Medical Clearances for Eligible Family Members

The medical requirement for employment in the Foreign Service is that the candidate must be cleared for “worldwide assignment.” Even though family members are not required to be medically cleared before an offer of employment is extended to the candidate, family members must be medically cleared before traveling overseas at U.S. Government expense to accompany an employee on assignment.

For this reason, it is important that candidates complete and submit the “Medical History and Examination for Foreign Service” forms required for medical clearances for themselves and for each eligible family member without delay. The Department of State’s Medical Office must receive the candidate’s completed “Medical History and Examination for Foreign Service” forms within 30 days. Employees who fail to complete and submit the required forms for medical clearances for their eligible family members run the risk of going to post unaccompanied, i.e. without their eligible family members.

A candidate’s acceptance of a Foreign Service appointment constitutes acknowledgement that the Department of State may send employees to any assignment in the world independent of the ability of family members to accompany them. Unless family members receive a Class One (unrestricted) clearance, separated assignments could occur throughout a career. Even if family members are medically cleared, an employee could still be assigned to an unaccompanied post, i.e. one where family members are not allowed.

By signing below I indicate acceptance of the following conditions:

1) I have read the policy outlined above regarding medical clearances.

2) I understand that failure to obtain medical clearances for my family member(s) may result in my going to post unaccompanied, i.e. without my family member(s).

3) I acknowledge the possibility of unaccompanied assignments if my family member(s) have medical problems that preclude them from receiving a Class One medical clearance.

4) I acknowledge the possibility of unaccompanied assignments, where family member(s) are not allowed regardless of their medical clearances, based on the needs of the Service.