

## INTERNATIONAL FACULTY & SCHOLARS

Global Center, Room 142  
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Tucson, AZ 85721  
Ofc: 520-626-6289

*\*\*Edit as needed and print on department letterhead\*\**

[Date]

U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services  
California Service Center  
PO Box 30113  
Tustin, California 92781

**RE:** Form I-129 Petition on behalf of [Employee Name], [Degree(s)], Date of Birth: [MM/DD/YYYY]

Dear Adjudicating Officer:

This letter is submitted in support of the petition filed by the University of Arizona to classify Dr. [Employee 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 a public land-grant research university located in Tucson, Arizona. The University conducts extensive research and educational activities at the local, state, national, and international levels, with a strong emphasis on advancing knowledge, supporting public service, and providing high-quality instruction.

The University of Arizona supports a broad range of academic and research programs and employs faculty and research personnel with advanced degrees who contribute to teaching, research, and service missions across disciplines.

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 is one of the largest research and extension departments within the College of Agriculture, Life & Environmental Sciences. The department supports undergraduate and graduate instruction, as well as externally funded research programs, in areas including agronomy, horticulture, plant physiology, biochemistry, genetics, and molecular biology.

The mission of the Department of Plant Sciences is to advance knowledge and develop technologies related to plant-based systems for food, fiber, and environmental sustainability. Faculty members conduct original research and disseminate findings through publications, instruction, and outreach activities.

### **The Position**

*(\*Detailed information needed regarding the job position/role. This section is crucial, so please provide as much detail and specificity as possible in following areas: job title, primary duties, and responsibilities, required skills and qualifications, experience or education requirements, and how the role aligns with the individual's expertise. \*)*

The position of *Research Associate* is a professional research role that requires highly specialized knowledge and the attainment of a Ph.D. or equivalent degree in a related field.

The Research Associate will conduct scientific research in maize genetics and molecular biology, with primary duties including:

- Investigating the regulation of gene expression in maize at different developmental stages and in distinct cell types
- Studying genes involved in the biosynthesis of anthocyanin pigments
- Analyzing regulatory proteins that control coordinated gene expression
- Designing and conducting experiments, analyzing data, and interpreting results
- Preparing manuscripts for publication and contributing to ongoing research programs

The minimum requirement for this position is a Ph.D. in plant sciences, molecular genetics, or a closely related field, along with demonstrated research experience in maize or plant molecular biology.

### **The Beneficiary**

*(\*Detailed information regarding the individual's education and experience, and how these qualifications directly tie to the job position. This section is crucial, so please ensure that you include as much detail and specificity as possible. \*)*

Dr. [Employee Name] possesses the education and experience required for this specialty occupation. She earned her Ph.D. in Molecular Genetics from the Free University of Amsterdam, where she conducted doctoral research from 1992 to 1997.

Dr. [Name] has contributed to multiple peer-reviewed publications and has applied for a patent related to her research. Since receiving her Ph.D., she has continued her research career at the University of Arizona as a Research Associate in the Department of Plant Sciences, previously holding J-1 status.

Her academic background and research experience directly align with the duties and requirements of the proposed position.

### **Terms of Employment**

Based on Dr. [Employee Name]'s qualifications, the Department of [Department Name] seeks to employ her for a temporary period of [Number of Years] as a [University Title].

Dr. [Name] will be compensated at a salary of \$[Salary] per year, which meets or exceeds the prevailing wage requirements for this position.

The University of Arizona understands the temporary nature of H-1B classification and affirms its intent to comply with all applicable regulations governing the employment of H-1B nonimmigrant workers. If Dr. [Name] is dismissed from employment prior to the expiration of the approved H-1B validity period, the University of Arizona will be responsible for the reasonable costs of return transportation abroad, as required by law.

Thank you for your consideration of this petition.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Title]

[Department Name]