Physicians being recruited for Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) and Medically Underserved Areas (MUAs).

Federal law requires International Medical Graduates (IMGs) who are not U.S. citizens to apply for the J-1 visa, which allows IMGs to remain in the U.S. until they complete their studies.

Under certain circumstances, the "two-year home country physical presence requirement" can be waived.

Application

After eligibility is determined, by the United States Department of State, submit your application to VDH. See guidelines here on how to apply: https://bit.ly/2QjUf35.

Other Considerations

1. Another J-1 Visa Waiver Program option with an unlimited number of available slots is available in Virginia for J-1 Physicians practicing in a locality within the Appalachian Region Commission (ARC).
2. Federal National Interest Waiver, a five year clinical service obligation in a HPSA. To verify eligibility and apply for the ARC J-1 Visa Waiver Program, please visit the ARC: www.arc.gov/j1visawaiver

The application cycle begins September 1 and closes August 31 of each year.

Please send questions to: olivette.burroughs@vdh.virginia.gov or call 804-864-7435.