



University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

Office of International Education
Immigration Services

TN PETITION UNDER NAFTA ("North American Free Trade Agreement")

General Overview

Under the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement ("NAFTA"), qualified foreign professionals from Canada and Mexico may apply for temporary (employment-sponsored) work authorization in the TN classification.

In order to qualify, the individual must be a citizen of Canada or Mexico and must be seeking to undertake employment in the following professions:

- Accountant
- Actuary
- Architect
- Computer Systems Analyst
- Disaster Relief Insurance Claims Adjuster
- Economist
- Engineer
- Forester
- Graphic Designer
- Hotel Manager
- Industrial Designer
- Interior Designer
- Land Surveyor
- Landscape Architect
- Lawyer
- Librarian
- Management Consultant
- Mathematician
- Range Manager/Range Conservationist
- Research Assistant
- Scientific Technician/Technologist
- Social Worker
- Sylviculturist
- Technical Publications Writer

- Urban Planner
- Vocational Counselor

Medical Professions

- Dentist
- Dietitian
- Medical Laboratory Technologist (Canada) or Medical Technologist (Mexico)
- Nutritionist
- Occupational Therapist
- Pharmacist
- Physician (teaching or research only)
- Physiotherapist or Physical Therapist
- Psychologist
- Recreational Therapist
- Registered Nurse
- Veterinarian

Science Professions

- Agriculturist (including Agronomist)
- Animal Breeder
- Animal Scientist
- Apiculturist
- Astronomer
- Biochemist
- Biologist
- Chemist
- Dairy Scientist
- Entomologist
- Epidemiologist
- Geneticist
- Geochemist
- Geologist
- Geophysicist (including Oceanographer in Mexico)
- Horticulturist
- Meteorologist
- Pharmacologist
- Physicist (including Oceanographer in Canada)

- Plant Breeder
- Poultry Scientist
- Soil Scientist
- Zoologist

Teaching Professions

- College Teacher
- Seminary Teacher
- University Teacher

The position must also be no longer than one year in duration. Extensions of the temporary employment are permitted as long as the individual continues to demonstrate his/her temporary intentions to remain in the U.S.

Document Requirements

Required TN documentation includes the following:

1. A statement from the employer which includes a full description of the nature of the duties the beneficiary will be performing, the anticipated length of stay, and the arrangements for the payment of wages;
2. Evidence that the beneficiary meets the education and/or alternative credentials for the activity;
3. Evidence that all licensure requirements, where applicable to the activity, have been satisfied; and
4. Evidence of Canadian or Mexican citizenship.

Note: Mexican Citizens require a TN visa stamp in their passports to enter the U.S.

Dependents

Dependents (spouses and unmarried children under 21 years of age) of TN professionals are entitled to TD status. Dependents may be students in the U.S., but may not be employed under the TD status.

Filing Fees

If the TN Petition is submitted at the border, a filing fee of \$56 is required (this includes a \$50 TN processing fee and \$6 fee for the issuance of the I-94 Arrival/Departure Record Card). Family members must pay \$6 each for the issuance of the I-94 Arrival/Departure Record Card.

If applying for TN status (typically an extension or change of status) in the U.S. through the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”) Service Center, a filing fee of \$320 applies. Premium Processing is also available to obtain adjudication of the petition within 15 calendar days by paying an additional \$1,000 to the USCIS.

Checks should be made payable to the “U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services”.

Legal Services Fee

To cover the costs associated with the preparation of the TN Petition, a legal services fee of \$750 will be charged.