

# A TURKISH PHYSICIAN'S JOURNEY

*Dr Ulaş Mehmet Çamsarı*

***USMLE Strateji Merkezi | USMER***

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*Assembly of Turkish American Association*

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# What is what?

- What is an ***IMG***?
- What is an ***AMG***?
  
- What is ***USMLE***?
- What is ***ECFMG***?
  
- What is ***observership***?
- What is ***clerkship***?
- What is ***residency***?
- What is ***fellowship***?
- What is ***research fellowship***?

# What are the options for an *IMG*?

- Clerkship during medical school (Staj/Elektif)
- Observership / Observorship (Gözlemcilik)
- ACGME-accredited Residency Training (Asistanlık)
- ACGME-accredited Fellowship Training (Yandal Uzmanlığı)
- Non-accredited Clinical Fellowship
- Research Fellowship / Experience (Araştırma)
- PhD Training

# *Clerkship*

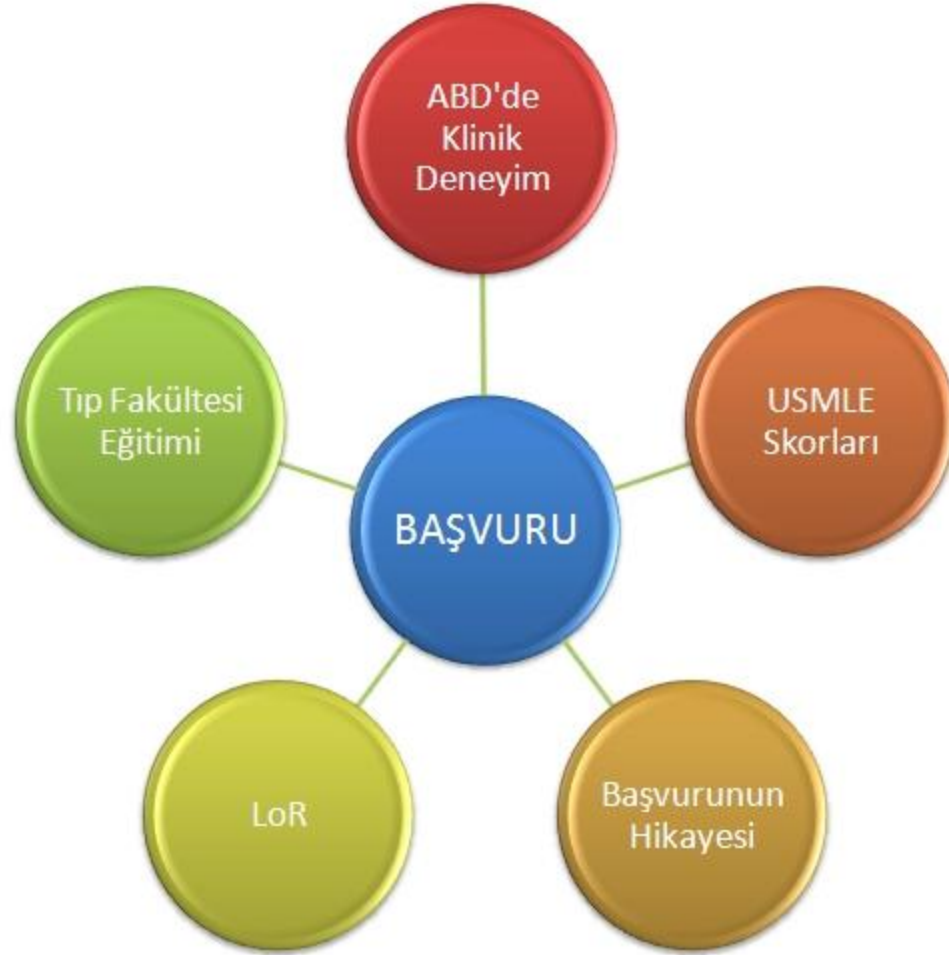
- Can be done while in medical school
- Can be accredited or not
- Some institutions offer it as “observership”
- Usually offered for 2 – 4 weeks
- Usually free, some institutions charge 500-2000 USD
- Some institutions require USMLE Step 1 and/or TOEFL
- Supposed to be “Hands on”

