

clearly unwarranted
invasion of personal privacy

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

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DATE: DEC 13 2011 Office: TEXAS 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.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied by us in reaching our decision, or you have additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reconsider or a motion to reopen. The specific requirements for filing such a request can be found at 8 C.F.R. § 103.5. All motions must be submitted to the office that originally decided your case by filing a Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion, with a fee of \$630. Please be aware that 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i) requires that any motion must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider or reopen.

Thank you,

Perry Rhew
Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The Director, Texas Service Center, denied the employment-based immigrant visa petition, which is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The petitioner is a software development and consulting business. It seeks to employ the beneficiary permanently in the United States as a systems analyst pursuant to sections 203(b)(3)(A)(i) and (ii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(3)(A)(i) and (ii). As required by statute, a labor certification accompanied the petition. Upon reviewing the petition, the director determined that the petitioner failed to demonstrate that the beneficiary satisfied the minimum level of education stated on the labor certification. The director determined that the beneficiary's credentials could not be accepted as a foreign equivalent degree to a four-year U.S. bachelor's degree in computer science or engineering because the beneficiary's Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics, physics, and computer science was a three year degree from Osmania University in India.

The AAO issued a Request for Evidence (RFE) and a Notice of Derogatory Information (NODI) on September 2, 2011 requesting evidence of the petitioner's intent concerning the actual minimum educational requirements of the proffered position.¹ The AAO explained that it consulted a database that did not equate the beneficiary's credentials to a U.S. baccalaureate degree and the evidence in the record of proceeding as currently constituted did not support a determination that the petitioner intended the actual minimum requirements of the proffered position to include alternatives to a bachelor's degree such as the credentials held by the beneficiary. The AAO solicited evidence of how the petitioner expressed its actual minimum educational requirements to the United States Department of Labor (DOL) during the labor certification process.

The AAO also requested in the RFE that the petitioner provide evidence of its ability to pay the proffered wage to the beneficiary during the relevant years, and its ability to pay wages to the multiple beneficiaries whose immigrant petitions were also pending since the petitioner established its business.

In the RFE, the AAO specifically alerted the petitioner that failure to respond to the RFE would result in dismissal since the AAO could not substantively adjudicate the appeal without the information requested. The failure to submit requested evidence that precludes a material line of inquiry shall be grounds for denying the petition. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(b)(14).

Because the petitioner failed to respond to the RFE and NODI, the AAO is dismissing the appeal.

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 not met that burden.

¹ The AAO conducts appellate review on a *de novo* basis. *See Soltane v. DOJ*, 381 F.3d 143, 145 (3d Cir. 2004).

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed.