

REFERENCE TITLE: internationally trained physicians; licensure

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2026

HB 2435

Introduced by
Representative Bliss

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 32-1424, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO THE
ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 32-1424, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 32-1424. Fifth pathway program; pathway one; licensure

5 A. In addition to the requirements for licensure prescribed in
6 sections 32-1422 and 32-1423, an applicant for licensure under this
7 article who attended a foreign school of medicine and successfully
8 completed all ~~the~~ formal requirements to receive the degree of doctor of
9 medicine except internship or social service, and ~~WHO~~ is accordingly not
10 eligible for certification by the educational council for foreign medical
11 graduates, may be considered for licensure under this chapter if the
12 applicant meets the following conditions:

13 1. Satisfactorily completes an approved fifth pathway program of
14 one academic year of supervised clinical training under the direction of
15 an approved school of medicine in the United States.

16 2. Successfully completes an approved ~~twenty-four month~~
17 ~~TWENTY-FOUR-MONTH~~ internship, residency or clinical fellowship program
18 ~~upon~~ ~~ON~~ completion of the fifth pathway program.

19 B. A document granted by a foreign school of medicine signifying
20 completion of all the formal requirements for graduation from ~~such~~ ~~THE~~
21 foreign medical school except internship or social service training, or
22 both, along with certification by the approved school of medicine in the
23 United States of successful completion of the fifth pathway program is
24 deemed the equivalent of a degree of doctor of medicine for purposes of
25 licensure and practice as a physician in this state.

26 C. NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTIONS A AND B OF THIS SECTION, AN
27 APPLICANT FOR LICENSURE WHO ATTENDED A FOREIGN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, WHO
28 SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ALL FORMAL REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION FROM THE
29 FOREIGN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND WHO SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED
30 IN PATHWAY ONE OF THE EDUCATIONAL COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN MEDICAL GRADUATES
31 SHALL BE GRANTED LICENSURE IF THE APPLICANT:

32 1. HOLDS A VALID LICENSE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE THAT DOES NOT REQUIRE
33 DIRECT SUPERVISION.

34 2. HAS A FEDERAL IMMIGRATION STATUS THAT ALLOWS THE PERSON TO WORK
35 AS A PHYSICIAN IN THE UNITED STATES.

36 3. HAS AN OFFER FOR EMPLOYMENT AS A PHYSICIAN AT ANY HEALTH CARE
37 PROVIDER THAT OPERATES IN A COUNTY WITH A POPULATION OF LESS THAN ONE
38 MILLION PERSONS.

39 4. MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE PRESCRIBED IN SECTION
40 32-1422, EXCEPT FOR SECTION 32-1422, SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPHS 1 AND 2.