# *Observership*

- **Not** a *formal* position
- Can be obtained by individual efforts and initiative
- Not all the institutions offer
- Usually offered for 2 – 4 weeks
- Usually free, some institutions charge 500-2000 USD
- Some institutions ask for an ECFMG certificate
- No academic credit given
- Considered “hands off”
- Usually B1/B2 visa is OKAY
- Can be the first step to enter the US medical system

# ACGME *accredited Residency* Training

- Formal medical specialty training
- Everybody can apply ! IMG & AMG
- Accredited by ACGME
- First year is called “internship”
- Varies from 3 years to 7 years depending on the specialty
- Application is formal, requires ECFMG certification
- “Match” process is used for application



## BAŞVURU'NUN ANATOMİSİ

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# ECFMG Certification

- Graduation from an accredited medical school
- USMLE Step 1
- USMLE Step 2 Clinical Knowledge
- USMLE Step 2 Clinical Skills



EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION  
FOR  
FOREIGN MEDICAL GRADUATES



CERTIFIES THAT

ULAS MEHMET CAMSARI

HAS SATISFIED ALL THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMMISSION,

SUCCESSFULLY PASSED ITS EXAMINATIONS AND HAS BEEN AWARDED THIS CERTIFICATE.

CERTIFICATE NUMBER 0-644-090-3

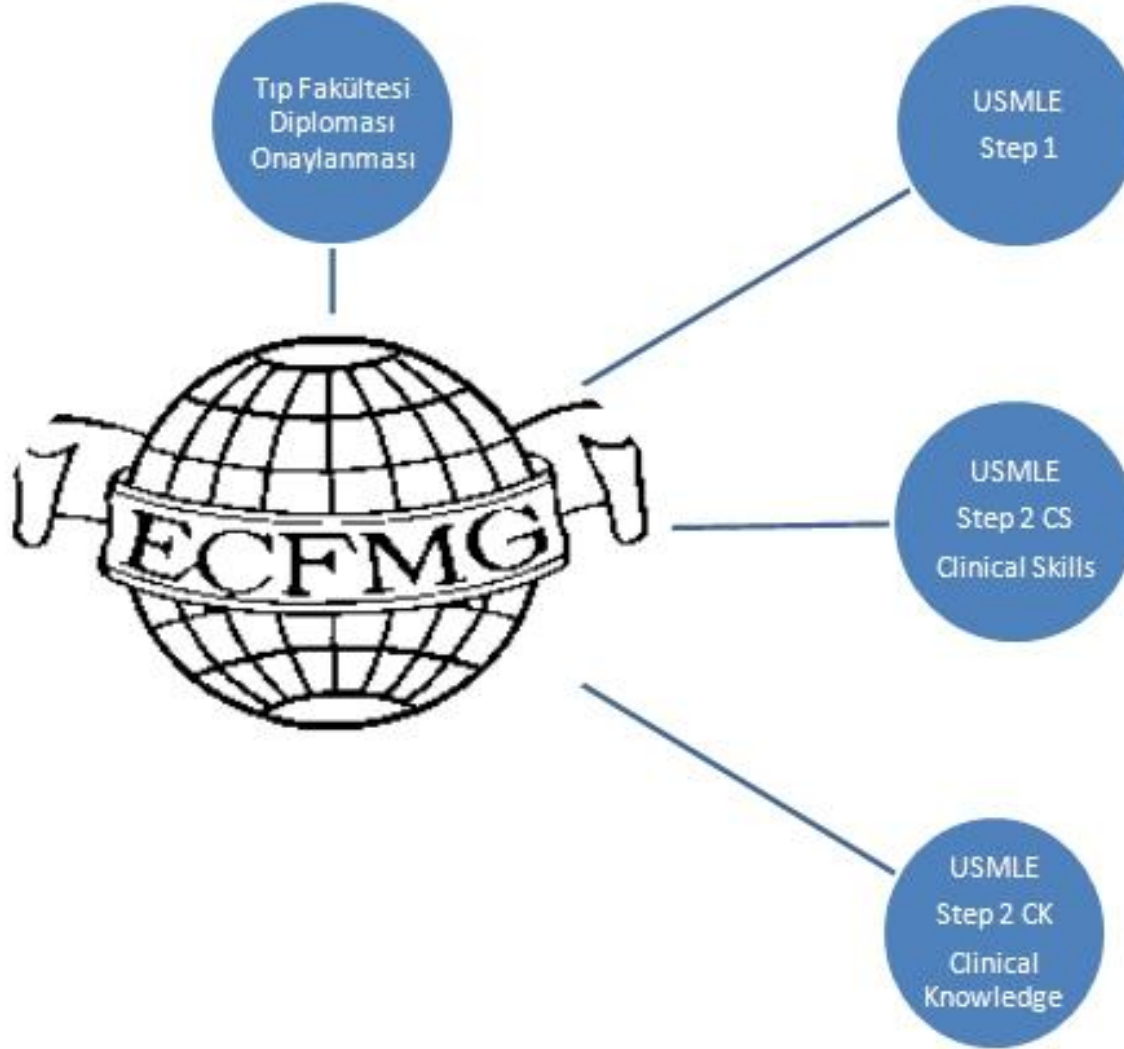
MEDICAL SCIENCE  
USMLE STEP 1 MARCH 28, 2003  
USMLE STEP 2 CK DECEMBER 12, 2003

