

EB-1 Outstanding Professor or Researcher – Evidence Requirements

To qualify for the EB-1 Outstanding Professor/Research Category, you must show that you:

- (1) have at least 3 years of teaching and/or research experience in the academic field, (such experience may include research or teaching while working toward an advanced degree only if the research is recognized within the academic field as outstanding or if the teaching duties entailed full responsibility for the class taught).

To prove that you meet this criteria, you must provide employment verification letters from past employers to show at least three years of teaching and/or research experience in the field.

- (2) will be employed in a tenured or tenure-track teaching position or a permanent research position within a university or institution of higher learning;

To prove that you meet this criteria, you must provide a letter from CWU confirming that your position with CWU is tenured, tenure-track, or “permanent.” [USCIS defines “permanent” as being “for a term of indefinite or unlimited duration, and in which the employee will ordinarily have an expectation of continued employment unless there is good cause for termination.”] **If you will be using experience gained with CWU to meet some of the 3-year requirement in (1) above, then the employment verification letter from CWU may be combined with this letter.**

- (3) are recognized internationally as outstanding in a specific academic area.

Evidence that you are internationally recognized as outstanding in a specific academic area (at least 2, but preferably more of the following requirements):

A. Receipt of major prizes or awards for outstanding achievement in the academic field:

TYPES OF EVIDENCE:

- Copies of award certificates/letters;
- Patents may count as awards for this category;
- Criteria used to judge the nominees;
- Proof of how difficult it is to win the award/prize or obtain the patent;
- Information about the purpose, significance, and scope of each award/prize and of the awarding bodies/organizations; and
- If available, list of prior winners in the past 3-5 years.
- Awards qualifying for this category should be recognized as prestigious, but do not have to be quite the caliber of a Nobel or Pulitzer Prize. \
- Grants, fellowships, and student awards generally do not suffice for this category.

B. Membership in associations in the academic field, which require outstanding achievements of their members:

TYPES OF EVIDENCE:

- Copies of membership letters from associations;
- Criteria used and procedures followed to determine whether an applicant is “outstanding” and other requirements for membership;
- Number of current members and your rank in each association compared to other members; and
- Information establishing the international reputations of those reviewing applications and of the associations in the field.\
- It must be established that the associations to which you belong are selective based on the outstanding achievements of its members. Leadership positions are very convincing.

C. Published material in professional publications written by others about your work in the academic field:

TYPES OF EVIDENCE:

- Copies of articles’ cover pages showing title, author, publication name, and issue date;
- Copies of pages on which your work is significantly discussed;
- Information establishing the prestige of the publications;
- Information about local/national/international circulation, frequency of publication, and numbers of copies published; and
- If available, information establishing the importance of the articles.
- It is important to establish the significance of the published material submitted regarding the work of the scholar as an individual and how it demonstrates his/her international recognition for outstanding achievement as compared to others in the academic field.
- The reference should name you and *discuss* the work; mere citations do not constitute the level of proof required for this category of evidence.

D. Participation on a panel or individually as the judge of the work of others in the same or an allied academic field:

TYPES OF EVIDENCE:

- If on a journal’s editorial board, include a website printout naming you as an editor/editorial board member;
- For journal and/or conference peer-reviewing, provide copies of letters/emails acknowledging the judging (e.g. letter from an editor explaining why you are regularly asked to review manuscripts);
- Criteria used to select you as a judge for journals, conferences, etc.; and
- Information establishing the international significance of the journals, conferences, etc.

- Letters attesting to your participation from individuals who are knowledgeable about the circumstances or copies of letters thanking you for judging an event or reviewing a paper, and explaining *why* you were specifically chosen as a judge of others' work. Ideally, the letters and/or evidence submitted should be from a high level official who requested AND received your services as a reviewer. \
- Being a "judge" of the work of others can include serving as a reviewer for a professional scholarly journal, judging papers, work on conference/committee selection panels, participating as an editorial board member, etc.
- The significance of the work judged by you must be established.
- Evidence must show in detail the "outstanding" qualifications that enabled you to act/serve as the judge of others.

E. *Original scientific or scholarly research contributions to the academic field:*

TYPES OF EVIDENCE:

- As many recommendation letters as possible from recognized experts in the field describing your original contributions and explaining the significant impact of those contributions on the field:
 - Letters should be addressed "To Whom It May Concern."
 - Experts should include their resumés and explain how they are acquainted with you, if at all.
 - If possible, some letters should come from outside the U.S. from different regions of the world; but preferably only 1-2 of the international letters should come from your home country.
 - Letters from individuals in high-ranking positions, particularly U.S. government officials who have expertise in the field, are valuable.
 - Preferrably, only submit 1 letter per institution/organization.
 - Only one of the letters should be written by someone from CWU.
 - Each letter should sound unique – do not submit similar sounding letters with different signers.
 - Letters should provide examples of how the person's work is positively influencing the field and explain its global and national impacts on mainstream issues.
 - Letters should not describe you as promising, young, or having potential – they should already be established in the field.
 - Letters should comment on your professional achievements rather than personal qualities.
- Documentation of original research presentations made at conferences, seminars, etc. and the significance of the events;
- Participation as a consultant/researcher due to original contributions at the invitation of a distinguished organization (e.g. UN sub-committee, governmental workgroup, etc.); and/or
- Other evidence showing major original scientific or scholarly contributions.

- The best attestations come from experts who know you only through brief meetings (e.g. conferences, presentations).

F. *Authorship of scholarly books or articles, in scholarly journals with international circulation, in the academic field:*

TYPES OF EVIDENCE:

- Preferrably, you should have at least 10 peer-reviewed international journal articles.
- Provide a list of scholarly journal articles, books, book chapters, or other publications;
- If you have a lot of citations, evidence showing the number of citations for each article (e.g. printout of a [Google Scholar](#) search);
- Copies of articles' cover pages showing title, author, publication name, and issue date;
- Copies of books' pages showing title, author, table of contents, and publication date; for book chapters, include the first page of each chapter written;
- Information establishing the prestige and international reputation of the publications/media;
- Information showing international circulation, publication frequencies, and numbers of copies published; and
- If available, information establishing the importance of the articles/books/chapters.

G. *Comparable evidence proving outstanding international recognition in the field include, but are not limited to:*

- Receipt of very important or competitive grants or other funding as evidenced by grant award letters and information explaining the difficulty in obtaining the grant;
- Articles in popular media, such as magazines and newspapers — it is ideal if color photos accompany the articles;
- Command of a high salary or other payment for services evidenced by contracts or other reliable evidence;
- Prestigious appointments with distinguished institutions, evidenced by documentation establishing the prestige of each appointment as well as each institution; and/or
- Any other evidence that does not fit one of the six categories above, but which proves outstanding international reputation.