

INTERNATIONAL FACULTY & SCHOLARS

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Department Letter of Support template, edit as needed and print on department letterhead

[Date]

U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services
California Service Center
24000 Avila Rd., Rm. 2302
Laguna Niguel, California 92677

RE: I-129 petition on behalf of NAME, (Ph.D., M.D., B.A), DOB mm/dd/yyyy.

Dear Adjudicating Officer:

This letter is submitted in support of the petition of The University of Arizona, to classify Dr. NAME a citizen of COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP as an H-1B nonimmigrant of distinguished merit and ability, to serve as a UNIVERSITY TITLE for our university on a temporary basis.

The Petitioner

Founded in 1885, The University of Arizona is now the nation's 18th-ranked research institution, with an enrollment of 45,217, faculty and staff of 16,271 and a 391-acre campus. The University of Arizona is a land grant institution, one of a number of federally funded universities created to support colleges of agriculture and conduct research for the public good. In that tradition, The University of Arizona links its educational, research, and public service programs to needs at the local, state, national, and international levels.

The University of Arizona has come to be known as having ivy-league opportunities at a public university price tag: a state institution which offers nationally ranked research, top ranked professors, over 122 majors, and a full range of support services.

The University of Arizona balances a strong research component with an emphasis on teaching—faculty rolls include Nobel and Pulitzer Prize winners. Its academic reputation is a drawing card for top students. To the wealth of academic choices, add a progressive campus atmosphere, conference winning basketball and football teams, and myriad recreation opportunities.

The Department of Plant Sciences at the University of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona is one the largest research and extension departments in the College of Agriculture and is the primary unit on campus offering undergraduate teaching programs in the applied and basic plant sciences. It is also unique because of the diversity of faculty specialties not normally found in a single academic unit (for the latest News and Semester Updates see the Plant Sciences Newsletter). Faculty activities encompass a broad spectrum including agronomy, horticulture, physiology, biochemistry, genetics, and cellular and molecular biology.

The overall goal of the Department of Plant Sciences is to help sustain the economic production of plants as used by humans for food, fiber, and improving the quality of life in landscapes and natural environments. Our faculty discovers new knowledge and develops technologies that are of importance to agriculture and the life sciences; and that are taught to students, growers, other researchers, and the general public.

The Position

The Research Associate is to conduct scientific research in maize. The minimum requirement for this position is a Ph.D. and research experience in the study of maize. We investigate the control of gene expression in different cell types and at different stages by studying the regulated expression of the genes required for the biosynthesis of the purple anthocyanin pigments in maize. In higher plants, this system provides one of only a few examples of known regulatory proteins, which coordinately regulate a number of target genes that are cloned and characterized.

The Beneficiary

Dr. [NAME] is qualified to fill this position of [UNIVERSITY TITLE]. From 1992 – 1997, Dr. [NAME] carried out her Ph.D. research in the Department of Molecular Genetics, at the Free University in Amsterdam. She has contributed to 12 publications and has applied for a patent. Since 1997, when Dr. [NAME] obtained her Ph.D., she has been working at The University of Arizona as a Research Associate in the department of Plant Sciences in J1 status.

Terms of Employment

Based on Dr. [NAME]'s professional credentials, the Department of [DEPARTMENT NAME] wishes to employ her for a temporary period of [NUMBER OF YEARS] as a [UNIVERSITY TITLE]. We understand the temporary nature of the H-1B status we seek for Dr. [NAME] and assuming our H-1B petition is approved, we fully intend to comply with all of the regulations regarding employment of individuals in H-1B status. Dr. [NAME] will be compensated at the rate of \$[SALARY] per year.

If Dr. [NAME] is dismissed during the validity of her H-1B status, we will be responsible for the reasonable cost of his return trip home.

Thank you for your courtesy and attention to the processing of this petition.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]

[Title]

[Department Name]