

Success Story #2

Receipt Number [REDACTED]	USCIS Online Account Number [REDACTED]	Case Type I612 - APPLICATION TO WAIVE FOREIGN RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS
Received Date 09/18/2023	Priority Date [REDACTED]	Applicant [REDACTED]
Notice Date 02/20/2025	Page 1 of 1	
RANCHOD LAW GROUP PC c/o KAUSHIK RANCHOD [REDACTED] EL DORADO HILLS CA 95762		Notice Type: Approval Notice

Department of State Decision: Favorable Recommendation			
Item	Action	Date	
Recommendation	Sent	February, 13 2025	
Form I-612	Received	December, 17 2024	
Form I-613	Received	December, 17 2024	
Form DS-2019	Received	January, 02 2024	
Fee	Received	September, 22 2023	
Form DS-3035	Received	September, 22 2023	
Passport Data Page	Received	September, 22 2023	
Form O-28	Received	September, 22 2023	
Statement Of Reason	Received	September, 22 2023	

J Waiver Approved For a Doctor From Pakistan with Government Funding

Filed with USCIS and DOS: 09/18/2023

Date DOS processed the case as received: 09/22/2023

Date DOS processed the I-613 from USCIS: 12/17/2024

Date DOS issued favorable recommendation: 02/13/2025

USCIS approval: 02/20/2025

We are pleased to share the successful outcome of a J-1 waiver case for a highly accomplished researcher and mother whose waiver was approved. This case exemplifies the critical importance of presenting not just a strong legal argument, but a compelling human story centered around the health and safety of a U.S. citizen child.

The J-1 applicant, a dedicated scientist holding a Ph.D. in biotechnology, had conducted groundbreaking research focused on genome editing in agriculture. Her work garnered significant recognition. She initially came to the United States to complete part of her Ph.D. research, and after graduation, returned to continue contributing to a prestigious lab in her field.

While advancing her professional goals, the applicant was also building a young family. She arrived in the U.S. with her spouse and their older daughter. Later, the couple welcomed a U.S. citizen daughter who was diagnosed with a serious cow milk protein allergy and was breastfed at the time of the waiver filing.

We submitted a waiver application emphasizing the exceptional hardship the family would face if forced to return to Pakistan. In the U.S., the applicant was able to safely breastfeed with proper accommodations at her workplace and access to allergy-conscious foods with clear labeling. In

contrast, Pakistan lacked appropriate accommodations for working mothers, did not enforce food labeling standards, and faced widespread shortages of essential medications. These conditions posed serious health risks to their daughter, who relied on a controlled and safe environment for her well-being.

Further compounding the hardship, Pakistan was experiencing an economic crisis and significant deficiencies in infrastructure, including unreliable access to clean water, electricity, and healthcare. The country's infant mortality rate was more than ten times higher than that of the United States, underscoring the life-threatening risks of relocation. Political instability and religious tensions added to the unsafe and uncertain environment the family would have faced.

In addition to the medical and safety concerns, the applicant's spouse—who held a master's degree in marketing—would not have had meaningful career opportunities in Pakistan. The family's economic stability, emotional wellbeing, and professional growth all depended on remaining in the United States.

We prepared a comprehensive waiver request, presenting detailed documentation and expert opinions that clearly established the exceptional hardship that would result from a forced departure. USCIS granted the waiver, allowing the applicant to remain in the U.S., continue her critical research, and most importantly, ensure the health, safety, and stability of her family.