

Catherine Rogerson
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March 6, 2007

USCIS Comments

Dear USCIS Comments:

I am writing to you as an international educator in opposition to the February 1, 2007, proposed rule "Adjustment of the Immigration and Naturalization Benefit Application and Petition Fee Schedule." The proposed fee increases are so exorbitant they will act as a disincentive for international students and scholars to study and work in the United States. USCIS must reconsider the role of appropriated funds to meet the administrative needs of the agency. I ask that fees be reduced to the actual cost of processing the application or petition.

I am particularly concerned with the proposed fee increase for form I-765, which is used to apply for Optional Practical Training. If the fee increase is approved many of the College's international students will not be able to afford to apply for permission to work in the US. As most health care providers are required to work a certain number of hours before they can take their licensure exams, the fee increase will negatively impact these students' ability to become licensed practitioners in their chosen field. Please note that the US desperately needs trained health care providers at this time.

Apart from the direct impact of the excessive fees, they are contrary to clearly expressed U.S. policies.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Catherine Rogerson
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