

# **Guidelines for Teaching Hospitals on Accepting Foreign Medical Professionals' Application for Clinical Training or Teaching**

MOHW Decree Wei-Bu-Yi-Zi No. 1071661004 dated March 7, 2018

1. The Ministry of Health and Welfare (“MOHW” hereinafter) hereby draws up these Guidelines for the purposes of encouraging international cooperation, promoting medical exchanges, ensuring patient safety, and enabling foreign medical professionals’ engagement in clinical training or clinical teaching in Taiwan’s hospitals by providing them a basis for visa application at the embassies, representative offices, and offices of R.O.C. (Taiwan), or other agencies authorized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

2. “Foreign medical professionals” as depicted in these Guidelines refer to foreign nationals having obtained foreign medical qualifications, but people from the mainland China are not included.

3. A hospital accepting foreign medical professionals to engage in clinical training shall be an accredited teaching hospital (“teaching hospital” hereinafter) for that specific category of medical professionals, and shall submit an application to MOHW indicating the name and nationality of the persons to be trained, with the following documents attached, one month before the scheduled commencement of the clinical training (or three months in advance in case of a training period exceeding three months) to get the permission:

(1) A copy of the passport or a copy of other identification document

(2) A copy of the foreign medical doctor’s license, medical specialist’s certificate, or other certificate of qualifications (including a translated version in Chinese or English)

(3) Documentary proof of engagement in medical practice for more than one year (including a translated version in Chinese or English), which shall be dated no more than six months before the application date

(4) Clinical training plan, detailing the objective of clinical training, start and end dates, department/specialty, supervisor, clinical training program

- (5) Those going on three-month clinical training or longer should submit a health examination report covering chest x-ray for tuberculosis, serological test for syphilis, measles and rubella, etc.
4. Foreign medical professionals may engage in clinical training at a teaching hospital for a maximum of two years, which may be extended for no more than two years upon MOHW's approval; application for extension of training should be submitted to MOHW stating the reason for the extension and attaching the changed plan of clinical training.
  5. Teaching hospitals that admit foreign medical professionals for clinical training shall designate a medical professional in that specific specialty to provide on-the-spot guidance when the training involves clinical practice, and the trainees are not allowed to perform any invasive medical treatment independently. Nonetheless, those who have clinical training for no more than three months shall not perform any clinical practice.
  6. A teaching hospital inviting foreign medical professionals to the hospital for short-term clinical teaching shall submit an application to MOHW indicating the name and nationality of the invited persons, the intended teaching program and its location and duration, and the name of the local medical professional in charge of the program, with the following documents of the invitees attached, one month before the scheduled date of teaching to get the permission:
    - (1) A copy of the passport or a copy of other identification document
    - (2) A copy of the foreign medical doctor's license or other certificate of qualifications (including a translated version in Chinese or English)
    - (3) Documentary proof of their current job duties at the institutions they serve (including a translated version in Chinese or English)
  7. The invitees mentioned in the preceding clause shall have one of the following qualifications:
    - (1) Being a lecturer, assistant professor, associate professor, or professor at a medical school
    - (2) Being an attending physician at a hospital affiliated with a medical school
    - (3) Other world renowned experts in medical sciences or a particular medical field

8. Foreign medical professionals invited by a teaching hospital may engage in short-term clinical teaching for a maximum of three months, which may be extended for no more than three months upon MOHW's approval; if the teaching process involves offering medical consultation and treatment for a patient, the hospital shall obtain the patient's consent in advance and request the attending physician to present himself/herself on the spot who shall assume medical liability for the patient.
9. With regards to the applications submitted by teaching hospitals, MOHW has the discretion to grant permission, partial permission, or to refuse permission after thorough consideration of a hospital's training capacity, medical professional categories, number of applicants, the programs and their duration.
10. Teaching hospitals undertaking foreign medical professionals' clinical training or teaching in Taiwan shall abide by these Guidelines and other healthcare law and regulations. If a hospital is found to have violated the regulations or failed to comply with the approved conditions, MOHW may terminate the permission and inform the relevant agencies depending on severity of the situation; MOHW may also stop processing a hospital's application until improvement is made if the hospital fails to fulfill its duty of care.