



Eugene Goldstein & Associates is a full service immigration law firm. Our experienced attorneys and knowledgeable support team have concentrated on U.S. immigration and nationality law for more than 40 years. We represent clients ranging from individuals and family-owned businesses to major international corporations and academic institutions. We frequently handle employment matters for business, healthcare, and academic institutions. We are regularly consulted by international students and scholars, performing and fine artists and entertainers, as well as clients with family-based and employment concerns.

Please feel free to call for an appointment so that we may evaluate your portfolio.

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O-1 Sponsors

Artists who are applying for an O-1 visa need to find a sponsor for their petition. The sponsor will usually be an employer or an agent. Often artists and their sponsors don't know what is expected of each other during the O-1 immigration process. What are the obligations of the sponsor?

USCIS imposes only one obligation on the sponsor: Their statements made as part of the petition must be true. For example, you will be working where the itinerary says you will be working, when it says you will be working there, and getting paid what you are suppose to be paid. Apart from that, USCIS does not appear concerned with what the sponsor does or does not do. However, as the petition is by the sponsor, if the sponsor fails to provide a necessary document, USCIS will deny your petition, and move on to the next one. Its up to you and the sponsor (and your attorney) to make sure the petition is as complete and accurate as can be.

It is your responsibility to find a sponsor who is willing to fulfill their obligations to USCIS, and to you. An employer, friend, mentor, or combination of all three could serve as your sponsor. An ideal sponsor is one who is actually willing to work with you to provide the necessary documents and information to meet the eligibility requirements, whether it is tax information, an employment contract, or an itinerary. A sponsor's promise isn't enough. They must come through.

When you do find a sponsor it may be helpful to inform him, her, or it that certain documents will need to be signed, and that certain information may be needed. You should also inform your sponsor that there might be deadlines that need to be met during the process. That way, your sponsor will understand what is expected from the outset and will not be surprised.



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