Optional Practical Training (OPT) Workshop

International Students and Scholars (ISS) Office
900 University Ave, Skye Hall 321
Riverside, CA 92521
(951) 827-4113
internationalstudents@ucr.edu

This does not constitute as legal advice.
Topics to Cover Today

- General OPT Information
- OPT Timeline
  - When to Apply
- OPT Application Process
  - Internal & External
- International Travel and OPT
- USCIS Decision
- OPT FAQs
- Things to Remember
- Resources
COVID-19 - USCIS Updates

USCIS Office Changes

● USCIS may furlough employees at the end of August. Recommended to apply at earliest possible date.

Mailing OPT

● OPT applications must be physically mailed - no electronic method
● Students still required to apply for OPT while inside the U.S.
● Starting in August 25, 2020, USCIS will only accept 08/25/20 Edition of Form I-765.

OPT Application Fee Increase

● Effective Oct 2, 2020, I-765 applications will be increased to $550

Link: SEVP Frequently Asked Questions - COVID-19
**USCIS Updates**

**OPT Application and Fee Changes**

Using the chart below, please make sure that you are using the correct version of Form I-765 (EAD card application form) and the I-765 Fee amount before mailing your OPT documents to USCIS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Postmark Date</th>
<th>Form I-765 Version used</th>
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COVID-19 - OPT Updates

Remote Working

● OPT students may work remotely if your employer can properly assess your performance

OPT Hours

● USCIS has NOT released exceptions for OPT unemployment time

Link: SEVP Frequently Asked Questions - COVID-19
General OPT Information
What is Optional Practical Training?

A benefit of F-1 visa allowing students to get some practical experience in their field of studies.

Basics of OPT
- Gain practical experience in your field of study
- Employment Benefit of F-1 student status
- Authorized by USCIS
- Standard OPT: authorized up to 12 months total
  - Pre-Completion OPT (During Program of Study)
  - Post-Completion OPT (After Program of Study) - Most Common
- STEM OPT Extension: additional 24 months of OPT (only for eligible STEM majors)
What is Optional Practical Training?

By applying for OPT, you are extending your F-1 status (I-20 record).
Note: This is not your visa stamp.
Am I eligible to apply for OPT?

- Strongly recommended to attend the OPT workshop
- Must be enrolled as full-time student for one full academic year (3 quarters)
- Must be completed with course requirements for degree (excluding thesis or equivalent)
- Must have approval from the academic department or Academic Advisor/Graduate Advisor
- Only one OPT may be used at each degree level
- 1 year of full-time CPT will cancel your OPT opportunity
- Do not need job offer at the time of OPT application
- Job offer must be directly related to student’s field of study
- Must be submitted to USCIS within 30 days from the date that OPT was recommended by ISS
Post-Completion OPT Timeline
When should I apply for OPT?
OPT Application Timeline

- **Earliest Date**: Earliest date student may apply
- **Latest Date**: USCIS must receive your OPT application by this date
- **Completion Date**: USCIS can accept Post-Completion OPT application

- **90 days**
- **60 days**

- **DO NOT APPLY earlier than 90 days**
- **DO NOT APPLY later than your 60-day grace period**

- **Recommended OPT Application time**: 30-90 days before program end date
  - Date calculating tool - [Time & Date Calculator](#)

- **USCIS Processing Time**: At least 90 days to adjudicate

- As long as USCIS received OPT application within application window, you may continue to stay in the U.S. while waiting for approval.

- **IMPORTANT NOTE**: USCIS will deny applications that are sent outside of this application period
OPT Application Process
How to Apply for OPT

1) Internal Process
   - Before sending your application to USCIS

2) External Process
   - After you send your application to USCIS

Final: USCIS Decision
   - USCIS final decision on OPT application
1. INTERNAL PROCESS

1. Attend an OPT Workshop
2. Complete the OPT Request form
3. Submit OPT request form, I-765, photos, and other documents to ISS
4. ISS Advisor reviews your documents; issues an OPT I-20; you will be notified to pick up your new I-20 (3-5 days)
5. Ask Academic Advisor or Grad Advisor to sign the OPT form
6. Include a check or money order and express mail completed packet to USCIS within 30 days of recommendation date of the I-20.
OPT Application Checklist

To access checklist, click here

*Checklist Updated on August 12, 2020
Documents to submit to ISS
(Internal process)

