



# MICHIGAN CONRAD 30 J-1 VISA WAIVER PROGRAM

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
FY2021 APPLICATION CYCLE

# Begin the Application Process

- ▶ Applications will become available after June 1, 2020 on the MDHHS website at [www.michigan.gov/conrad30](http://www.michigan.gov/conrad30)
- ▶ Download Application Guidelines and Checklist
- ▶ Applications will be accepted from September 1, 2020 until November 2, 2020
- ▶ Postings for positions eligible for J-1 Visa Waiver sponsorship in Michigan:
  - ▶ **Medical Opportunities in Michigan**
    - ▶ <https://acemapp.org>
  - ▶ **National Rural Recruitment & Retention Network**
    - ▶ <https://www.3rnet.org/locations/michigan>

# Program Preference/Priority Criteria

- ▶ **Primary Care Providers:**

- ▶ Family Medicine, Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics/Gynecology, and Psychiatry

- ▶ **Safety Net Providers:**

- ▶ County Health Departments, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Community Mental Health Centers, Free Clinics, Critical Access Hospitals and Associated Clinics, State Correction and Psychiatric Facilities and Certified Rural Health Clinics

- ▶ **Health Professional Shortage Areas and Medically Underserved Areas/Populations:**

- ▶ Visit the HRSA Data Warehouse site at: <https://datawarehouse.hrsa.gov/tools/analyzers/geo/ShortageArea.aspx> to determine whether your site is a designated worksite.

# Hospitalists and Specialist

- ▶ Hospitalist/Specialist must fill out a form which demonstrates the physician specialty is needed. Please address one of the following need criteria:
  1. To address a major health problem in the work site service area.
  2. To address population-to-physician ratio because the current ratio does not meet national standards.
  3. To meet state or federal health care facility regulation, for example to maintain the hospital trauma designation level.
  
- ▶ Note: there is a 300 word maximum for each response
  - ▶ Reference p. 3 in the guidelines

# Non-HPSA and MUA/P (FLEX)

- ▶ Physicians who will be working at facilities located in a non-HPSA and MUA/P must demonstrate a need by addressing **all** of the following:
  1. Provide a summary of data describing a minimum of 30% of the employer's current patient base resides in a neighboring HSPA or MUA/P.
  2. Provide a summary of data the facility serves a disproportionate share of Medicaid beneficiaries, uninsured and/or underinsured recipients.
  3. If this service is not available in the community, identify the nearest location where this service can be obtained.
  
- ▶ Note: there is a 300 word maximum for each response
  - ▶ Reference p. 3 in the guidelines

# Additional Documentation

- ▶ Be sure to include in your application packet:
  - ▶ Print out report of HPSA and/or MUA/P designated area for each worksite location. Go to the HRSA website at <https://datawarehouse.hrsa.gov/tools/analyzers/geo/ShortageArea.aspx> to search shortage areas by address.
  - ▶ Print out report of Urban and Rural designation worksite locations.
    - ▶ Go to the Rural Health Information Hub at <https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/am-i-rural> to determine if worksite location is urban or rural.
  - ▶ For Certified Rural Health Clinics (CHRC), Contact Rachel Ruddock, Michigan Center for Rural Health at 517-335-7758 or [Rachel.Ruddock@hc.msu.edu](mailto:Rachel.Ruddock@hc.msu.edu) to obtain written verification that the worksite is a CRHC and include documentation in application packet.

# Determination of Recommendations

- ▶ Priority is given to applicants who meet the program preference/priority criteria.
- ▶ Specialist and Hospitalist applications which demonstrate a defined need for their services and who meet program goals are then selected.
- ▶ Remaining slots are filled with applications that most closely meet the program's goals.

***Sponsorship determinations are based on priority criteria and merit and are not approved on a 'first come, first serve' basis***

# US Exchange Visitor Program

- ▶ The US Exchange Visitor Program is a J-1 visa waiver program managed by the US Department of Health and Human Services.
- ▶ Primary care physicians working in a HPSA with a score of 7 or higher may be eligible for this program.
- ▶ There is no cap on how many J-1 waiver physicians this program can sponsor, unlike the Conrad 30 program.
- ▶ All eligible Conrad 30 applicants will be transferred to this program, in order to maximize program potential.
- ▶ More information can be found at [our website](#).

# General Timeline for Conrad 30 Program

Spring/Summer 2020

Spring/Summer 2021

J-1  
Candidates  
2020 (grads)  
begin  
interviewing  
and secure  
an  
employment  
contract

Applications  
become  
available for  
FY20 Waiver  
Cycle

Employers,  
J-1  
physicians  
and  
(possibly  
attorney)  
complete  
Conrad 30  
application  
packet

Packets are  
submitted to  
Michigan  
Department of  
Health and  
Human  
Services for  
sponsorship  
determinations

Sponsored  
applications  
are  
forwarded  
to the Feds  
(USDOS) for  
review and  
approval

USDOS  
forwards  
approved  
applications  
to USCIS for  
final  
approval

USCIS  
grants  
waiver  
and  
notifies  
applicant

J-1  
candidate  
completes  
training  
program  
and  
begins  
work with  
approved  
employer



# Reminders

- Begin searching for medical opportunities for J-1 Visa Waiver sponsorship as early as possible
- Applications will be available after June 1, 2020
  - Review Application Guidelines and Checklist to ensure application is complete
- Applications will be accepted between September 1, 2020 through November 2, 2020
- Postings for positions eligible for J-1 Waiver sponsorship in Michigan:
  - Medical Opportunities in Michigan
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  - National Rural Recruitment & Retention Network
    - <https://www.3rnet.org/locations/michigan>

# Questions

Contact

**Michigan Department of Health and Human Services**

with any question or concerns

Email or Call Megan Linton at

[LintonM3@michigan.gov](mailto:LintonM3@michigan.gov)

517-335-6713