What documentation do I need at the border?

At a U.S. port of entry, you must establish that you qualify as a NAFTA Professional.

In addition to your proof of Canadian citizenship a letter from your prospective employer, or a signed contract may assist in your inspection by United States Immigration and Naturalization Service (USINS) officials.

The letter or contract should include:

- job title and detailed summary of your duties;
- starting date and anticipated length of stay;
- arrangement for payment;
- proof that you have the necessary degree to work in the profession for which you are to be engaged;
- professional-level qualifications (certified copies of your diploma/alternative credentials).

USINS admits NAFTA Professionals in the TN classification.

Certification and Licensing

Please note that Professionals must also comply with all applicable state and local certification, registration, or licensing requirements before commencing work. You must contact the state where you wish to work for additional information on any certification requirements.

The TN serves as your work permit and can be presented to the U.S. Social Security Administration to receive a social security number.

How long can I stay?

The TN classification is generally issued for one year and is renewable as long as you can demonstrate that your employment is temporary.

The TN entitles you to work or provide services only to the employer(s) indicated on your classification. Should you wish to change your work situation or work for an additional employer while in the U.S., you must contact USINS officials to obtain an amendment to your original authorization or to request a new one before you start working in the new functions or for the new employer.

Tools
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For more information on commercial samples, trade show displays or professional equipment that you wish to carry when travelling to the U.S., refer to the U.S. Customs Web site at www.customs.ustreas.gov