

Amadar Othman immigrated to the United States from Northern Iraq. When Amadar first arrived in the U.S., she was nervous about how the community would treat her. “At the beginning I didn’t like it. I thought it would be very hard,” she said.

But that feeling did not last for long. “I met some American people who were very nice and very kind to me...and after I lived here for a while I had a good idea—a real idea—about the community and the people. I really like it here now.” When asked what her favorite thing about America is, Amadar responded, “The people here are very kind, and so relaxed and happy. Not like what I see in my country. People here are more rational [than in Iraq]. They don’t take everything personally.”

Amadar received a degree in engineering in Iraq and is working with NICE to have it accredited. She needs to take a test in order to receive her license to practice. “It was a good chance for me to know about NICE because they assist me to evaluate my degree, which I couldn't afford to do,” she said.

It is not the first time NICE has worked with Amadar. “This is the second time my degree is being evaluated because the first time it didn’t work. I appreciate that they are helping me a second time, too.” NICE is committed to helping Amadar and other refugees like her to achieve their goals in their new home.