- OPT Request Form
- Form I-765 (Typed)
- Form G-1145 (Typed)
- Document Copies (passport, visa, I-94)

Drop it off in person or by email at internationalstudents@ucr.edu

ISS Processing Time: 3-5 business days
OPT Request Form

Can access form through ISS website or email us at internationalstudents@ucr.edu

To be completed by:
Student

To be completed by:
Academic Advisor (UG)
Graduate Advisor (Grad)
OPT Request Form

To be completed by:
Student

Section 1.
Basic Student Information

Section 2.
OPT Information

OPT Request Dates
- Dates that you are requesting to start your OPT
- Depending on timing of application, USCIS may or may not grant your OPT request dates.
- Cannot issue OPT I-20 without these dates
OPT Request Form

To be completed by:
Academic Advisor
(Bachelor)

Graduate Advisor
(Masters and Doctorate)

Section 3.
Academic Advisor/Graduate Advisor

Program Completion Date
● Advisor will indicate program completion date
● Date you will be completed with your program requirements
  ○ May be different for thesis/dissertation students
● I-20 end date will be adjusted to this date

Advisor Signature
● During COVID-19, we accept eSignatures, wet signatures, or email confirmation from advisor with information above.

Note:
If you are unsure who your advisor is, check your Banner Student profile.
Selecting OPT Dates

Selecting an OPT Start Date

**OPT start date must be within your 60-day grace period.**

**Earliest OPT Start Date**
The day after completion date

**Latest OPT Start Date**
60 days after completion date

**Tips on choosing an OPT start date:**

- Estimate when you want to start working but, also consider OPT processing time
  - USCIS may take 3-5 months to process application
- Do NOT wait until you get a job offer to apply for OPT
  - You do NOT need a job offer to apply for OPT
- Useful resource to calculate OPT dates:
  [https://www.timeanddate.com/date/dateadd.html](https://www.timeanddate.com/date/dateadd.html)
Selecting OPT Dates

Selecting an OPT End Date

Selecting an OPT End date:
- Once you choose your OPT start date, your OPT end date will be one year later and one day before.
  - For example: OPT start date: June 15, 2019 and OPT end date: June 14, 2020

14-Month OPT Rule
- All standard post-completion OPT must be completed within the 14-month period following the completion of study.
- If you submit OPT application later, you will lose some OPT time due to 14-month rule.
- Recommended to apply as early as possible to maximize on OPT Time
Form I-765

Important Update:


- Typed or printed legibly in black ink
- Handwritten Signature
- Get the most updated from USCIS website
  - Form I-765
How to check if it’s the most updated version:

#1 Edition Date
The bottom left corner of the form will indicate the Edition Date.

#2 Barcode
The bottom of the form should have a barcode.

What to Know About Sending Your Form:

Previous Edition is 12/26/19
If it is postmarked before Aug. 25, 2020, must use this edition.

New Edition is 08/25/20
If it is postmarked on or after Aug. 25, 2020, must use this edition.
Part 1. Reason for Applying

I am applying for (select only one box):

1a. □ Initial permission to accept employment.
1b. □ Replacement of lost, stolen, or damaged employment authorization document, or correction of my employment authorization document NOT DUE to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) error.

NOTE: Replacement (correction) of an employment authorization document due to USCIS error does not require a new Form I-765 and filing fee. Refer to Replacement for Card Error in the What is the Filing Fee section of the Form I-765 Instructions for further details.

1c. □ Renewal of my permission to accept employment. (Attach a copy of your previous employment authorization document.)

Part 2. Information About You

Your Full Legal Name

1a. Family Name (Last Name)
1b. Given Name (First Name)
1c. Middle Name

Other Names Used

Provide all other names you have ever used, including aliases, maiden name, and nicknames. If you need extra space to complete this section, use the space provided in Part 6.

Additional Information

2a. Family Name (Last Name)
2b. Given Name (First Name)
2c. Middle Name

3a. Family Name (Last Name)
3b. Given Name (First Name)
3c. Middle Name

4a. Family Name (Last Name)
4b. Given Name (First Name)
4c. Middle Name

Start Here

Make sure “Initial permission to accept employment“ is checked.

