

APPLICATION FOR OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING (OPT)

FIRST



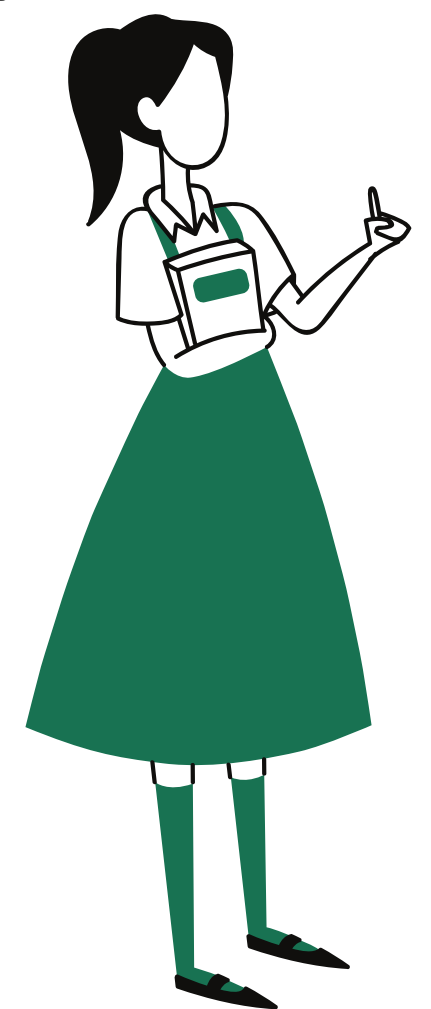
- Read the Optional Practical Training Information "Frequently Asked Questions".
- Attend an OPT session and/or make an appointment with the International Students Adviser to discuss OPT Options.
- Create a USCIS online account at <https://myaccount.uscis.gov> > click on the "myUSCIS" option > click file a form > select I-765 Application for Employment Authorization > begin the application process.

SECOND

- The Office for Global Engagement P/DSO will issue a new I-20 for you usually within 5 business days. Your updated I-20 will include your recommendation for your OPT or OPT STEM Extension on page 2. You will upload a copy of this new I-20 with your OPT recommendation to your online application.

THIRD

- Keep copies of everything you submit for your own records.
- Submit your online application to USCIS. You will receive a notification from USCIS with a tracking number that can be used to follow the progress through the online portal you have created. Your case will stay in "pending" status until it is approved.
- USCIS must receive your application no more than 90 days before OR no more than 60 days beyond your program end date as noted on your I-20. You **MUST** send your application within 30 days of the issue date of the new OPT I-20 form issued by the Global Engagement Office.



APPLICATION MATERIALS

*STEM majors will apply for 12-month regular OPT first and then STEM Extension 90 days prior to 12 months OPT end date

- Payment of \$410.00 made online via credit or debit card.
- Form I-765: indicate the appropriate code from below for typ of employment:
 - (c) (3) (A) F-1 Pre-completion option practical training (OPT)
 - (c) (3) (B) F-1 Post-completion OPT
 - (c) (3) (C) F-1 24-month extension for STEM OPT

- Photocopy of I-94
- Photocopy of "new" I-20 with OPT recommendation by on the back
- Photocopy of all previous EAD cards (if applicable)
- Photocopy-Identification pages from your passport: (name, date of
 - Biographical page
 - Visa page
- 2 Passport "color" photos with a white background taken no earlier than 30 days before submission to USCIS.



ADDITIONAL 24-MONTH STEM EXTENSION MATERIALS NEEDED

- Complete form I-983 on the USCIS website
- Provide "Job Confirmation Letter" from initial OPT employer
- Provide "official" transcripts from SRU with evidence of STEM degree and conferred graduation date