

November 29, 2018

OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING CONSORTIUM MEETING

Paul Feltman

Deputy Executive Director, Global Talent Policy and Programs World Education Services

World Education Services (WES)

- WES is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping individuals with foreign education achieve their educational and professional goals in the United States and Canada.
- Founded in 1974, we evaluate and advocate for the recognition of international education qualifications.

WES Global Talent Bridge

- We provide community organizations and public agencies that assist skilled immigrants with tools, training and other resources.
- We identify and promote best practices, and advocate for policies that facilitate the integration of immigrants into the U.S. economy.

States and cities are taking action to unlock the talent of skilled immigrants

Mapping Immigrant Professional Integration

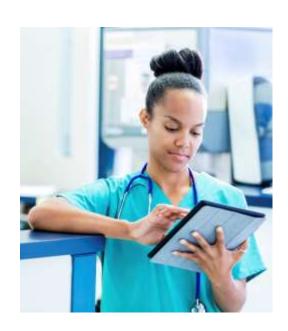
IMPRINT's maps showcase state-level programs, demographics, and legislation relevant to the professional integration of foreign-trained immigrants and refugees in the U.S.



www.imprintproject.org/maps

State and Local Examples

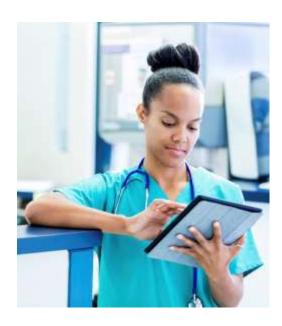
- State General Workforce / Licensing Initiatives
 - Maryland Skilled Immigrant Task Force, immigrant career pathways guides
 - Ohio licensing guidance for New Americans
 - Denver, Colorado engineering pathways guide
 - St. Louis, Missouri nursing, teaching and engineering pathways guides
 - Louisville, Kentucky nursing and engineering pathway guides



State and Local Examples

Occupation-Specific Initiatives

- Nurses
 - New York: <u>LaGuardia NCLEX program</u>
 - California: <u>Grossmont Community College</u> and Welcome Back
- Paraeducators and Teachers
 - Washington: "Grow Your Own"
 - Minnesota: <u>Collaborative Urban Educator</u> <u>Program</u>
- Doctors
 - Minnesota: <u>Department of Health</u>
 <u>International Medical Graduates Program</u>
 - California: <u>UCLA International Medical</u> <u>Graduates (IMG) Program</u>



WES Skilled Immigrant Integration Program

- A program providing in-depth technical assistance and coaching to communities working to "move the needle" on state and/or local skilled immigrant integration initiatives
- The program is supported by WES Global Talent Bridge and its national technical assistance partners











2018 Skilled Immigrant Integration Program Cohort



WES Pathways Guides Help Foreign-Trained Use Their Education in the US

The <u>WES Pathways</u> guides provide sectorspecific advice and resources to support academic and career advancement for foreigntrained immigrants

Features:

- Academic pathways for career entry and advancement
- Licensing and certification requirements
- Alternative career options

WES Guides Have Been Locally Adapted:

Ohio

Maryland

Denver, Colorado

St. Louis, MO

Louisville, KY



Steps policymakers can take

Policy Levers Include Legislation, Regulation, Guidance, Appropriations

- Improve transparency of licensing processes
- Review licensing processes to identify unintentional barriers
- Establish a point person or clearinghouse for immigrant licensure questions
- Fund residency slots, mid-ternships or fellowships
- Consider creating limited or provisional classes of licensure
- Invest in professional/technical English classes
- Support promising program models and practices for recredentialing
- Review existing workforce and education datasets to identify pipeline problems and opportunities



THANK YOU

Need more information?

www.wes.org/gtb

pfeltman@wes.org