

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN MEDICINE

POLICY 91-03

BOARD PROCEDURE REGARDING
REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF 243 CMR 2.03(1)(b):
APPLICANTS FOR POST-GRADUATE TRAINING/LIMITED LICENSURE

In situations where a limited license applicant cannot comply with 243 CMR 2.03(1)(b), requiring substantial equivalency of medical school education, the applicant must submit a waiver request pursuant to 243 CMR 2.03(4).

In order for the Board to grant such a waiver request, section 2.03(4), incorporating by reference G.L. c. 112, § 2, requires that the Board determine that the applicant's course of medical school education is substantially equivalent, in its entirety, to a U.S. medical school graduate's education. In addition, the Board must determine that licensure of this applicant would not impair the public health, safety and welfare. It is the applicant's responsibility to demonstrate that s/he is qualified under both of the above-mentioned standards.

The Licensing Committee will review each such application on a case-by-case basis. The assessment and determination of the applicant's equivalency of complete medical education and eligibility for training in Massachusetts may include, but not be limited to, the following factors:

1. Quality of basic science education
2. Quality of clinical clerkship experience (evaluations required)
3. Number of years and quality of post-graduate training (evaluations required)
4. Licensure in other states
5. Other distinctions; honors, awards, publications, Board certification
6. Nature and quality of anticipated training program, including degree and quality of supervision
7. Licensing Committee recommendation from personal interview with applicant (interview to include but not limited to inquiry regarding the applicant's education, professional commitment, and assessment of communication skills)
8. Foreign Medical Graduate Examination in the Medical Sciences (FMGEMS), Federation of State Medical Boards Licensing Exam (FLEX), or United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) results.

The Licensing Committee will evaluate the application with attention to these factors, as well as any other relevant information, and in its discretion recommend approval or denial of the license application to the full Board.

If the Board approves the limited license application, the applicant should be aware that granting of a waiver for limited licensure is not equivalent to a determination that an applicant's full license application waiver request will be granted; there are separate and independent guidelines for evaluation of waiver requests pursuant to a full licensure application.