





























Labor Condition Application for H-1B, H-1B1 and E-3 Nonimmigrant Workers  
Form ETA-9035CP –General Instructions for the 9035 & 9035E  
U.S. Department of Labor

not apply to an employer where the LCA is used only for the employment of “exempt” H-1B nonimmigrant worker(s), as described in 20 CFR 655.737, who either (1) receives wages (including cash bonuses and similar compensation) at an annual rate equal to at least \$60,000; or (2) attains a master’s or higher degree (or its equivalent) in a specialty related to the intended employment.

For purposes of claiming the exemption, “master’s or higher degree (or its equivalent)” means a foreign academic degree from an institution which is accredited or recognized under the law of the country where the degree was obtained, and which is equivalent to a master’s or higher degree issued by a U.S. academic institution. The equivalence to a U.S. academic degree cannot be established through experience or through demonstration of expertise in the academic specialty (*i.e.*, no “time equivalency” or “performance equivalency” will be recognized as substituting for a degree issued by an academic institution). 20 CFR 655.737(d)(1).

A “specialty related to the intended employment” means that the academic degree is in a specialty which is generally accepted in the industry or occupation as an appropriate or necessary credential or skill for the person who undertakes the employment in question. A “specialty” which is not generally accepted as appropriate or necessary to the employment would not be considered to be sufficiently “related” to afford the H-1B nonimmigrant status as an “exempt” H-1B nonimmigrant. 20 CFR 655.737(d)(2).

Where the employer has designated that the LCA will be used to support H-1B petition(s) and/or request(s) for extension of status for “exempt” H-1B nonimmigrant workers based on attainment of a master’s or higher degree (or its equivalent) in a specialty related to the intended employment, the employer must fully complete and submit the Form ETA-9035, Appendix A. The employer must disclose the educational attainment information for all “exempt” H-1B nonimmigrant workers who will be employed under the LCA for which the employer is claiming the exemption because the worker has a “master’s or higher degree (or its equivalent).” Where multiple H-1B nonimmigrant workers attained the same degree in the same field of study in the same institution on the same date, the employer is only required to disclose the educational attainment information once on the Form ETA-9035, Appendix A. Because each of the initial five (5) educational attainment information sections is identical, the instructions for completing the collection elements are only described one time below. Each field within the educational attainment information section must be completed.

**NOTE:** If the employer will claim the exemption for workers with a “master’s or higher degree (or its equivalent)” for more than five (5) workers with different educational attainment information, the employer must report as many additional sections of educational attainment information as are necessary to cover all “exempt” H-1B nonimmigrant workers who will be employed under the LCA.

**a. Educational Attainment Information 1**

1. Enter the number of H-1B nonimmigrant workers that the H-1B dependent or willful violator employer will seek exemption status based on attainment of a master’s or higher degree (or its equivalent) in a specialty related to the intended employment who attended the same institution with the same field of study and date of degree. The total number of H-1B nonimmigrant workers entered in this field must not be greater than the entry for “Total Worker Positions Being Requested for Certification” provided in Item B.7, Form ETA-9035. Where multiple sections of educational attainment information are entered, the sum of the number of H-1B nonimmigrant workers entered in this field in each section must not be greater than the entry for “Total Worker Positions Being Requested for Certification” provided in Item B.7, Form ETA-9035.
2. Enter the full name of the accredited or recognized institution (e.g., college or university) that awarded the degree to the H-1B nonimmigrant worker(s).
3. Enter the field of study in which the degree was awarded to the H-1B nonimmigrant worker(s).
4. Enter the date on which the degree was awarded to the H-1B nonimmigrant worker(s) using MM/DD/YYYY format (e.g., 06/01/2017).

**NOTE:** The employer is required to provide documentation at the time of filing which substantiates the academic information provided. The documentation is limited to the following: a copy of the degree, a transcript, or an official letter from the academic institution which granted the degree. All documentation must be provided at the time of the application’s filing for consideration with the application. Any document in a foreign language must be accompanied by a full and complete English language translation.