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(2) The alien was occupying a qualifying position throughout that year; or

(3) The alien is destined to a qualifying position identified in the petition and in an organization listed in the petition.

(g) Former exchange visitor. Former exchange visitors who are subject to the 2-year foreign residence requirement of INA 212(e) are ineligible to apply for visas under INA 101(a)(15)(L) until they have fulfilled the residence requirement or obtained a waiver of the requirement.

[57 FR 31449, July 16, 1992, as amended at 58FR 68527, Dec. 28, 1993; 61 FR 1833, Jan. 24, 1996]

§41.55 Aliens with extraordinary ability.

(a) Requirements for O classification. An alien shall be classifiable under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(O) if:

(1) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under the provisions of that section; and either

(2) With respect to the principal alien, the consular officer has received official evidence of the approval by INS of a petition to accord such classification or of the extension by INS of the period of authorized stay in such classification; or

(3) The consular officer is satisfied the alien is the spouse or child of an alien so classified and is accompanying or following to join the principal alien.

(b) *Approval of visa*. The approval of a petition by INS does not establish that the alien is eligible to receive a non-immigrant visa.

(c) Validity of visa. The period of validity of a visa issued on the basis of paragraph (a) to this section must not exceed the period indicated in the petition, notification, or confirmation required in paragraph (a)(2) of this section.

(d) Alien not entitled to O classification. The consular officer must suspend action on the alien's application and submit a report to the approving INS office if the consular officer knows or has reason to believe that an alien applying for a visa under INA 101(a)(15)(O) is not entitled to the classification as approved.

[57 FR 31450, July 16, 1992; as amended at 61 FR 1833, Jan. 24, 1996]

§41.56 Athletes, artists and entertainers.

(a) Requirements for P classification. An alien shall be classifiable under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(P) if:

(1) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under the provisions of that section; and either

(2) With respect to the principal alien, the consular officer has received official evidence of the approval by INS of a petition to accord such classification or of the extension by INS of the period of authorized stay in such classification; or

(3) The consular officer is satisfied the alien is the spouse or child of an alien so classified and is accompanying or following to join the principal alien.

(b) *Approval of visa*. The approval of a petition by INS does not establish that the alien is eligible to receive a non-immigrant visa.

(c) Validity of visa. The period of validity of a visa issued on the basis of paragraph (a) to this section must not exceed the period indicated in the petition, confirmation, or extension of stay required in paragraph (a)(2) of this section.

(d) Alien not entitled to P classification. The consular officer must suspend action on the alien's application and submit a report to the approving INS office if the consular officer knows or has reason to believe that an alien applying for a visa under INA 101(a)(15)(P) is not entitled to the classification as approved.

[57 FR 31450, July 16, 1992; as amended at 61 FR 1833, Jan. 24, 1996]

§41.57 International cultural exchange visitors and visitors under the Irish Peace Process Cultural and Training Program Act (IPPCTPA).

(a) International cultural exchange visitors. (1) Requirements for classification under INA section 101(a)(15)(Q)(i). A consular officer may classify an alien under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(Q)(i) if:

(i) The consular officer is satisfied that the alien qualifies under the provisions of that section, and

(ii) The consular officer has received official evidence of the approval by INS of a petition or the extension by INS of