CLINICAL SKILLS  
USMLE STEP 2 CS AUGUST 19, 2005

*Joel A. DeLeon, MD*  
CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

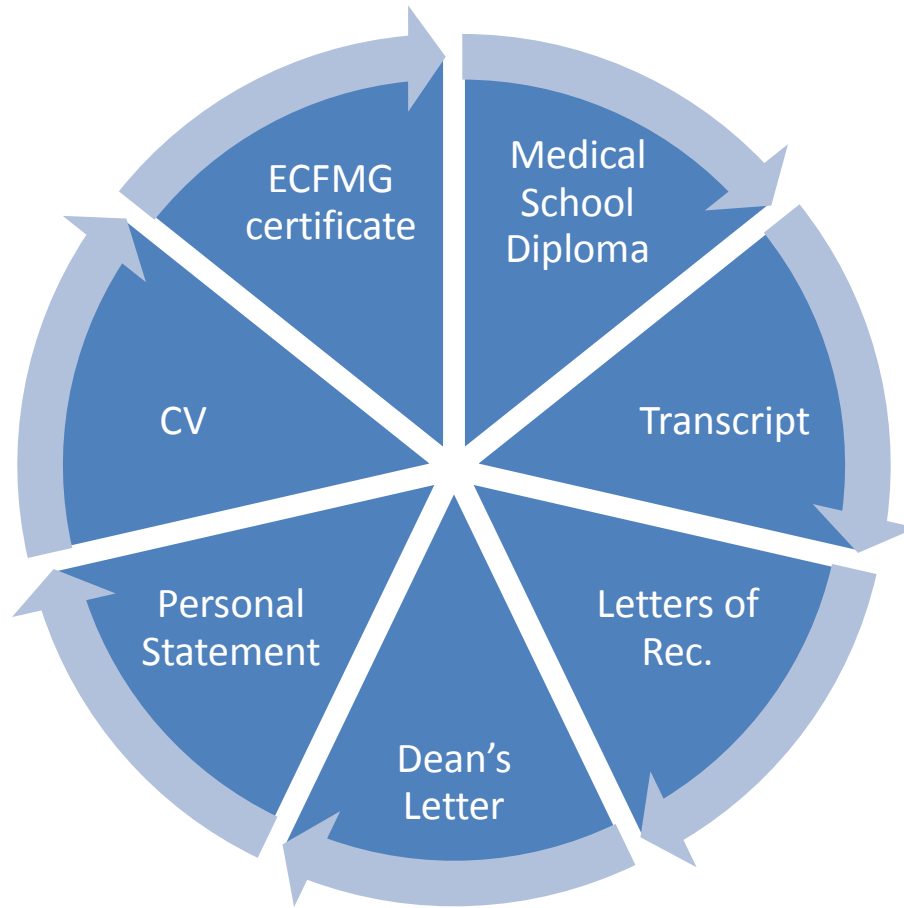
*James A. Hallow, MD*  
PRESIDENT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DATE ISSUED OCTOBER 10, 2005



