

VISAS

Prospective ACGME residents and fellows, who are graduates of foreign medical schools and are not permanent U.S. residents, must be willing to work on a J-1 visa and must maintain their J-1 visa status while training at UT. J-1 visa holders are not permitted in non-ACGME accredited or non-standard training programs at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

Residents and fellows may work on an H-1B visa with approval from the respective Department Chair and the Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education (GME). Programs must obtain written approval from the Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education prior to ranking or offering a position to any individual requiring a visa other than a J-1. If the H-1B visa request is associated with an outside of match request, then the program must follow the instructions outlined in the [Outside Match Appointments](#) (#112) policy. Programs must review the immigration regulations applicable to H1-B visas that are delineated on the UT Health Science Center's Office of International Affairs website: [Immigration Regulations | Office of International Affairs | UTHSC](#). The final decision for exceptions to this policy resides with the Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education.

Residents on an H-1B visa who are currently training in an ACGME-accredited program at UT may continue their subspecialty training in an existing ACGME-accredited program at UT without seeking approval from the GME office. If an exception is granted for an H-1B visa, the department must pay all applicable fees. The resident/fellow may not pay the fees, and GME Support Funds may not be used. Revocation of visa status will result in the immediate termination of employment at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.