DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY
PUBLIC NOTICE AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

Proposed Delta Doctors J-1 Visa Waiver Program Application Fee
Public Comment Period: November 12, 2026 – November 27, 2026
Proposed Application Fee: $3,000

The Delta Regional Authority (DRA) invites public comments on a proposed application-processing fee for the Delta Doctors J-1 Visa Waiver Program.
Pursuant to 7 U.S.C. § 2009aa–1(e)(11), as amended by Public Law 118-272, Congress authorized DRA to collect, retain and expend fees associated with the Delta Doctors program.

The Delta Doctors program supports access to health care in medically underserved communities throughout the DRA region by facilitating J-1 visa waiver recommendations for eligible physicians who commit to providing medical services in qualifying communities.

Proposed Fee and Payment Requirements

DRA proposes establishing a **$3,000 nonrefundable application-processing fee** for each Delta Doctors J-1 visa waiver application.

Under the proposed policy:

- The fee must be paid by the eligible medical facility sponsoring or employing the physician.
- The physician's proposed practice location must be within DRA's designated service area and meet applicable program eligibility requirements.
- Payments must originate from the sponsoring medical facility or its authorized institutional operating entity.
- Payments made personally by physicians or by unrelated third parties will not be accepted.
- The fee must be received and verified before substantive application review begins.
- Payment of the fee does not guarantee approval or a favorable waiver recommendation.

Use of Application Fees
Fees collected will be used to support the administration and operation of the Delta Doctors program, including application processing, eligibility verification, program monitoring, staffing and related administrative expenses.

Public Comment Period
DRA invites health care facilities, physicians, legal representatives, community stakeholders and other interested parties to provide comments on the proposed fee, payment requirements, and implementation procedures.

Written comments will be accepted for 15 calendar days following publication of this notice.

Comments must be received by **11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on November 27, 2026.**

Comments should be submitted electronically to: **info@dra.gov**

Subject: Delta Doctors Application Fee – Public Comment

Implementation
Following the conclusion of the public-comment period, DRA will review comments received and determine whether adjustments to the proposed fee or implementation procedures are warranted.

The final fee amount, effective date, and payment procedures will be announced through updated Delta Doctors program guidelines and published on DRA's website.

No application-processing fee will be collected until the final policy becomes effective.

Delta Regional Authority
November 12, 2026
www.dra.gov