



EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION FOR  
FOREIGN MEDICAL GRADUATES

3624 Market Street  
Philadelphia PA 19104-2685 USA  
215-386-5900 | 215-387-9963 Fax  
[www.ecfmg.org](http://www.ecfmg.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 30, 2015

Contact: Liz Ingraham  
(215) 823-2108

[eingraham@ecfmg.org](mailto:eingraham@ecfmg.org)

## **ECFMG® Transitions to *World Directory of Medical Schools*—IMGs Must Now Use *World Directory* to Determine Eligibility for ECFMG Certification and USMLE®**

PHILADELPHIA, UNITED STATES—The Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) has announced that, effective today, international medical students and graduates (IMGs) must use the *World Directory of Medical Schools* (*World Directory*) to determine their eligibility to apply to ECFMG for ECFMG Certification and the United States Medical Licensing Examination® (USMLE). Previously, ECFMG required IMGs to use the *International Medical Education Directory* (*IMED*) for this purpose.

In order for a medical school's students and graduates to be eligible to apply to ECFMG for ECFMG Certification and examination, the school must be recognized by the appropriate agency in the country where the school is located. As [previously announced](#), the *World Directory* includes medical schools that do not meet ECFMG's eligibility requirements. ECFMG, a major sponsor of the *World Directory*, has included information in the *World Directory* for schools that meet ECFMG's eligibility requirements. Before applying to ECFMG for ECFMG Certification or USMLE, IMGs must consult the *World Directory*, available at [www.wdoms.org](http://www.wdoms.org), to confirm that students and graduates of their medical schools are eligible.

Instructions for using the *World Directory* to determine ECFMG eligibility are available in the [Important Notice: \*World Directory of Medical Schools\* Replaces \*International Medical Education Directory\* \(\*IMED\*\) for Purposes of Determining Eligibility for ECFMG® Certification and USMLE®](#), available on the ECFMG website. This document also includes examples of the ECFMG policies that have been modified as a result of the transition to the *World Directory*.

The *World Directory* is a joint venture of the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME) and the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER®), in collaboration with the World Health Organization and the University of Copenhagen. An agreement to form the *World*

**(more)**

*Directory* by combining the data in WFME's *Avicenna Directory* and FAIMER's *IMED* was finalized in March 2012. Launched in April 2014, the *World Directory* now provides a single comprehensive resource on undergraduate medical education worldwide. More information is available at [www.wdoms.org](http://www.wdoms.org).

### **About ECFMG**

Established in 1956, ECFMG is a private, nonprofit organization based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, with more than 800 full- and part-time employees.

ECFMG is a world leader in promoting quality health care—serving physicians, members of the medical education and regulatory communities, health care consumers, and those researching issues in medical education and health workforce planning. ECFMG's program of certification evaluates whether international medical graduates are ready to enter U.S. programs of graduate medical education, where they provide supervised patient care. ECFMG offers a variety of other programs for IMGs and the entities worldwide that educate, train, register/license, and employ them. Through its foundation, ECFMG provides educational opportunities for the world's health professions educators, conducts research on issues affecting the quality of health care and the functioning of health care systems, and builds data resources on international medical education and international physicians.

ECFMG's organizational members are the American Board of Medical Specialties, American Medical Association, Association of American Medical Colleges, Association for Hospital Medical Education, Federation of State Medical Boards, and the National Medical Association.

For more information, visit the ECFMG website at [www.ecfm.org](http://www.ecfm.org).

###