

At a Glance: IFSO Contacts and Resources for Department Chairs

Primary contacts for any questions regarding sponsoring faculty and researchers for nonimmigrant/immigrant statuses at UC San Diego:

Roark Miller, PhD	Director	858 534 3731	rtmiller@ucsd.edu
Sandra Vargas Tinoco, JD	Assistant Director	858 534 1939	svargastinoco@ucsd.edu

Website information overview on UCSD-sponsored classifications:

Permanent Residency: <http://ifso.ucsd.edu/dept-facilitators/pr/index.html>

H-1B: <http://ifso.ucsd.edu/dept-facilitators/h1b/index.html>

J-1: <http://ifso.ucsd.edu/dept-facilitators/j1/index.html>

UC-wide policy on mandatory use of this office for petitions supported with UC Funding:

ALL UC-sponsored employment-based petitions, or self-petitions supported with UC funding, MUST go through the campus international services office or outside attorney on retainer through UC Office of the President (IFSO works directly with outside attorney as intermediary).

Best Practices for handling new faculty hires:

Have your department or unit apprise IFSO of all new international faculty hires as soon as they are known:

- H-1B petitions take time, and there often is not much time between selection date and 7/1 start date; carefully timed planning can be thwarted by politics—government shut downs, federal agency suspension of services such as Premium Processing, etc.
- New faculty are very anxious to begin permanent residency process quickly—the sooner they obtain it, the sooner they can apply for certain federally funded grants.
- New hires that defer for a year, or come already with employment authorization (F-1 OPT) still need to begin the permanent residency process right after selection, as there is an 18-month window within which the process must be completed; IFSO needs to be notified of these cases at selection, even if we're not doing an H-1B for them for another year.

Additional services available for departments and researchers:

- IFSO Director and Assistant Director are available to give presentations or answer general questions at departmental meetings on nonimmigrant/immigrant sponsorship for faculty/researcher positions (H-1B, J-1, permanent residency, etc.)—these can help outline for PIs available options and limitations on specific options when hiring international researchers.
- IFSO staff provides training classes through UC Learning for departmental administrators on how to sponsor researchers for J-1, H-1B, and other classifications, as well as permanent residency.
- IFSO staff are available for individual appointments with international faculty/researchers for immigration questions or questions pertaining to adjusting to living in the U.S. (SSN, employment, health insurance, English language learning, family matters, etc.) To request appointments, researchers can email ischolars@ucsd.edu or phone 858 246 1448.
- IFSO also provides social, cultural, and educational programs to help researchers and their family members integrate themselves within the UCSD and greater community.