Part 1. Items #1a~1c

Select one of the following:

- #1a. If this is your first time applying for STEM OPT
- #1b. If you are replacing your lost, stolen, or damaged EAD card
- #1c. If this is not your first time applying for STEM OPT

Part 2. Items #1a~4c

Enter your full legal name and other names you use
Form I-765 (pg 2 of 7)

Mailing Address:
- EAD card will be delivered here
- Must be U.S. address

If no mailing address available, you can use a P.O. Box (Postal Office Box).

- USPS
- UPS

The address you enter should be valid for at least 4-5 months into the future.

Only complete 14-17 if you do not have a SSN and want USCIS to issue you a Social Security number and card.
Form I-765 (pg 3 of 7)

**Enter Post-Completion OPT Eligibility Code**
(c) (3) (B)

**Skip the rest of the page**
Form I-765 (pg 4 of 7)

Form I-765 (pg 5 of 7)

**Applicant’s Signature**

**MUST BE HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURE**

**ENTER DATE HERE**

**Applicant’s Signature**

NOT TO ALL APPLICANTS: If you do not completely fill out this application or fail to submit required documents listed in the Instructions, USCIS may deny your application.

**Skip pages 5 & 6 (if you check #1a)**

Be sure to **include** all 7 pages when submitting to USCIS.

**Enter contact information**

**Extremely important to use a permanent email address**
Complete Part 6. (Additional Information) if these items apply:

- You do not have enough space to answer in Parts 1~5
  - Ex. Name
- CPT Authorizations
- Previous OPT Authorizations
- OPT Denials
- Previous SEVIS IDs
Form I-765

Form I-765 (pg 7 of 7)

Part 6. (Additional Information)

CPT Authorization

Items a~c: Reference Page

Item d: Use below format

- CPT Authorization
- Employer; Start date - End Date; PT or FT;
  Degree level
- Add text “Please refer to copy of CPT I-20”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.a. Page Number</th>
<th>3.b. Part Number</th>
<th>3.c. Item Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Form I-765

Form I-765 (pg 7 of 7)

Part 6. (Additional Information)

OPT Authorization

Items a~c: Reference Page

Item d: Use below format

- OPT Authorization
- Start date - End Date; Degree level
- Add text “Please refer to copy of EAD card”
Form I-765

Form I-765 (pg 7 of 7)

Part 6. Additional Information

Different SEVIS IDs
Items a~c: Reference Page
Item d: Use below format
  ● Different SEVIS IDs
  ● Previous SEVIS number; Program start-end date; Degree level
  ● Add text “Please refer to copy of I-20 from (school name) for SEVIS Number N00_____”
## Form G-1145

**Strongly Recommended**

- To receive eNotifications on your application from USCIS
  - Text message
  - Email Alerts
To access your most recent I-94, go to:
https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/home
Provide a copy of your passport and most recent visa. The photocopies should not be too large or too small.

Passport
- Copy should not be enlarged or minimized

Visa
- Copy of most recent visa
- Does NOT have to be valid
- Copy should not be enlarged or minimized
OPT I-20 issued by ISS

COVID-19 Update: As of March 26, SEVP released guidance saying digital I-20s can be emailed during COVID-19.
OPT I-20 issued by ISS

When you receive your OPT I-20,
- OPT I-20 will include:
  - OPT Recommendation by ISS
  - Travel Signature
- Double-check information before signing
- Make photo copy

Keep in mind the 30-Day Ruling!
- OPT recommendation must be less than 30 days old by the time USCIS receives your application
  - Confirm with ISS Advisor for recommendation date
- USCIS has become strict about this rule
  - Automatic OPT Denial
  - Keep this in mind for USCIS RFEs
OPT I-20 issued by ISS

OPT Requested Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>FULL/PART-TIME</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>START DATE</th>
<th>END DATE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POST-COMPLETION OPT</td>
<td>FULL TIME</td>
<td>REQUESTED</td>
<td>10 AUGUST 2020</td>
<td>09 AUGUST 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CHANGE OF STATUS/CAP-GAP EXTENSION

AUTHORIZED REDUCED COURSE LOAD

CURRENT SESSION DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT SESSION START DATE</th>
<th>CURRENT SESSION END DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 MARCH 2020</td>
<td>12 JUNE 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TRAVEL ENDORSEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designated School Official</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>SIGNATURE</th>
<th>DATE ISSUED</th>
<th>PLACE ISSUED</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heidi Nam</td>
<td>Intl’ Student Advisor/DSO</td>
<td></td>
<td>July 10, 2020</td>
<td>Riverside, CA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DSO Travel Signature
Documents to mail to USCIS
(External process)

Assemble your final packet in this order. Do not staple documents.

