

UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland Pediatric Residency Program

International Medical Students

Prior U.S. Clinical Experience

Since clinical preparedness are keys to success here, we require prior clinical experience in the United States. We expect letters of recommendation from these experiences as well, which will further strengthen an IMG applicant's documentation of overall readiness to begin residency training in the U.S.

Minimum USMLE Score Requirements

International Medical Graduates (IMGs) may be at a disadvantage in competing for Pediatric residencies in the U.S., partly because of large variation in the formal training and clinical experiences offered by foreign medical schools, when compared to the relatively uniform curriculum and clinical requirements offered by U.S. medical schools.

We have no minimum USMLE/COMLEX score requirements.

Visas

Our program **does NOT sponsor visas of any kind for IMGs**. The Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) will sponsor a J-1 visa for candidates.

A clinical J-1 visa is required for admission to UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland residency and fellowship training programs. The visa can only be sponsored by ECFMG, which requires passage of USMLE Steps 1 and 2. Please refer to [Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates website](#).

Application Process

To apply, please complete the following steps.

Step1: Valid Certificates & Licenses

You must hold a current, valid certificate from the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG). This is mandatory for appointment at this Institution as well as for medical licensure in the State of California. If you do not yet have this certificate, you will need to contact the ECFMG office directly and arrange to take the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE). After you pass the examination, including the English test, you will be granted an ECFMG certificate.

Reference: [Updated 2022 Changes to the CA Med Board Postgraduate Training and Licensing Requirements.](#)

A Postgraduate Training License (PTL) is issued to an individual who has graduated from an approved medical school, passed all required examinations, has not completed 36 months of Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) postgraduate training, and is enrolled in an approved California residency program.

Effective January 1, 2022, medical school graduates who graduated from a foreign/international medical school and are enrolling in a California ACGME-accredited PGT program will still be required to obtain a postgraduate training license (PTL) within 180 days of their enrollment. In addition, PTLs may be issued up to 15 months (for U.S. and Canadian medical school graduates) or 27 months (for international medical school graduates) to allow PTL holders to continue training in their California PGT program while transitioning to a P&S license. The Board is authorized to extend these timeframes, within its discretion, to allow the PTL holder to receive the PGT credit required for licensure.

In order to be eligible for a full, CA medical license, foreign medical graduates must (1) remain on a PTL for 24 months of ACGME accredited training/have completed 24 months of ACGME accredited training AND (2) they must ensure that their medical school is listed on the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER) World Directory of

Medical Schools joint directory, or the [World Directory of Medical Schools](#) or their medical school must be approved by the [CA Medical Board](#).

INCOMPLETE APPLICATION PACKETS WILL NOT BE REVIEWED OR CONSIDERED UNTIL THEY ARE COMPLETE AS DEFINED ABOVE.

Step 2: Application Submission

ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA ERAS

(Electronic Residency Application Service), which is provided to you through ECFMG.

NOTE: The basic components of your application (the Common Application Form, transcript, personal statement, USMLE scores, at least 3 letters of recommendation and the Medical Student Performance Evaluation [MSPE—formerly Dean's Letter]) **MUST BE RECEIVED** by November 15th.

Step 3: Application Checklist

If you are eligible to submit an application to UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland, please use the following checklist to ensure that your application is complete. All items must be in English or have an official translation attached.

1. ECFMG certification (you must have passed both the medical and English sections, and hold a valid, current ECFMG certificate).
2. ERAS Application, and should include the following:
 - Three letters of recommendation: at least **two of these letters must be from faculty at academic institutions in the United States who have worked with you in a clinical setting.**
 - Medical School transcripts.
3. A copy of your current visa status or green card.

IMPORTANT: As noted, an application **WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED** unless it complies with all of the above. Incomplete application packets will not be considered.

The Residency Program following a review of completed applications, will request interviews of selected candidates.

- Interviews will be scheduled only AFTER our selection committee reviews applications.
- We will send interview invitations to you by email, so be sure to indicate your preferred and accurate email address on your ERAS application.

Application Questions | Contact Information

Pediatric Residency Program

UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland

747 52nd Street, Oakland, CA 94609

Email: residency1@ucsf.edu | Tel: [510-428-3331](tel:510-428-3331)

Relevant Resources

[California Medical Board](https://www.mbc.ca.gov/) (CMB) (<https://www.mbc.ca.gov/>)

1426 Howe Ave., Suite #54

Sacramento, CA 95825-3236

Tel: [916-263-2382](tel:916-263-2382)

[National Resident Match Program](https://www.nrmp.org/) (NRMP) (<https://www.nrmp.org/>)

2450 "N" St., N.W.

Washington, DC 20037-1127

Tel: [202-828-0566](tel:202-828-0566)

[Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates](https://www.ecfm.org/) (ECFMG)

(<https://www.ecfm.org/>)

3624 Market St., 4th Fl.

Philadelphia, PA 19104-2685

Tel: [215-386-5900](tel:215-386-5900)

[Electronic Residency Application Service](https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-residencies-eras/applying-residencies-eras-system) (ERAS)

(<https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-residencies-eras/applying-residencies-eras-system>)