

Procedures for Recognition of Foreign Trained Physicians and Physicists Applying for Authorized User (AU) and Authorized Medical Physicist (AMP) Status

The purpose of this procedure is to provide guidance on making appropriate decisions regarding approval of foreign trained physicians and physicists applying for authorized user (AU) and authorized medical physicist (AMP) status under the alternate pathway. The licensee should submit the appropriate NRC Form 313A along with the license amendment request to the Regional offices. The Regional license reviewers will verify that the criteria described below is met for approval of foreign trained physicians and physicists as AUs and AMPs, respectively.

Foreign Trained Physicians

For physicians who received their training outside of the United States, the license reviewer should verify that:

- 1.) The work experience of the documented training and experience (T&E) is completed under the supervision of an AU who meets the applicable T&E requirements in 10 CFR Part 35, and
- 2.) The written attestation is signed by a preceptor AU who meets the applicable T&E requirements in 10 CFR Part 35.

Note: In accordance with the definition of *authorized user* in 10 CFR 35.2, "Definitions," the supervising AU and the preceptor AU, referenced in items 1 and 2 above, must be a physician licensed to practice medicine in the U.S., or a Territory of the U.S., or Puerto Rico.

Foreign Trained Physicists

For physicists who received their training outside of the United States, the license reviewer should verify that:

- 1.) The masters and/or doctoral degrees from outside of the US are from an accredited college or university. The license reviewer should refer to the web site of the institution to determine whether the college/university is accredited. The license reviewer should also refer to the web site for the International Organization for Medical Physicists which provides a global listing of graduate education programs in medical physics and the associated accreditation status. A technical assistance request (TAR) should be submitted to NRC HQ if the license reviewer is uncertain about the validity of the degree;
- 2.) Degrees other than physics, medical physics, other physical science, engineering and applied mathematics are equivalent to one of these listed degrees. The license reviewer should request a transcript (or equivalent documentation) from the applicant, and request that this documentation be provided in English. A TAR should be submitted to NRC HQ if it is unclear whether the degree is equivalent to the degrees listed in 10 CFR 35.51(b)(1);
- 3.) The work experience of the documented T&E is completed under the supervision of an individual who meets the requirements for an AMP in 10 CFR 35.51 for the type(s) of use for which the individual is seeking authorization. The Regions should seek additional guidance from NRC HQ if it is unclear whether the full time work experience in medical physics is obtained under the supervision of an individual who meets these requirements; and
- 4.) The written attestation is signed by a preceptor AMP who meets the applicable T&E requirements in 10 CFR 35.51 for each type of therapeutic medical unit for which the individual is requesting AMP status.