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U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Administrative Appeals Office (AAO)  
20 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., MS 2090  
Washington, DC 20529-2090



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

DATE: **MAY 30 2013**

OFFICE: NEBRASKA SERVICE CENTER FILE: [REDACTED]

IN RE: PETITIONER: [REDACTED]  
BENEFICIARY [REDACTED]

PETITION: Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker as a Skilled Worker or Professional Pursuant to Section 203(b)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(3)

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER:  
[REDACTED]

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Enclosed please find the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. All of the documents related to this matter have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. Please be advised that any further inquiry that you might have concerning your case must be made to that office.

Thank you,

  
Ron Rosenberg  
Acting Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

**DISCUSSION:** The preference visa petition was denied by the Director, Nebraska Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be sustained.

The petitioner is an IT and software development company. It seeks to employ the beneficiary permanently in the United States as “12 – Management Support” as a skilled worker or professional pursuant to section 203(b)(3)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(3)(A).<sup>1</sup> As required by statute, the petition is accompanied by an ETA Form 9089, Application for Permanent Employment Certification (labor certification), certified by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). On July 6, 2011, the director denied the petition. The director’s decision concludes that the job offer portion of the labor certification fails to require a bachelor’s degree as a minimum educational requirement and, thus, no longer qualifies as a professional under section 203(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act. The petitioner appealed the decision to the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO).

The AAO conducts appellate review on a *de novo* basis. *See Soltane v. DOJ*, 381 F.3d 143, 145 (3d Cir. 2004).

Section 203(b)(3)(A)(i) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(3)(A)(i), provides for the granting of preference classification to qualified immigrants who are capable, at the time of petitioning for classification under this paragraph, of performing skilled labor (requiring at least two years training or experience), not of a temporary nature, for which qualified workers are not available in the United States. Section 203(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(3)(A)(ii), also provides for the granting of preference classification to qualified immigrants who hold baccalaureate degrees and are members of the professions.

To be eligible for approval, a beneficiary must have all the education, training, and experience specified on the labor certification as of the petition’s priority date. *See Matter of Wing’s Tea House*, 16 I&N 158 (Act. Reg. Comm. 1977). The priority date of the petition is April 1, 2002, which is the date the labor certification was accepted for processing by the DOL. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 204.5(d). The Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker (Form I-140) was filed on August 24, 2010.

Upon review of the entire record, the AAO concludes that the petitioner has established that it is more likely than not that the beneficiary had all the education, training, and experience specified on the ETA Form 9089 as of August 24, 2010. The beneficiary may not be classified as a professional because the labor certification does not demonstrate that the job offered requires the minimum of a bachelor’s degree. However, he may be classified as a skilled worker because the job offered may be classified as

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<sup>1</sup> Section 203(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act grants preference classification to qualified immigrants who hold baccalaureate degrees and are members of the professions. Section 203(b)(3)(A)(i) of the Act provides for the granting of preference classification to qualified immigrants who are capable of performing skilled labor (requiring at least two years training or experience), not of a temporary nature, for which qualified workers are not available in the United States.

such and his credentials match the terms of the labor certification. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 204.5(l)(3)(ii)(B)-(C). Accordingly, the petition is approved under section 203(b)(3)(A)(i) or the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(3)(A)(i).

The burden of proof in these proceedings rests solely with the petitioner. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361. The petitioner has met that burden.

**ORDER:** The appeal is sustained, and the petition is approved.