

Jim Zachazewski, PT, DPT, SCS, ATC  
Clinical Director  
Tel. 617-643-1230  
Fax. 617-643-3436  
jzachazewski@partners.org

**MGH Sports Medicine Service**  
**175 Cambridge Street**  
**Suite 400**  
**Boston, MA 02114**

# Memo

**To:** International Applicants – MGH Sports Medicine Fellowship  
**From:** Jim Zachazewski  
**Date:** August 20, 2005;  
**Revised:** October 28, 2005; December 12, 2005  
**Re:** Requirements for International Applicants

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Thank you for your interest in the MGH Sports Medicine Fellowship. This fellowship is accredited by the ACGME (please see page 2 of this memo). Prior to applying please consider the following requirements for all foreign trained applicants:

1. *Full licensure in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts requires that United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Steps 1-3 **and** the completion of two years of clinical training in the United States.* Proof of completion must be provided prior to your application being considered. Please be aware that this may be different in other states. Further information and questions regarding this may be directed to Helen Garcia. She may be emailed directly at [hgc Garcia@partners.org](mailto:hgc Garcia@partners.org).
2. You must provide us with a copy of the certificate from the Education Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) stating that you have successfully passed its examination.
3. Applicants without 2 years of US training would only be eligible for a limited license and therefore have limited ability to assist in surgery or provide direct patient care.
4. You must secure the appropriate visa. We will provide you with application papers if needed but you must make arrangements with your embassy or consulate to obtain appropriate permission. You must then provide us with evidence that you have secured the visa for the necessary period of time. Visa questions should be directed to Helen Garcia. She may be emailed directly at [hgc Garcia@partners.org](mailto:hgc Garcia@partners.org).
5. Written and spoken English should be at an appropriate level.
6. You must complete a standard fellowship application; provide us with a CV, photo and appropriate references. Instructions and discussion regarding these items may be found on our web site at [www.mghsportsmedicine.org](http://www.mghsportsmedicine.org).

## ACGME Requirements

Only graduates of certain types of institutions are eligible for appointment to an ACGME-accredited program (*MGH Sports Medicine is ACGME accredited*), as noted in the MGH/Partners Health Care institutional policy. Please be aware that enrollment of a non-eligible resident or fellow can lead to withdrawal of ACGME accreditation---not only for the MGH Sports Medicine Fellowship program, but **for the entire institution**---and therefore **all** programs sponsored by the hospital. The actual text of the ACGME requirements can be found at [http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/irc/irc\\_IRCpr703.asp](http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/irc/irc_IRCpr703.asp)

In brief, ACGME programs may only select applicants who have or will have graduated from a:

1. Medical school in the United States and Canada accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME)
  2. College of osteopathic medicine in the United States accredited by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA)
  3. Medical school outside the United States AND completed a Fifth Pathway program provided by an LCME-accredited medical school, or
  4. Medical school outside the United States/Canada, AND WHO HAVE obtained (prior to appointment) EITHER a full, unrestricted Massachusetts medical license OR a valid certificate from the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates.
- **USMLE Completion Requirements:** [www.usmle.org](http://www.usmle.org)

## Graduate Medical Education MGH Institutional Policy

### USMLE COMPLETION FOR RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS

Applicability: Residents and Clinical Fellows (physician trainees) offered their position on or after July 2005.

- Documentation of successful completion of USMLE Step II must be submitted for initial appointment as a resident or clinical fellow (or for reappointment, if not previously provided).
- Documentation of successful completion of USMLE Step III is required for appointment (or reappointment) at the PGY 3 level or higher.
- Documentation of successful completion of USMLE Step III is required for graduation from all Partners residency and fellowship programs.
- Program Directors/Chiefs, in consultation with the Director or Associate Director of GME, may grant individual exceptions to this policy for one year at a time.