

Continuation of Sponsorship to Sit for an ABMS Member Board Examination



Application Processing Instructions

Following completion of clinical training, Intealth-sponsored J-1 physicians may apply for a sponsorship extension if registered to take an examination for initial board certification administered by a Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS). If approved, sponsorship to sit for an ABMS Member Board examination extends from the expiration date of the most recent training Form DS-2019 to the last day of the month in which the exam is given, not to exceed a six-month period. Intealth sponsorship cannot be extended for examinations administered by other boards or organizations (e.g., specialty societies).

There is no employment and/or training authorization associated with a sponsorship extension to sit for an ABMS Member Board examination. Therefore, individuals approved for a board extension cannot continue to train or engage in any work activity, paid or unpaid. The checklist below outlines the basic documentation and fee required to apply to EVSP for sponsorship to sit for an ABMS Member Board examination. EVSP generally reserves **four to six weeks** from application submission for review and processing. There is a minimum required set of documents that must be uploaded before an application for sponsorship can be submitted via MyIntealth. These documents are noted below; other documents that may be required are noted farther down. Applicants should retain a copy of all uploaded materials.

Applicants will be notified by email to log in to their MyIntealth account to view any application deficiencies and/or requests for additional documentation. If the application is approved, the Form DS-2019, *Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor (J-1) Visa Status*, will be made available in MyIntealth.

STEPS IN THE APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process requires completion of the following steps:

1. J-1 physician applicant initiates an online board extension application through MyIntealth
2. Applicant uploads supporting documentation in support of the board application
3. Applicant pays the \$370 administrative/application fee through MyIntealth

Documentation Required of Continuing Applicants (ABMS Member Board exam)

PROOF OF REGISTRATION FOR EXAMINATION*
The applicant must document registration for an ABMS Member Board examination. This must be the actual exam registration, not the payment receipt.

FORM I-644, SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT FOR GRADUATE MEDICAL TRAINEES*
The applicant must complete and sign Part 1; the program director or director of graduate medical education of the *most recent* host program must complete and sign Part 2 of the form. <https://www.ecfm.org/evsp/i-644form.pdf>

FORM I-94 (arrival/departure record)*
A recent copy of the applicant's latest Form I-94 (not travel history) documenting admission to the United States in J-1 status valid for "Duration of Status - D/S" must be submitted. Copies of electronically issued Form I-94 can be printed from <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/>. The print-out must include the date it was printed and cannot be older than 30 days prior to application submission. Note that Form I-94 also may be attached to Form I-797, Notice of Action, issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

DOCUMENTATION OF FUNDING*
Because there is no training or employment authorization during an extension to sit for a board examination, the applicant must document that s/he has adequate personal funds available. Minimum funding levels are \$1,600 per month for the exchange visitor physician, \$600 per month for a J-2 spouse, and \$400 per month per child (any status). Submission of a letter signed by a bank official or a copy of a bank statement confirming the (self) funding amount specified in the on-line application is acceptable. The funds must be in the applicant's name and readily accessible, i.e., in a checking or savings account. Funds in a CD, investment, or retirement account are not acceptable. Foreign currency amounts must also include U.S. dollar equivalent. **IMPORTANT:** Letters and/or statements issued by a bank should *not* show personal account information such as account number or other personal identifier.

* Document type required to submit an application within MyIntealth.

Board Extensions Over Seven Years

If the proposed board extension will extend the applicant's total duration of Intealth sponsorship beyond the regulatory maximum duration of seven years, the following additional documentation is required. Note that any request for an extension of sponsorship beyond seven years requires review and approval from both Intealth and the U.S. Department of State. Additionally, the extension request must be submitted to Intealth **prior to the applicant attaining the end of their seven-year sponsorship period.**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (DoS) FEE OF \$367

The \$367 DoS review fee is separate from and required in addition to all Intealth fees. The DoS fee should be paid through MyIntealth. Intealth will, in turn, submit payment to DoS on behalf of the applicant.