## ECFMG Sertifikası Gereklilikleri

# What do you need to apply?



# ACGME *accredited residency* Training

- Will make you board eligible !
- Usually offered in J-1 visa sponsored by ECFMG which comes with 2-year rule
- Considered “best route”
- Paid position (2500-3500 USD / month)
- Difficult to obtain in some specialties such as urology, ophthalmology, plastic surgery etc due to limited positions.
- <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/education-careers/graduate-medical-education/freida-online.page>

# ACGME *accredited Fellowship* Training

- Formal specialty training, applications at the end of the residency training
- Regular way → Almost always offered to the physicians who did their residency in the US
- Irregular way → Still considered possible to get in with international residency training, e.g. Internal medicine in Turkey, nephrology in US, but extremely rare and exceptional
- Requires USMLE examinations and ECFMG certificate
- Paid position (2500-3500 USD / month)
- Will make you board eligible for the specialty

# ***Non-accredited Fellowship*** Training

- **Not** a *formal* training
- Not accredited by ACGME
- Will not make you “board eligible”, usually there is no board for the specialty, e.g., heart failure in cardiology, emergency psychiatry in psychiatry
- No credit given
- Paid position (2500-3500 USD / month)
- Still requires USMLE examinations and ECFMG certification
- Less competitive and easier to get in
- Almost always sponsored by ECFMG J1 visa
- <http://www.ecfm.org/evsp/nonstandard-subspecialty-disciplines.html>

# ***Research*** Fellowship / Experience

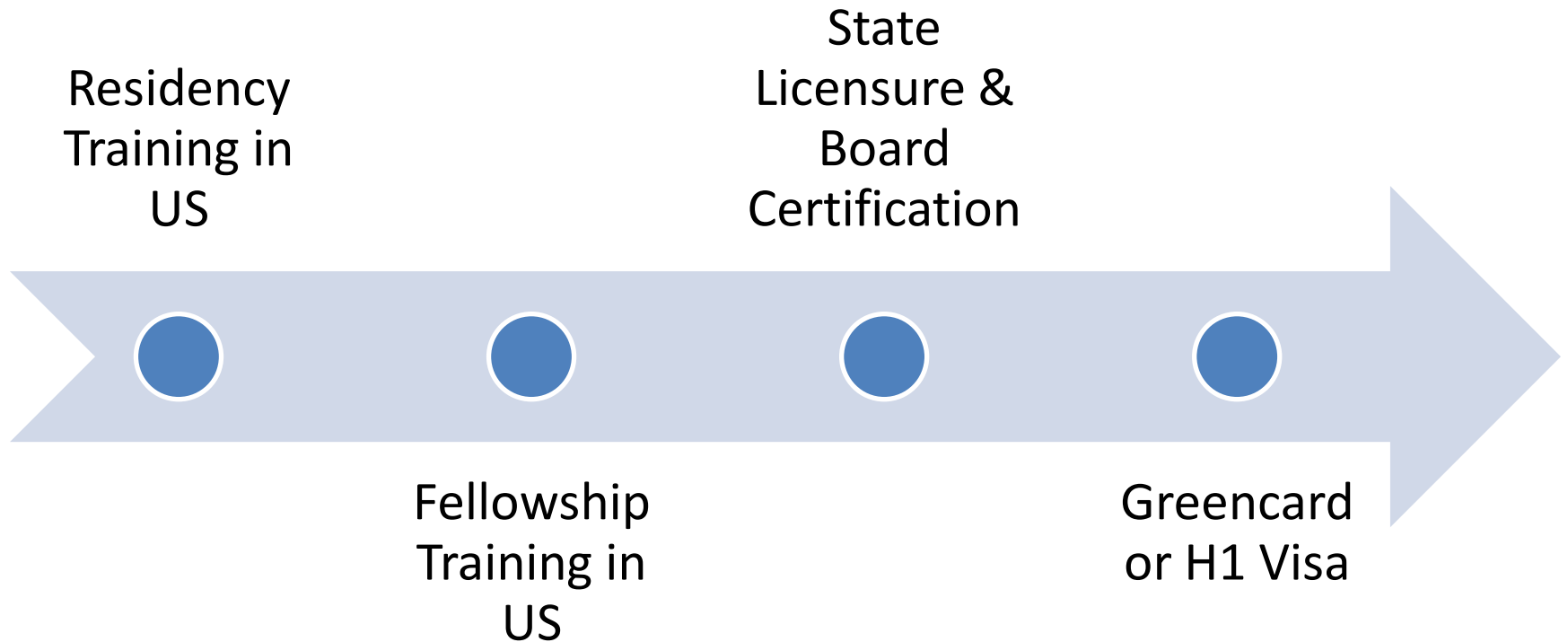
- Not a formal training or experience
- Cannot be accounted for subspecialty training
- Can be obtained by individual efforts
- Usually paid, salary variable
- Usually requires background in research
- Usually offered for at least 1 year
- Can serve as a period for residency / fellowship preparation and applications

