

## Resident and Fellow Visa Sponsorship Policy

**Approved/Effective Date: November 21, 2017**

Applicants to the Psychiatry Residency Program, who are not US citizens, are eligible for H-1B and J-1 visas.

1. Matched applicants will be eligible for **J-1 visa** sponsored by ECFMG. Residents must work with the residency office to submit all required documentation in a timely fashion. Because ECFMG is the J-1 sponsor, applicants will need to confirm the duration of the DS-2019 issuance to determine the frequency of required renewal of their J-1 visa. Specific timelines for submitting required application documentation can be found on the ECFMG website.
2. Matched applicants will be eligible for an **H-1B visa** sponsored by Yale University under the following circumstances:
  - The applicant **MUST** have successfully completed all 3 steps of the USMLE exams by the date of the Match.
  - The applicant works efficiently with the residency office to complete paperwork. Processing times are three to six months even with the expedited process.
  - The resident cannot change any terms of employment or receive any money from other sources.
  - The following fees will be paid by the Department:
    - a. Petition filing fee
    - b. Antifraud fee
    - c. Expedited processing fee for initial application (not applicable to transferring residents or to fellows due to the 240 day grace period)
3. Residents who are transferring into the Residency Program or are entering a fellowship on an H-1B visa will be able to continue H-1B status. Individuals who are entering the Residency Program or entering a fellowship on a J-1 visa will be able to continue on a J-1 visa.
4. Residents who are not US citizens, but are graduating from a US medical school may qualify for a **F-1 OPT visa**. This allows the individual to secure an additional year in the US prior to applying for a J-1 visa or H-1B visa. Individuals need to apply for this visa through their medical school prior to the Match. To be eligible for H-1B, the resident must have completed and passed Step 3 by March 15<sup>th</sup> of their PG-1 year.