

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS – PETITION FOR NONIMMIGRANT STATUS FOR TEMPORARY WORKER

The University of Alaska Fairbanks, in exceptional cases, will petition the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) for visa category H-1B.

The H-1B is a nonimmigrant status held by a foreign national performing services in a "specialty occupation." A specialty occupation requires the theoretical and practical application of a body of highly specialized knowledge to fully perform the occupation, and the attainment of a bachelor's or higher degree in the specific specialty as a minimum for entry into the occupation in the U.S. H-1B status can appropriately be used by academic and research departments for visiting faculty and researchers.

The petition to USCIS represents a firm commitment by the employing department to fully fund the beneficiary for the entire period of time requested. USCIS will hold the employer liable for the H-1B worker's return transportation costs if the worker is dismissed from employment before the end of the period of authorized stay.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks will restrict this process to faculty and researchers in positions requiring the PhD or terminal degree in the field, and to information technology specialists supporting academic computing and networking. Requests for exceptions to this policy must be submitted to the Provost prior to the processing of the H-1B request. Additionally, only individuals appointed to full-time positions will be considered for the H-1B status. All UA and UAF policies and regulations regarding recruitment must be followed. As such, direct appointments will not be eligible for the H-1B status without specific, written authorization from the UAF HR Director.

Requests for H-1B will be processed through the Office of International Programs (OIP).


Susan Henrichs
Provost

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