# *Ph.D.* Training

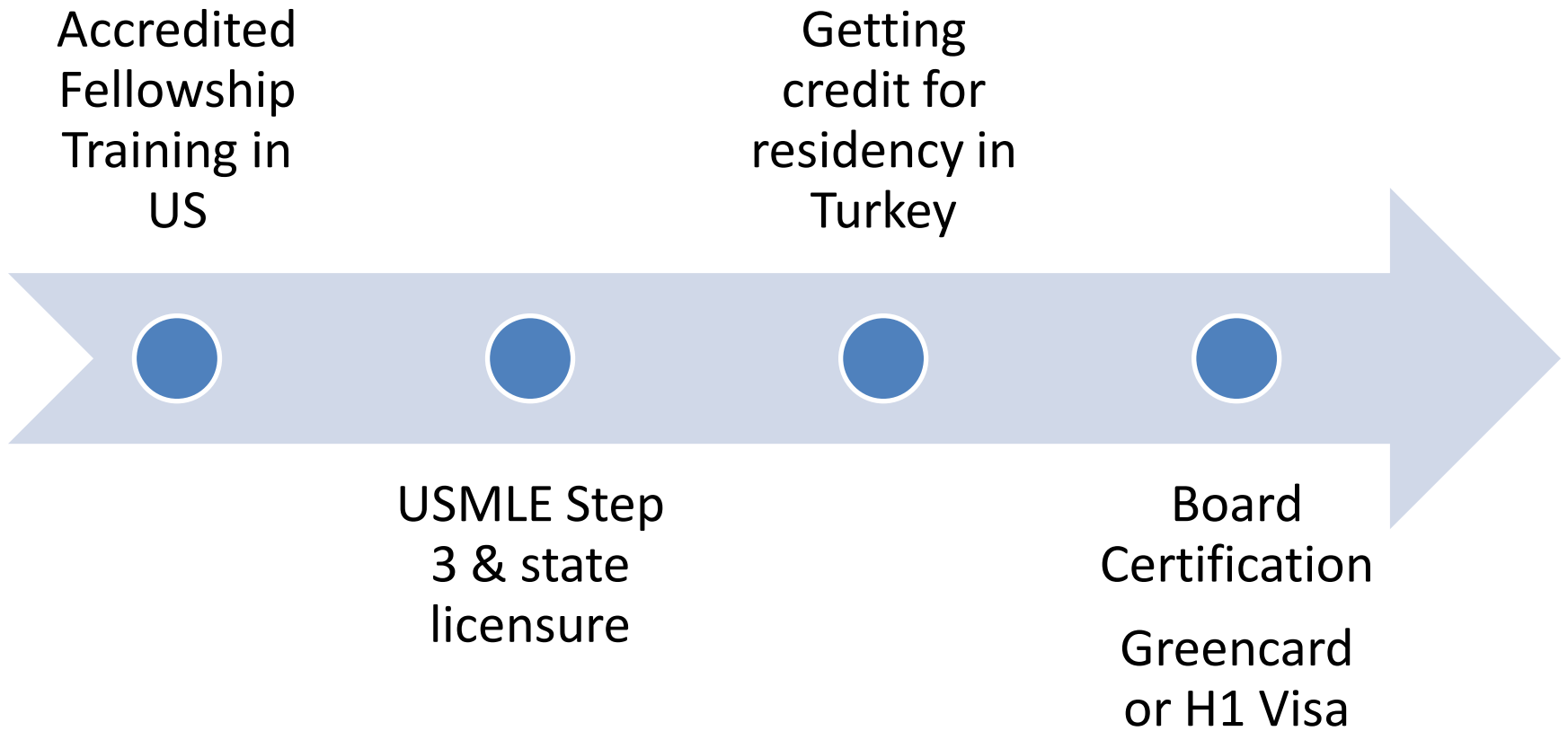
- Requires GRE exam and TOEFL
- No USMLE or ECFMG needed
- Offers no privilege to use the M.D. Degree so no state licensure needed.
- Some programs require Master of Science degree to apply, some don't
- Teaching assistant vs Research assistant
- Salary less than clinical positions, ~ 1000-2000 USD per month



