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U.S. Department of Justice

Immigration and Naturalization Service

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS
425 Eye Street N.W.
ULLB, 3rd Floor
Washington, D.C. 20536



File: WAC 00-089 50851 Office: California Service Center

Date: JUN 4 2001

IN RE: Petitioner: [Redacted]
Beneficiary: [Redacted]

Petition: Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker Pursuant to Section 101(a)(15)(H)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(H)(iii)

Public Copy

IN BEHALF OF PETITIONER:



identifying data deleted to prevent clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision in your case. All documents have been returned to the office which originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied or the analysis used in reaching the decision was inconsistent with the information provided or with precedent decisions, you may file a motion to reconsider. Such a motion must state the reasons for reconsideration and be supported by any pertinent precedent decisions. Any motion to reconsider must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider, as required under 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(1)(i).

If you have new or additional information which you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reopen. Such a motion must state the new facts to be proved at the reopened proceeding and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. Any motion to reopen must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reopen, except that failure to file before this period expires may be excused in the discretion of the Service where it is demonstrated that the delay was reasonable and beyond the control of the applicant or petitioner. Id.

Any motion must be filed with the office which originally decided your case along with a fee of \$110 as required under 8 C.F.R. 103.7.

FOR THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER,
EXAMINATIONS

Myra L. Rosenby
for Robert P. Wiemann, Acting Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The nonimmigrant visa petition was denied by the Director, California Service Center, and is now before the Associate Commissioner for Examinations on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The petitioner engages in the business of specializing in commercial and industrial textile rental and service. It seeks classification of the beneficiary as a plant manager trainee for seven months. The director determined that the petitioner's training program deals in generalities with no fixed schedule, objectives or means of evaluation. The director also determined that the petitioner has not demonstrated the proposed training is not available in the beneficiary's own country.

On appeal, counsel states that the petitioner's training program is a bonafide program with a fixed schedule, objectives and means of evaluation. Counsel also states that the type of training offered by the petitioner is not available in the beneficiary's own country.

Section 101(a)(15)(H)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(H)(iii), provides classification to an alien having a residence in a foreign country which he or she has no intention of abandoning who is coming temporarily to the United States as a trainee, other than to receive graduate medical education or training, in a training program that is not designed primarily to provide productive employment.

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. 214.2(h)(7) states, in pertinent part:

(ii) *Evidence required for petition involving alien trainee--(A) Conditions.* The petitioner is required to demonstrate that:

(1) The proposed training is not available in the alien's own country;

(2) The beneficiary will not be placed in a position which is in the normal operation of the business and in which citizens and resident workers are regularly employed;

(3) The beneficiary will not engage in productive employment unless such employment is incidental and necessary to the training; and

(4) The training will benefit the beneficiary in pursuing a career outside the United States.

(B) *Description of training program.* Each petition for a trainee must include a statement which:

(1) Describes the type of training and supervision to be given, and the structure of the training program;

(2) Sets forth the proportion of time that will be devoted to productive employment;

(3) Shows the number of hours that will be spent, respectively, in classroom instruction and in on-the-job training;

(4) Describes the career abroad for which the training will prepare the alien;

(5) Indicates the reasons why such training cannot be obtained in the alien's country and why it is necessary for the alien to be trained in the United States; and

(6) Indicates the source of any remuneration received by the trainee and any benefit which will accrue to the petitioner for providing the training.

(iii) *Restrictions on training program for alien trainee.*
A training program may not be approved which:

(A) Deals in generalities with no fixed schedule, objectives, or means of evaluation;

(B) Is incompatible with the nature of the petitioner's business or enterprise;

(C) Is on behalf of a beneficiary who already possesses substantial training and expertise in the proposed field of training;

(D) Is in a field in which it is unlikely that the knowledge or skill will be used outside the United States;

(E) Will result in productive employment beyond that which is incidental and necessary to the training;

(F) Is designed to recruit and train aliens for the ultimate staffing of domestic operations in the United States;

(G) Does not establish that the petitioner has the physical plant and sufficiently trained manpower to provide the training specified; or

(H) Is designed to extend the total allowable period of practical training previously authorized a nonimmigrant student.

Counsel states that the training program, which is designed in weekly blocks, requires 28 weeks for completion. Counsel also states that the teachers are company managers and that the beneficiary will be performing specific duties each week such as, assisting the plant manager in figuring production employee's payroll, washroom records, FWI records, hand and machine towel fold records, press line records, and daily production detail records. The beneficiary will also take total charge of one washer and the entire washroom operation, performing all steps required in the process. Counsel states that the training does not take place on an hourly basis in a classroom. Counsel further states that towards the end of the training program, the trainee begins to take on supervisory duties of different departments with the plant manager assisting only when necessary.

The petitioner's training program deals in generalities with no fixed course schedule or instructors. The petitioner's training program consists of on-the-job training and reading of the production manual, manuals on all equipment in each department and all production policies. The training program does not include the number of hours that will be spent in each course, who will be providing the training and the means by which the instructor(s) will be evaluating the trainee. The petitioner has not explained who will be responsible for the beneficiary's overall supervision.

The petition cannot be approved for other reasons. The petitioner has not shown that the beneficiary will not be engaged in productive employment beyond that necessary and incidental to the training. Further, the petitioner has not demonstrated that the beneficiary will not be placed in a position in which citizens and resident workers are regularly employed.

Counsel asserts that the instruction and training that the beneficiary will receive is not available in his home country of Mexico. The assertion of counsel does not constitute evidence. Matter of Laureano, 19 I&N Dec. 1, 3 (BIA 1983); Matter of Obaiqbena, 19 I&N Dec. 533, 534 (BIA 1988); Matter of Ramirez-Sanchez, 17 I&N Dec. 503, 506 (BIA 1980).

Further, the beneficiary may not be classified as a nonimmigrant trainee, in the absence of a showing that the training is not available in his own country and that the purported training is not essentially experience in repetition, review, and practical application of skills. See Matter of Frigon, 18 I&N Dec. 164 (Comm. 1981). No evidence has been presented that such training does not exist in the beneficiary's home country.

In nonimmigrant visa petition proceedings, the burden of proving eligibility for the benefit sought remains entirely with the petitioner. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1361. The petitioner has not met that burden.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed.