



## **TN (Trade NAFTA) Status for Medical/Allied Professionals**

### **Summary**

- TN status is available to Canadian and Mexican health care workers who are coming to the U.S. to be employed in specific jobs on a list of negotiated under the auspices of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Educational and experience requirements are also specified for each health care job title.

### **Requirements**

- The foreign health care worker must be a Canadian or Mexican national, coming to work in the U.S. under one of the listed occupations and, for most occupations, must possess a bachelor's or licensure degree from a college or university.<sup>1</sup>
- The foreign health care worker must possess the required professional licensure in the state of intended employment.

### **Benefits**

- Canadian nationals avoid possibly long INS filing delays that come with the processing of other non-immigrant petitions. Canadian TNs can be adjudicated at the airport or port of entry in a matter of hours.
- TNs renewed indefinitely, on a yearly basis.
- TNs cover broader range of health care occupations than H-1B and other non-immigrant options.

### **Restrictions**

- The foreign worker may only work in certain types of occupations.
- Successful foreign workers must intend to return to Canada or Mexico when their work in the U.S. is complete.
- Extensions are available in one-year increments only.
- TN status is employer specific.

### **Validity**

- Initially, the status duration is one year. It can, however, be renewed indefinitely (subject to the presumption of immigrant intent) in yearly increments.



## Minimum Education Requirements for TN Status for Medical/Allied Professionals

**Dentist:** D.D.S., D.M.D., Doctor en Odontologia, Doctor en Cirugia Dental; **or** state/provincial license.

**Dietitian:** Baccalaureate, Licenciatura Degree, **or** state/provincial license.

**Medical Laboratory Technologist:** Canada: Baccalaureate, Licenciatura Degree, **or** Post-Medical Technologist **and** three years experience.

**Nutritionist:** Baccalaureate **or** Licenciatura Degree.

**Occupational Therapist:** Baccalaureate, Licenciatura Degree, **or** state/provincial license.

**Pharmacist:** Baccalaureate, Licenciatura Degree, **or** state/provincial license.

**Physician:** (teaching or research only) M.D. or Doctor en Medicina, **or** state/provincial license.

**Physiotherapist/Physical Therapist:** Baccalaureate, Licenciatura Degree, **or** state/provincial license.

**Psychologist:** Licenciatura Degree **or** state/provincial license.

**Recreational Therapist:** Baccalaureate **or** Licenciatura Degree

**Registered Nurse:** Licenciatura Degree, **or** state/provincial license.

For more information on state nursing licensure requirements, please contact:

### California

California Board of Registered Nursing; 400 R St., Ste. 4030, Sacramento, CA 95814-6239; Phone: (916) 322-3350; Fax: (916) 327-4402;

Web Site: <http://www.rn.ca.gov/>

### Hawaii

Hawaii Board of Nursing, Professional & Vocational Licensing Division, P.O. Box 3469 Honolulu, HI 96801; Phone: (808) 586-3000; Fax: (808) 586-2689;

Web Site: [http://www.state.hi.us/dcca/pvl/areas\\_nurse.html](http://www.state.hi.us/dcca/pvl/areas_nurse.html)