- $410 made payable to “U.S. Department of Homeland Security” - A personal check, cashier’s check, or money order (Effective Oct 2, 2020, fee will be $550, not $410)
- Two 2x2 passport photos
- Form G-1145 (Typed)
- Form I-765 (Typed and Signed)
- Copy of OPT I-20 (Signed)
- Copies of the valid passport, most recent visa, recent I-94
- (If related) Previous copies of CPT I-20, OPT I-20, EAD cards, previous I-20 if SEVIS ID is different, or any other documents needed
USCIS Application Filing Fee

$410 USCIS Application Filing Fee
*Effective Oct 2, 2020, USCIS Application Fee will be $550, not $410.

Payable to: U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Acceptable payment methods:
- Personal Check
- Money Order
- Cashier’s Check
- Credit Card (Form G-1450)

Money Order

Money Orders can be purchased at:
- Banks
- Post-offices
- Local markets (i.e. Albertsons)
- Local pharmacies (i.e. CVS)
U.S. Passport-Style Photos

- Prepare 2 passport-style photos
- Must meet specifications on U.S. Department of State website
- Must be a recent photo (taken within 30 days)
- Clip the photo and application fee to top of application packet

Correct Passport Size and Position:
- 2 x 2 inches (51 x 51 mm)
- The head centered and sized between 1" and 1.4" (25 and 35 mm)

Background:
- Plain and white or off-white
- No shadows

Shadows and Lighting:
- Clear and in color
- No shadows
- Not digitally altered

Accessories:
- No glasses
- No hats or head coverings (unless for religious or medical purposes)

COVID-19 Update:
- DOS Passport Photos Guideline
- Mypassportphotos.com

Where can you take passport photos?
- Costco (most affordable option)
- U.S. Postal Service
- Local drugstores (i.e. Walgreens, CVS, Rite Aid)

On the back of photos:
Gently write your name and I-94 number
Mailing your OPT Application

- Do not staple your documents
- Recommended to receive tracking number
- Go to USCIS website for most updated [Direct Filing Address](#)

**USCIS Phoenix Lockbox (If mailing from CA)**

For U.S. Postal Service (USPS):

USCIS  
P.O. Box 21281  
Phoenix, AZ 85036

For FedEx, UPS, and DHL deliveries:

USCIS  
Attn: NFB AOS  
1820 E. Skyharbor Circle S  
Suite 100  
Phoenix, AZ 85034

**Note:**

If you are mailing from CA, you will be mailing to the USCIS Phoenix Lockbox in Arizona. Your documents will be transferred to the USCIS Potomac Service Center in Arizona.
Track your Application

**USCIS Case Status Online**
- Track your application by entering the receipt number
- Link for [USCIS Case Status Online](#)

**USCIS Email Updates**
- USCIS will send you email notifications through the email on [Form G-1145](#)

**USCIS Processing Time**
- Check the latest processing time for your type of application
- Link for [Case Processing Time](#)
  - If you will be mailing to the Phoenix Lockbox, your case is being handled by ‘Potomac Service Center.

**Change of address**
- You must update your address by filing [Form AR-11 (click here)](#) directly with USCIS
Application Procedure

2. EXTERNAL PROCESS

- USCIS reviews your application, cashes your check and assigns a case number.
- USCIS Sends students an I-797 Receipt Notice (14-30 days)
- USCIS Sends students an EAD and Approval Notice (90-150 days)
- SEVP sends OPT Portal link to student’s UCR email (around EAD start date)
- If OPT Portal link expired or have issues, contact ISS office.
- You could also request an SS # card on I-765. (14-30 days)

Please be patient!
While OPT Application is Pending...

Keep in mind

● USCIS Processing Time: 90-150 days
  ○ Expedited processing is very difficult to get approved
  ○ Check latest USCIS Processing time
    ■ If you mailed to Phoenix Lockbox, your case is being handled by the “Potomac Service Center”

● Do not work/volunteer (on or off-campus) while you are waiting for EAD card if your program has ended
  ○ Once your I-20 program end date has passed, your on-campus or off-campus authorization ends.

