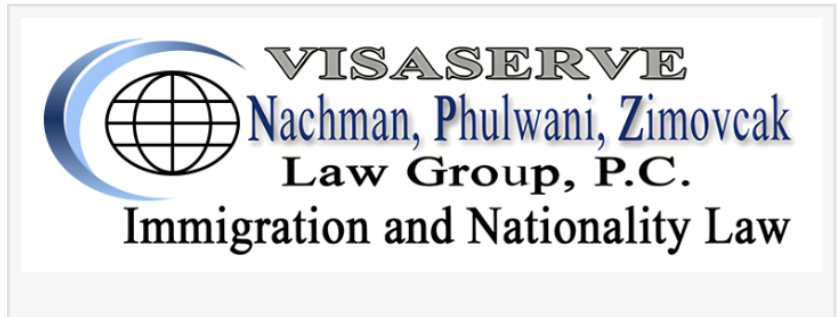


Cancer Vaccine Breakthrough Highlights Importance of Immigration Pathways for Scientists, Says NPZ Law Group

Immigration attorneys highlight the immigrant scientists and entrepreneurs behind mRNA technology as proof of international talent's role in U.S. innovation.



RIDGEWOOD, NJ, UNITED STATES,
September 3, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/

-- A breakthrough in personalized cancer treatment is also highlighting the role immigration has played in American scientific innovation. Following positive late-stage trial results for Moderna and Merck's personalized mRNA melanoma vaccine, the immigration attorneys at [NPZ Law Group](#) are drawing attention to the international talent behind the technology and the

immigration pathways that continue to bring scientists and researchers to the United States.

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David Nachman, Managing Attorney at NPZ Law Group

The science underlying mRNA vaccines traces in part to biochemist Katalin Karikó, who left Hungary and came to the United States in 1985 for a research position. Her decades of work on messenger RNA eventually earned her and her research partner, Drew Weissman, the 2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

Moderna's history also has an immigration connection. Co-founder and chairman Noubar Afeyan came to the United

States as an international student to earn his Ph.D. at MIT before building a career in biotechnology and entrepreneurship.

“These stories demonstrate why immigration and scientific innovation have long been closely connected in the United States,” said [David Nachman](#), Managing Attorney at NPZ Law Group.

“The researchers coming to American universities, laboratories, hospitals, and companies today may be responsible for discoveries we won't fully appreciate for another 10, 20, or 30 years. Maintaining workable pathways for that talent has implications far beyond any one individual or

employer.”

International scientists and researchers currently enter and work in the United States through several immigration pathways. Depending on their circumstances, these can include F-1 student status and Optional Practical Training; H-1B specialty occupation visas; O-1A visas for individuals of extraordinary ability; and L-1 visas for employees transferring within multinational organizations. Researchers seeking permanent residence may also qualify for employment-based green card options, including the EB-1A extraordinary ability category or EB-2 National Interest Waiver.

These pathways are facing changes that could affect universities, research institutions, biotechnology companies, and other employers that recruit internationally. Recent developments involving H-1B petitions and the admission periods for international students and exchange visitors have created additional considerations for organizations and foreign-born professionals planning for employment and research in the United States.

“The life sciences sector competes globally for highly skilled people,” added Nachman.

“Immigration policy affects whether researchers can study here, whether employers can recruit them, and whether they can remain in the United States long enough to build careers and contribute to long-term projects.”

For NPZ Law Group, the recent cancer vaccine results offer a timely reminder that the impact of employment- and research-based immigration can extend well beyond an individual visa petition. The scientists, physicians, engineers, and entrepreneurs entering the country today can become part of the research and innovation that shapes U.S. industries for decades to come.

About NPZ Law Group

If you or your family members have any questions about how immigration and nationality laws in the United States may affect you, or if you want to access additional information about immigration and nationality laws in the United States or Canada, please do not hesitate to contact the immigration and nationality lawyers at NPZ Law Group. You can reach us by emailing info@visaserve.com or by calling us at 201-670-0006 extension 104. We also invite you to visit our website for more information.

Tiana Guzman
Omnizant LLC
tiana.guzman@omnizant.com

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