

# J-1 Conrad Waiver Application Process in Michigan



**ImLaw**  
Immigration Attorneys

## After confirming a job offer in Michigan, ImLaw will:

- Complete Form DS-3035 waiver application for the physician and submit online to the U.S. Department of State
- After online submission, and receiving the physician's J-1 waiver case number, ImLaw will send required documents to the U.S. Department of State
- Concurrently, ImLaw will prepare the required Conrad 30 waiver application and required documents for the State of Michigan Department of Health

After the State of Michigan Department of Health receives the waiver application and documents from ImLaw, they may take **30–60 days to make a decision**. If approved, the Department of Health will send a letter recommending the physician's approval for a Conrad 30 waiver to the U.S. Department of State, with emailed copy of the same to ImLaw.

U.S. Department of State receives the State of Michigan Department of Health's waiver recommendation letter for physician and begins review of the waiver application.

*Current processing time estimated 12–16 weeks (fluctuates often).*

If the J-1 Conrad Waiver is recommended for approval by the US Department of State, then the waiver application is forwarded to US Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS) for final processing of Form I-612 waiver application.

Once ImLaw receives the J-1 waiver approval notice, ImLaw prepares and files the H-1B petition on behalf of physician. Foreign physicians who receive a J-1 Conrad Waiver approval are exempt from the annual H-1B cap. Premium processing may be used at this stage. Typical processing may take 4–8 weeks.

## Once the H-1B petition is approved by USCIS...

### If physician is **inside the US...**

Commence H-1B employment at the designated facility upon effective start date as indicated on the H-1B petition approval notice (I-797A).

### If physician is **outside the US and requires a visa to enter the U.S. and commence H-1B employment at the designated facility...**

then physician applies for H-1B visa at a U.S. embassy/consulate abroad and is able to begin H-1B employment with the employer upon admission to the U.S. with the H-1B visa.

Canadian citizens present the H-1B petition approval from USCIS at most U.S. ports of entry.

**NOTE:** The physician must practice in the designated area or specialty of medicine for the required three-year period on H-1B status at the designated health care facility listed on the submitted waiver application in order to waive the two-year home residence requirement. Employment in other immigration statuses, such as J-1, F-1, O-1, or permanent residence, will not count toward the three-year obligation.