New York State’s 12 Week Rule

General rule:
An applicant who is expected to graduate (or has graduated) from a non-LCME accredited international medical school must satisfy New York State’s 12 week rule in order to be eligible to participate in a medical residency/fellowship training program in New York State. The rule, promulgated by the New York State Department of Health, provides that an individual who graduates from a non-LCME accredited international medical school may not train in New York State if his/her medical school education includes more than 12 weeks of clinical clerkship rotations outside of the country in which his/her medical school is located.

For purposes of counting clinical rotation time that occurred outside of the country in which an applicant’s medical school is located, only rotations that are required for the applicant’s medical education degree should be considered.

Exception for approved schools:
The New York State Department of Education has approved a list of schools that are excluded from this general rule. Applicants who attend one of the following schools are not subject to the 12 week rule:

- American University of Antigua, Antigua
- American University of the Caribbean, Cupecoy, St. Martin
- The Autonomous University of Guadalajara, Guadalajara, Mexico
- English Language Program, University of Debrecen, Medical and Health Science Center, Medical School, Debrecen, Hungary
- English Language Program, Medical University of Lublin, Lublin, Poland
- English Language Program, Medical University of Silesia, Katowice, Poland Fatima College of Medicine, Manila, Philippines
- International Health and Medicine Program, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheva, Israel
- Kasturba Medical College, Manipal, India
- Medical University of the Americas/Nevis, Nevis, West Indies
- Ross University School of Medicine, Roseau, Dominica
- Saba University School of Medicine, The Bottom, Saba
- St. George's University School of Medicine, St. George's, Grenada
- St. Matthew's University School of Medicine, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands
- Technion Israel Institute of Technology - Technion American Medical Students Program (TEAMS), Haifa, Israel
- Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, Doha, Qatar

Application of Rule to U.S. Sponsored Foreign Medical Schools

New York State’s 12 week rule is applicable to U.S. sponsored foreign medical schools. For example, applicants who attend Ben Gurion University of the Negev, sponsored by Columbia University are subject to the 12 week rule.