The direct reaction of a carboxylic acid with an amine would be expected to be difficult because the basic amine would deprotonate the carboxylic acid to form a highly unreactive carboxylate. However when the ammonium carboxylate salt is heated to a temperature above 100 °C water is driven off and an amide is formed.

**General Reaction**

![General Reaction Diagram](image)

**Going from reactants to products simply**

![Going from reactants to products simply Diagram](image)

**Contributors**

Prof. Steven Farmer ([Sonoma State University](https://www.sonoma.edu))