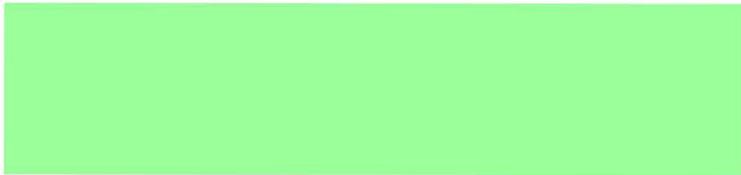


(b)(6)

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

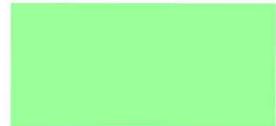


U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

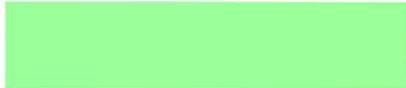


DATE: **MAY 22 2013** OFFICE: NEBRASKA SERVICE CENTER

FILE:



IN RE: Petitioner:
 Beneficiary:



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:



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 AAO inappropriately applied the law in reaching its decision, or you have additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reconsider or a motion to reopen in accordance with the instructions on Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion, with a fee of \$630. The specific requirements for filing such a motion can be found at 8 C.F.R. § 103.5. **Do not file any motion directly with the AAO.** Please be aware that 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i) requires any motion to be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider or reopen.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Rosenberg".

Ron Rosenberg
Acting Chief, Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The Director, Nebraska Service Center (director), denied the employment-based immigrant visa petition. The petitioner appealed the decision to the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO). The appeal will be summarily dismissed as abandoned pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(b)(13)(i).

The petitioner describes itself as a software consulting business. It seeks to permanently employ the beneficiary in the United States as a software engineer. The petitioner requests classification of the beneficiary as a professional or skilled worker pursuant to section 203(b)(3)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1153(b)(3)(A). The petition is accompanied by a labor certification approved by the U.S. Department of Labor.

The director's decision denying the petition concluded that that the beneficiary does not have a U.S. bachelor's degree or foreign equivalent degree as required by the terms of the labor certification.

The record shows that the appeal is properly filed and makes a specific allegation of error in law or fact. The procedural history in this case is documented by the record and incorporated into the decision. Further elaboration of the procedural history will be made only as necessary.

The AAO conducts appellate review on a *de novo* basis. *See Soltane v. DOJ*, 381 F.3d 143, 145 (3d Cir. 2004). The AAO considers all pertinent evidence in the record, including new evidence properly submitted upon appeal.¹

On November 26, 2012, the AAO sent the petitioner a request for evidence (RFE) with a copy to counsel of record. The AAO advised the petitioner that it had reviewed the Electronic Database for Global Education (EDGE) created by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO), "a nonprofit, voluntary, professional association of more than 11,000 higher education admissions and registration professionals who represent more than 2,600 institutions and agencies in the United States and in over 40 countries around the world." The AAO noted that in the section related to the Indian educational system, EDGE provides that a Bachelor of Science "represents the attainment of a level of education comparable to two to three years of university study in the United States." which is inconsistent with the evaluations of the beneficiary's education qualifications in the record. The AAO specifically advised the petitioner that based on the conclusions of EDGE and the two credentials evaluations submitted, the evidence in the record was not sufficient to establish that the beneficiary possesses the minimum requirements listed on the Form 9089.

Moreover, in the RFE, the AAO noted that the evidence in the record does not establish that the beneficiary possesses the required experience for the offered position prior to the priority date: five

¹ The submission of additional evidence on appeal is allowed by the instructions to the Form I-290B, which are incorporated into the regulations by 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(a)(1). The record in the instant case provides no reason to preclude consideration of any of the documents newly submitted on appeal. *See Matter of Soriano*, 19 I&N Dec. 764 (BIA 1988).

years of experience in the job offered or in the alternate occupation of programmer, systems analyst, software developer, or consultant. The AAO specifically asked the petitioner to submit evidence to establish that the beneficiary possesses a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science, Engineering, CIS/MIS/any Eng. Field/Mathematics/Science or a related field plus five years of experience in the job offered or in the alternate occupation of programmer, systems analyst, software developer, or consultant as required on the certified ETA 9089. The AAO also asked the petitioner to submit evidence of its ability to pay the proffered wage from the priority date onwards in the form of annual reports, federal tax returns or audited financial statements for 2008 onwards, as well as any Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Forms W-2 or 1099 issued to the beneficiary for 2007 to the present.

The RFE allowed the petitioner 45 days in which to submit a response. The AAO informed the petitioner that failure to respond to the RFE would result in a dismissal of the appeal.

As of the date of this decision, the petitioner has not responded to the AAO's RFE. 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). Since the petitioner failed to respond to the RFE, the appeal will be summarily dismissed as abandoned pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 103.2(b)(13)(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 not met that burden.

ORDER: The appeal is summarily dismissed as abandoned.