● International Travel is not recommended
Driver’s License Renewal

If your CA Driver’s License expired, your I-20 program end date has passed, and your OPT is pending,

- Must receive OPT EAD card to renew your DL
- DMV will only renew according to OPT dates

If you live in a different state,

- Check the state’s DMV website or local office for renewal requirements
International Travel and OPT
International Travel and OPT

While OPT is pending
● Not Recommended during OPT application process
  ○ RFEs must be responded on time
● Higher Risk- dependent on the CBP officers

After OPT is approved
● Recommended to travel after OPT is approved

Important Travel Documents to carry upon return to the U.S.
● Valid Passport (within 6 months)
● Valid F-1 Visa stamp
● Form I-20 w/ Travel Signature
● EAD card
● Supporting Documents:
  ○ Job offer letter, Employment Verification Letter, or Proof of Job Interview
  ○ Financial Support Documents

COVID-19 Update: During the pandemic, we recommend NOT traveling internationally as it may be difficult to enter back to the U.S.
USCIS Decision
Request for Evidence (RFEs)

If USCIS needs more information/evidence, they will send an RFE.

- Contact ISS office and work with an International Student Advisor
- Remember! RFEs must be answered by deadline date on letter
- Check OPT I-20 recommendation date before mailing RFE
  - If outside 30 day window, request for a new OPT recommendation I-20.

Please contact ISS office to review required RFE documents
OPT Denials

Common Reasons for Denials:

- USCIS receives OPT application too early or too late
- Payment problems
- RFE was not received by deadline date
- RFE was answered but, OPT I-20 was already past 30 days of recommended date
- Application was received on time but, OPT I-20 was past 30 day recommended date
- I-765 was not signed or had incorrect information

Please contact ISS office immediately to discuss F-1 options
OPT Approvals- EAD Card

  - Actual OPT start date
    - Can start work from EAD start date
  - Make sure information is accurate!
  - 90-day Unemployment Days

- Email copy to internationalstudents@ucr.edu

- Required for re-entry to the U.S.

- Access to set up SEVP OPT Portal

EAD Card (Proof of Work Authorization)
OPT Reporting Requirements
SEVP OPT Portal

Once OPT is approved,

- SEVIS will email you link to set up SEVP OPT Portal
  - Email will be sent to UCR email around EAD start date
  - If link expires, contact ISS

- Easy & convenient way to update:
  - Employer information
  - Personal information

- Important for OPT Reporting Requirements
  - Update any changes within 10 days
  - Do not need to update through ISS
SEVP OPT Portal

Set up OPT Portal Account

- Close to EAD card start date, SEVP will send you OPT Portal link.
- Check your UCR email address
- Check junk mail
- SEVP Portal Account guideline

If link expired, contact ISS.

- If the portal link expired, contact ISS (internationalstudents@ucr.edu)
- DSO will reset your OPT Portal link
- For other technical issues, contact SEVIS Help Desk (1-800-892-4829)

Report OPT information

- Maintain OPT reporting responsibilities through OPT Portal
- Update personal information
- Update employment information
- Cannot exceed more than 90 days of unemployment
- Must be updated within 10 days of change

If link expired, contact ISS.
Reporting OPT Employment

F-1 OPT students must provide a description on how the employment position has a direct relation to their major of study.

Tip: Obtain your employment offer letter

Examples

Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering:

I work full time (Type of Position) as an Electrical Engineer (Position title) at ABC Corp. (Company Name), a government contractor. In my job, I analyze client requirements for electrical systems and provide them with cost estimates of such systems (Job Duties). My work requires understanding of electrical circuit theory, which I studied in-depth at the University of ABC, dissertation (explaining relation to major of study).
Reporting OPT Employment

Examples Continued

Master's degree in Kinesiology:

I am working 25 hours a week (Position Type) in a health food store as a consultant (Position Title) for Self-Made Inc. (Company Name), designing and teaching exercise classes that are incorporated into a customer's overall nutrition and exercise plan (Job Duties). My designs and customer instruction draw upon my studies and classwork in exercise therapy and physical reconditioning (Relation to Study).