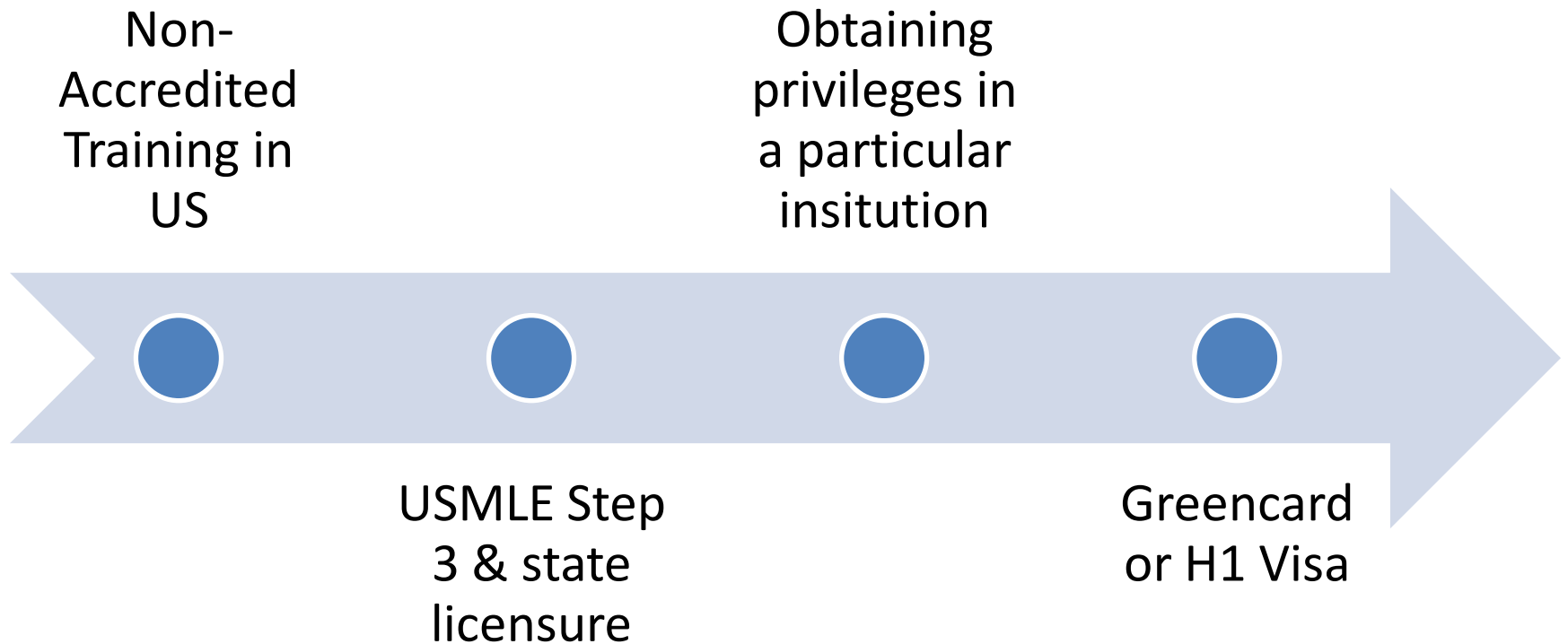
# Possible “routes” - I



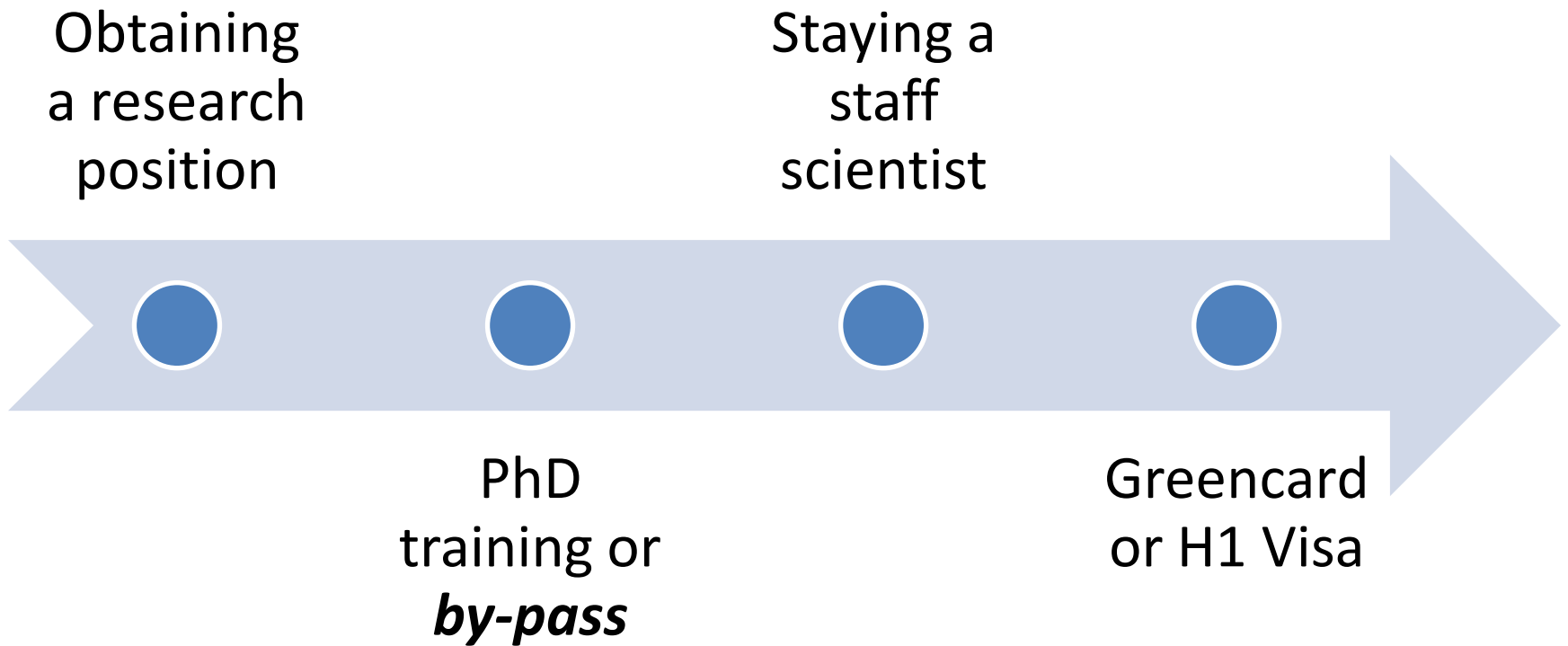
# Possible “routes” - II



# Possible “routes” - III



# Possible “routes” - IV



# Useful Links

<http://www.ama-assn.org/> - AMA

<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/education-careers/graduate-medical-education/freida-online.page> - FREIDA

<http://www.ecfm.org/> - ECFMG

<http://www.usmle.org/> - USMLE

<http://www.acgme.org/> - ACGME

<http://www.usmer.org/> - USMLE Strateji Merkezi

# Q & A

