

-----Original Message-----

From: Rebecca Hirshorn [<mailto:RHirshorn@cms.hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2004 6:37 PM
To:
Cc: Amy Hunsberger; Miechal Lefkowitz; Tzvi Hefter
Subject: Re: Foreign Dental Grads

Dear Ms. _____,

This is in response to your inquiry below concerning the counting of foreign dental graduates for purposes of GME payment to _____ Health Center. You have asked whether foreign dental graduates must have ECFMG certification in order to count the resident FTEs.

At section 1886(h)(4)(D) of the Social Security Act, foreign medical graduates (which is defined at section 1886(h)(5)(D) as including dental graduates) must have passed the FMGEMS (foreign medical graduate examination in the medical sciences) or the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, in order to be counted for training at your hospital in a residency program for direct GME payment purposes. There are no exceptions allowed in the statute for foreign dental graduates.

Please note that this requirement only applies to direct GME payment purposes. Passage of the ECFMG or the FMGEMS is not required for purposes of IME payment.

I hope this information has been helpful to you.
I have cc'd Empire on this email.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Hirshorn