

TITLE 3: HUMAN RESOURCES
DIVISION 2: HEALTH

§ 2242. General Provisions; Definitions.

As used in the provisions of this article unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in each part have the meanings ascribed to them in those parts. In addition, the following definitions apply:

(a) “ACGME” is the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and is the council in charge of accrediting internship, residency, or fellowship training programs in the U.S.

(b) “Continuing Medical Education (CME)” shall mean U.S. Category 1 educational activities which serve to maintain, develop, or increase the knowledge, skills, and professional performance and relationships that a physician uses to provide services for patients, the public, or the profession.

(c) “Doctor” including “Dr.,” “D.O.,” “MD” means a physician but does not otherwise mean a person granted the highest degree of a university, typically a Doctor of Philosophy, or “Ph.D.,” which is not intended to address the practice of medicine.

(d) “ECFMG is the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, and through its certification program, assesses the readiness of international medical graduates to enter into residency or fellowship program in the U.S. that are accredited by the ACGME. Medical licensing authorities in the U.S. and its territories require ECFMG certification, among other requirements, to obtain an unrestricted license to practice medicine.

(e) “Federal Licensing Examination (FLEX)” is an examination prepared and issued by the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States. The FLEX includes three (3) parts: the basic science, the clinical science, and the clinical competency average.

(f) “Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB)” is a national non-profit organization representing the 70 medical boards of the U.S. and its territories. The FSMB’s mission is to continuously improve the quality, safety, and integrity of health care through developing and promoting high standards for physician licensure and practice.

(g) “Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER)” – FAIMER is a non-profit foundation committed to improving world health through education. It was established by ECFMG to promote excellence in international health professions education through programmatic and research activities.

(h) “Foreign-licensed physician” is a physician who received his/her medical education outside of the U.S. or Canada and who is ineligible for licensure in the U.S. or has no active and unrestricted U.S. license, but holds an active and unrestricted license from a medical licensing authority of a foreign country.

(i) “Foreign or International Medical Graduate (IMG)” means a graduate of a medical school located outside of any U.S. state or territory, or Canada and recognized and officially listed by the World Health Organization.

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(j) “International Medical Education Directory (IMED)” - provides an accurate and up-to-date resource of information about international medical schools that are recognized by the appropriate government agency in the countries where the medical schools are located. A medical school is listed in IMED after FAIMER receives confirmation from the Ministry of Health or other appropriate agency that the medical school is recognized by the Ministry or other agency. FAIMER also updates the International Medical Education Directory as information about medical schools is received from Ministries of Health or other appropriate agencies.

(k) “National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME)” - is an independent, not-for-profit organization that provides high quality examinations for the health professions.

(l) “Practice of Medicine” means:

(1) Holding out one’s self to the public as being able to diagnose, treat, prescribe for, palliate, or prevent any human disease, ailment, injury, deformity, or physical or mental condition, whether by the use of drugs, surgery, manipulation, electricity, or any physical, mechanical, or other means whatsoever;

(2) Suggesting, recommending, prescribing, or administering any form of treatment, operation, or healing for the intended palliation, relief, or cure or any physical or mental disease, ailment, injury, condition, or defect of any person with the intention of receiving, either directly or indirectly, any fee, gift, or compensation whatsoever;

(3) The maintenance of an office or other place to meet persons for the purpose of examining or treating persons afflicted with disease, injury, or defect of body or mind;

(4) Using the title “Doctor,” “Doctor of Medicine,” “Doctor of Osteopathic,” “Physician,” “Surgeon,” “Dr.,” “M.D.,” “D.O.,” or any word or abbreviation to indicate or induce others to believe that one is engaged in the practice of medicine as defined hereon;

(5) Performing any kind of surgical operation upon a human being.

(m) “Postgraduate Training” as used herein, means satisfactory medical training after earning a medical degree at an accredited program, including internship, residency and fellowship.

(n) “State” includes a U.S. state, territory, tribal land, commonwealth, the District of Columbia, and any other U.S. jurisdiction other than the U.S. Government itself.

(o) “Supervision” of a foreign-licensed physician means overseeing the activities of, and accepting responsibility for, the medical services rendered by the foreign-licensed physician.

(p) “United States Medical Licensing Examination (USLME)” is a 3-step examination for medical licensure in the U.S. and is sponsored by the FSMB and NBME.

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Source: PL 17-56, § 2(140-50.3-002) (September 27, 2011), modified.

Commission Comment: The Commission changed “territories” to its singular form in subsection (i) to correct a manifest error pursuant to 1 CMC § 3806(g).