Immigration and size of firm (disclosing confidential information, including potential employees may be responsible for attorney fees if referred to an immigration attorney by an IS Advisor. Sponsorship guidelines ensure University employees must coordinate all petitions and applications with Faculty/staff/Advisor prior to seeking outside counsel in order to avoid unnecessary expenses. IS Advisors may recommend consultation with an immigration attorney in particularly complex or uncertain circumstances. *Students are responsible for paying application fees charged by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

Student policy on use of outside immigration attorneys
The U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) requires that University staff (IS Advisors) serve as F-1 Designated School Officials (DSOs) and J-1 Alternate Responsible Officers (AROs). These representatives must approve any application for F-1 off-campus authorization and any application for J-1 on- or off-campus authorization. Students should consult with their IS Advisor prior to seeking outside counsel in order to avoid unnecessary expenses. IS Advisors may recommend consultation with an immigration attorney in particularly complex or uncertain circumstances.

Faculty/staff/researcher policy on use of outside immigration attorneys
University employees must coordinate all petitions and applications with the Office of Global Services (OGS) in order to ensure consistency in institutional information submitted to the U.S. government and compliance with institutional sponsorship guidelines. University employees cannot use an outside attorney to file a Labor Certification. University employees may be responsible for attorney fees if referred to an immigration attorney by an IS Advisor.

Choosing an immigration attorney
Use great care and consider factors such as experience/specialization/expertise in your particular area of concern; comfort in disclosing confidential information, including potential status violations status; fees (often correlated with quality of service); and size of firm (often correlated with resources) vs. personalization of services (sometimes a trade-off; find a balance).

Immigration attorneys & clinics reference list
For reference only; OGS cannot officially endorse any of these attorneys. Please contact us to provide feedback on any of these attorneys.

- Helen L. Konrad
  McCandlish Holton, PC
  1111 E Main St, Ste 2100
  Richmond, VA 23219
  Tel: (804) 775-3825
  Email: hkonrad@lawmh.com

- Mark B. Rhoads
  McCandlish Holton, PC
  1111 E Main St, Ste 2100
  Richmond, VA 23219
  Tel: (804) 775-3824
  Email: mrhoads@lawmh.com

- Adam Frank
  Frank & Delaney Immigration Law, LLC
  3 Bethesda Metro Center, Ste 505
  Bethesda, MD 20814
  Tel: (301) 656-2102

- H. Ronald Klasco
  Klasko Immigration Law Partners, LLP
  1601 Market Street, Suite 2600
  Philadelphia, PA 19103
  Tel: (215) 825-8600

- Catholic Charities
  Immigration Legal Services

- H. Heidi Son
  SW Law Group, PC
  108 W 39th St, Ste 800
  New York, NY 10018
  Tel: (703) 242-1303
  Email: son@swlgpc.com

- Niranjani (Nir) Adhikari
  Adhikari Law PLLC
  1627 K St NW, Ste 500
  Washington, DC 20006
  Tel: (202) 600-7742
  Email: nir@adhikarilaw.com

- Denise C. Hammond
  Grossman Young & Hammond
  8737 Colesville Rd, Ste 500
  Silver Spring, MD 20910
  Tel: (301) 917-6900

- J. Michael Springmann
  4619 Yuma St NW
  Washington, DC 20016
  Tel: (202) 686-4869

- Maggio Kattar
  1800 Massachusetts Ave NW, Ste 300
  Washington, DC 20036
  Tel: (202) 483-0053

- Dimo R. Michailov
  Capitol Immigration Law Group PLLC
  1725 I St NW, Ste 300
  Washington, DC 20006
  Tel: (202) 558-5456

- Chen Zhang
  USA Immigration Lawyers PLLC
  10410 Kensington Pkwy, Ste 303
  Kensington, MD 20895
  Tel: (301)761-1617

- Deutsch, Killea and Eapen
  Immigration Law Firm
  1666 Connecticut Ave NW, Ste 222
  Washington, DC 20009
  Tel: (202) 728-0820

- American Immigration Lawyers Association
  Immigration Lawyer Search
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  Washington College of Law
  Immigration Clinic

- American Bar Association
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OGS Guide to Immigration Attorneys
Georgetown University