

March 2009

FCVS Marks 100,000th Application

On February 6, 2009, FCVS achieved a major milestone – the processing of its 100,000th physician.

Facilitating Portability with a Standard, Centralized Verification Service

Established in 1996, the FCVS is a credentials verification system that facilitates license portability across states. Credentialing parameters used by the FCVS are modeled after the best practices of state boards and require the FCVS to verify core credentials directly with medical schools and postgraduate training programs. A physician or physician assistant can then request the FCVS to send their profile to any medical board, hospital, managed care organization or other interested party. Currently, 64 of 70 state medical and osteopathic boards accept the FCVS as a verified primary source record of core credentials.

Enhancements Make Verification Process Faster and Easier

During its 13-year history, the FCVS has enhanced its services with new technologies and collaborative agreements with medical education organizations, making the verification process faster and easier. Major enhancements include:

Electronic Verifications have helped cut average time needed to process an initial application from an international medical graduate by 20 percent, and that of a U.S. graduate by 10 percent. Processing times for subsequent application from international medical graduates have been reduced by 51 percent, and for U.S. graduates by 19 percent.

Collaboration with the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) continues to expedite verification of credentials for international medical graduates. The ECFMG is able to provide verified documents to FCVS within 24 hours for international medical graduates who have had their credentials verified since the collaboration agreement went into effect in 2004.

Records from Closed Residency Training Programs can be accessed. The FCVS offers to permanently store the records of all closes Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) approved programs. Currently, FCVS holds records for 30 closed residency programs and medical staff records from two closed hospitals. More information is available online at http://www.fsmb.org/fcvs_closedprograms.html

Medical Schools Proactively Reporting Data to the FCVS. The University of South Florida and the University of South Alabama report their medical graduate information to the FCVS. Additionally, Louisiana State University proactively reports postgraduate training data to the FCVS and is working to report data from all programs by mid-2009. Proactive reporting of data provides a back-up repository for the schools and significantly reduces verification processing times. For additional information about these services, please contact Nicole Lloyd, Program Coordinator Student Records, at nlloyd@fsbm.org

The Federation Credentials Verification Service-bulletin is published twice a year in August and March to provide state medical boards, educators in medicine and other interested individuals with an update of FCVS activities and issues.

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