PhD in Computer Science:

I am employed as a full-time (Position Type) Computer and Information Research Scientist (Position Title) at ABC Research Institute (Company Name). I work as part of a team of scientists and engineers that designs experiments to test the operation of various software systems (Job Duties). My work builds on research in complex algorithms and machine learning, which I studied as part of my dissertation (Relation to Study).
90-Day Unemployment

● May have up to 90 days of unemployment

● Unemployment days start from EAD card start date

● Do not accumulate more than 90 days of unemployment
  ○ Jobs that are less than 20 hrs per week will count towards unemployment days

● Remember to update OPT Portal

EAD Card (Proof of Work Authorization)
Allowable Employment During OPT

- Position must be related to field of study
- Part-Time or Full-Time
  - At least 20 hrs per week
- Employment Types:
  - Paid or Unpaid/Volunteer
  - Self-Employed Business Owner
  - Multiple
  - Short-Term
  - Through a Third-Party Agency

Remember to update employment information through OPT Portal!
After your OPT Ends

When your 12- Month OPT ends, F-1 students will have a **60-day grace period** to decide on their steps. During the 60-day grace period, students may decide on the following options:

- Start a new program at UC Riverside
- Transfer to another university
- Apply for 24-Month STEM OPT Extension
  - Only for eligible STEM graduates
- Apply for a change of visa status
- Return to home country
60-Day Grace Period

During 60-day grace period, decide on the following:

- Start a new program at UC Riverside
- Transfer to another university
- Apply for 24-Month STEM OPT Extension
- Apply for a change of visa status
- Return to home country

End of F-1 Status

OPT EAD card end date
OPT Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
OPT FAQs

- Do I have to have a job offer to apply for OPT?
- When should I start looking for a job?
- How is unemployment counted?
- What if I can’t find a job?
OPT FAQs

• What will happen if I accumulate more than 90 days of unemployment during OPT?

• What qualifies as employment?
  
  Paid Employment (at least 20 hours per week)
  Unpaid Employment (at least 20 hours per week)
OPT FAQs

- Can I work on-campus after my completion date while I wait for my OPT approval?
- When can I start working?
- Can I cancel my OPT after I have applied?
- Can I track the progress of my application?
Things to Remember
Scams

How to Avoid Scams
- Government entities (USCIS or SEVP) will rarely call you regarding your application
- Most notices are sent via email or paper mail

If someone calls you, here are some warning signs:
- They will know some (but, not all) personal information about you
- Asks you to share personal information (i.e. passport number, SSN, credit card information, etc.)
- Speaks to you in an aggressive manner
- Asks you for money or personal information

USCIS Website - How to Avoid Scams, Report Fraud, Legal Services
- USCIS - Report Scams
- USCIS - How to Avoid Scams
- UCR - Avoid Employment Scams and Fraud
Things to Remember

Application Details
- USCIS will deny any applications outside of application window
- OPT application must be received within 30 days of OPT I-20 issue date
- OPT application should be mailed within the U.S.
- **IMPORTANT:** Double-check information/documents/timing before mailing
  - It is ultimately the student’s responsibility!

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While Waiting for EAD Card
- Do not work or volunteer
- Not recommended to travel internationally
- If you receive an RFE or Denial, contact ISS immediately
Helpful Resources

Forms/Handouts from ISS Office

- OPT Request Form
- OPT Application Checklist

Government Forms

- Form I-765
- Form G-1145

Government Resources

- USCIS - OPT
- Study in the States- Training Opportunities
- SEVP OPT Portal Help
- USCIS Processing Time
- USCIS Case Status Online
UCR Career Center

For Alumni

- Free access to career fairs and workshops
- Lifetime membership for Handshake platform
- 1 year of free counseling services
  - Resume
  - Mock Job Interviews

COVID-19 Update
- Virtual appointments available (M-F)
  - Schedule via Handshake
- Meet with Vanessa Lee, the Career Specialist for International Students (Graduate students)
COVID-19 Job Tips/Resources

Job Searching Tips for Int’l Student during COVID-19
● Informational Interviews & Virtual Interviews
● Help Small Businesses
● Don’t stop the search
● Consider all Scenarios

LinkedIn Learning Classes
● Finding a Job during Challenging Economic Times
● New to Working Remotely?

Indeed -COVID-19

SEVP Frequently Asked Questions - COVID-19 - Scroll to ‘Employment’ Section
ICE Guidance on COVID-19
Questions?
Additional Questions?

Where we are located:
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8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Walk-in Hours: 10 AM – 12 PM
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COVID-19:
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