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Government of India Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Department of Health & Family Welfare
(I.C. Section)

Room No.244, A-Wing
Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 04 July, 2023

Office Memorandum

Subject: Revised Guidelines for issuance of Statement of Need (SON) Certificate/
Exceptional Need Certificate (ENC)/ No Obligation to Return to India (NORI)
Certificate-reg.

In supersession of this Ministry Office Memorandum No.L.20019/1
(Policy)/2013-IC dated 03.08.2021, it has been decided to revise the guidelines
pertaining to the issuance of Statement of Need (SON)/ Exceptional Need Certificate
(ENC)/ No Obligation to Return to India (NORI) by the Ministry of Health and Family
Welfare. Accordingly, the revised/modified guidelines is hereby circulated for
information of all.

2. This issue with the approval of competent authority.

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Distribution:

1. PS to Hon'ble HFM /PS to Hon'ble MoS
- 2.PPS to Secretary (HFW)
3. PPS to AS&FA/ PPS to AS&MD/ PPS to AS(H)
4. All Joint Secretaries/EA
5. NIC for uploading on the website
6. Guard Folder

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Guidelines for issue of Statement of Need(SON) Certificate/ Exceptional Need Certificate(ENC)/ No Obligation to Return to India (NORI) Certificate.

A. Statement of Need

1. For issuance of SON certificate, applicants shall be required to execute a Surety bond of Rs. 10 Lakhs (Rupees Ten Lakh only) on a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs.100/- (Rupees One Hundred only).
2. There will be two sureties, out of which one will be a close relative (who is a citizen of India and based in India) and other one is not related to the applicant, both with sufficient financial standing (*).
3. The first surety will be responsible for payment of the bond amount including interest, if any, in case the candidate defaults on any of the conditions mentioned in the bond. In case the first surety also fails to make payment, the second surety will be liable to make payment.
4. Separate surety bond shall have to be executed for each SON Certificate issued.
5. SON shall be issued in all cases on first occasion or for extension thereof or subsequent occasions, subject to combined period of maximum 7 years on J-1 visa in the USA or a maximum of 7 years as per any other country laws.
6. SON will be issued to Foreign Medical Graduates (who do not have MCI Registration) by taking an affidavit from applicants that within 2 years of the completion of the course/ training, foreign medical graduates will acquire MCI registration (after successfully qualifying FMGE conducted by NBE).

B. Exceptional Need Certificate

1. Exceptional Need Certificate (ENC) will be issued to applicants for all specialty and super specialty where combined duration of fellowship program exceeds 7 years or where the ensuing fellowship program is an extension of earlier program that exceeds 7 years considering all previous training programs clubbing together.
2. For issuance of ENC, applicants shall be required to execute a Surety bond of Rs. 10 Lakhs (Rupees Ten Lakh only) on a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs.100/- (Rupees One Hundred only).
3. There will be two sureties, out of which one will be a close relative (who is a citizen of India and based in India) and other one is not related to the applicant, both with sufficient financial standing (*).


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4. The first surety will be responsible for payment of the bond amount including interest, if any, in case the candidate defaults on any of the conditions mentioned in the bond. In case the first surety also fails to make payment, the second surety will be liable to make payment.

C. No Obligation to Return to India (NORI)

NoC to NORI may be issued to the applicants/persons of following categories applying for NoC for NORI:-


- i. Medical Professional including Dental Category and Allied Health Services
i.e. Pharmacist and Nurses
- ii. Medical professional who are on J1 Visa.
- iii. Foreign Medical Graduate.

General Conditions:

1. The candidate will inform the SON Certificate/ENC issuing authority of his arrival in India within a period of three months from the date of completion of the course mentioned in the SON Certificate/ENC. In case the candidate fails to report within the stipulated time period or takes longer to report because of some unforeseen situation leading to non-compliance of the bond conditions to the SON Certificate/ENC issuing authority and the authority shall have the option to further extend the reporting period for a maximum of 3 months beyond, after considering the explanation offered and taking into account the evidences adduced.

2. If the candidate fails to return or fails to inform the authorities beyond the extended period, he/ she shall be liable for enforcement of penal actions, including payment to the Government or as may be directed by the Government, on demand the said sum of Rs. 10 Lakhs (Rupees Ten Lakhs only) together with interest thereon @ 12% per annum from the date of demand.

(*) A person filing ITR for three consecutive years on previous occasion including the current accounting year.


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