

F-1 24-Month STEM Extension of Optional Practical Training (OPT) Form

Purpose of Form: The purpose of this form is to verify that an individual is eligible to apply for the 24-month STEM extension of OPT. Refer to <http://www.uscis.gov> <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/stem-opt-hub> for more detailed information.

Deadlines: The applicant must apply before the current period of Post-Completion OPT authorization expires as listed on the student's EAD card. USCIS advises that the applicant submit the 24-month extension of OPT application (I-765) within 90 to 120 days before the expiration date of the current OPT authorization period.

Required Documents: This form (completed); the Form I-983 with all attestations; A legible copy of the applicant's current EAD card (front and back) clearly depicting the OPT start and end dates; and Copies of the most recent 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"/>

For a list of eligible majors in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), refer to the USCIS website: <http://www.uscis.gov>. For a list of currently eligible STEM majors at Texas A&M, refer to the ISS website. If you notice a major missing from the list on the ISS website, please contact ISS.

Is this your 1st or 2nd STEM OPT Extension? 1st 2nd

If this is your 2nd STEM OPT Extension please provide the *school name, degree level, major, and I-20 from the other school* below:

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 the 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 containing the End of Employment form at iss@tamu.edu.

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.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to properly file my application in a timely manner. My 24-month extension of OPT application must be received by USCIS within 60 days of ISS issuing a new I-20 with the 24-month extension of OPT recommendation on the third page.
- 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 and 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 DHS, it may not be possible to cancel or edit it.
- I understand that it is not recommended that I withdraw my I-765 application at any time during OPT without consulting with an ISS advisor, because it could negatively affect my visa status.
- 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: