



## F-1 24-Month STEM Extension of Optional Practical Training (OPT) Request for Evidence Form

**Purpose of Form:** The purpose of this form is to assist individuals who has been issued a Request for Evidence (RFE) by USCIS to change their 17-month OPT STEM extension application to a 24-month OPT STEM extension application and obtain an I-20. Please refer to <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/stem-opt-hub> for more information.

- I understand this form only applies to me if I have already submitted my 17-month extension application to USCIS prior to May 10, 2016 and USCIS has requested evidence from me to change my application. If your 17-month extension has already been approved by USCIS you will need to apply for the 7-month OPT STEM extension to receive your 24 months of OPT.

**Deadlines:** The applicant must apply after the Request for Evidence has been issued by USCIS and before the deadline found on the Request for Evidence.

**Required Documents for ISS:** This form (completed); the Form I-983 with all attestations; A copy of your Request for Evidence from USCIS; A legible copy of the applicant's current EAD card (front and back) clearly depicting the OPT start and end dates; and Copies of any I-20 and I-94 record for the F-1.

### Applicant Information

Last/Family Name:	<input type="text"/>	First/Given Name:	<input type="text"/>
UIN:	<input type="text"/>	Telephone Number:	<input type="text"/>
E-mail Address:	<input type="text"/>	Job Title:	<input type="text"/>

**Next Steps:** Once you have received your new I-20 with the 24-month OPT STEM extension recommendation you will need send all required documents listed in the Request for Evidence to the USCIS address listed on the RFE letter.

### I-20 Mailing Information

**How do you want your new I-20 to be sent to you? Please choose one:**

- I will personally pick it up at ISS.

- My friend will pick it up at ISS:

Name of Friend  UIN

- Send it by regular U.S. Postal Services to the following address:

Street Address or P.O. Box:

City:  State:  Zip:

- Send it by express mail. I will request shipment through eShipGlobal (<https://study.eshipglobal.com>).

## Applicant Responsibility Statement

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and accurate. I understand the rules and regulations concerning my engagement in Optional Practical Training and agree to all conditions listed below.

### **Reporting Responsibilities:**

- My **non-TAMU email address** and **Student Local Mailing address** must be updated within 10 days of moving. This information can be updated through the My Record tab in the Howdy Portal (<https://howdy.tamu.edu>).
- I understand that I am required to report any changes of employer name, address, or interruption of employment by submitting the OPT Employment Reporting Form, and Form I-983 for the duration of the 24-month extension of OPT within 10 days of the change.
- If I do not update my employment information with ISS, I understand that SEVIS will automatically terminate my SEVIS record if I exceed 150 days of unemployment while on STEM.
- I understand that if my immigration status changes, I am required to send ISS copies of my new documents within 10 days of the change.
- I will provide ISS with a legible copy of the 24-month extension of OPT EAD card when I receive it.
- I understand that failure to do the above could result in loss of my legal non-immigrant status and that if this occurs, I may have to stop working and/or leave the United States.
- I understand that my employer is required to inform ISS within 5 business days that I have ceased working for them. My employer should send an email to ISS at [iss@tamu.edu](mailto:iss@tamu.edu) indicating the last date of my employment with them.

### **General Responsibilities:**

- I understand that in order to receive a 24-month extension of OPT, I must first request a 24-month extension of OPT recommendation from ISS and submit by the deadline on the Request for Evidence from USCIS.
- I understand that my authorization to engage in OPT is automatically terminated if I transfer to another school or begin study at another educational level.
- I understand that USCIS regulations require me to seek employment directly related to my major area of study and commensurate with my education level with an employer that is registered in E-Verify.
- I understand that I cannot accrue 150 days or more of unemployment at any time during the 12 month of post completion OPT, 24 month extension of OPT combined.
- I understand that if I leave the U.S. while my 24-month extension of OPT application is pending, I am considered *abandoning* my application (i.e., my 24-month extension of OPT application will no longer be approved by USCIS).
- I understand that if I decide to travel while on OPT, I must have a valid I-20 signed by a DSO within six months before reentering the U.S., an unexpired EAD card, a valid passport, a valid employment letter, and a valid F-1 visa stamp to be readmitted to the U.S. The letter from an employer should contain salary information, a statement that the employment is temporary, and that I will be employed after returning from travel.
- I understand that once the 24-month extension of OPT recommendation has been issued and the application sent to USCIS, it may not be possible to cancel or edit it.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to stay informed about changing federal regulations that may impact my OPT or F-1 status.

### **Additional Information:**

- Refer to <http://www.uscis.gov> for more information about the 24-month extension of OPT.
- ISS strongly encourages you to maintain health insurance for you and your dependents throughout the duration of your OPT authorization period, including the 24-month extension of OPT.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: