

OPT - Request for STEM OPT Extension

General Information

1. STEM OPT Extension is only for some Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) majors. To review a list of authorized CIP codes, go here: <https://www.ice.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Document/2016/stem-list.pdf>.
2. Students may apply for OPT STEM up to 120 days in advance of expiration of initial OPT period.
3. Work with your current employer to complete the required USCIS Form I-983 Training Plan. <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/form-i-983-overview>.
4. Complete a new I-765. <https://www.uscis.gov/i-765>.
5. Please submit the completed I-983, I-765 and STEM OPT Extension Form (this form) to the Center for International Programs before you request the OPT extension from USCIS.
6. The employer with whom you are seeking the 24-month OPT extension must be registered in E-Verify. You must list the employer's E-Verify Company Identification Number or a valid E-Verify Client Company Identification Number in item 21 of the Form I-765.
7. If Approved, submit a copy of your new Employment Authorization Document (EAD) card to the Center for International Programs immediately upon your receipt.

Please Note: If your total number of days of unemployment is more than 90 days since the initial post-completion authorization you have not properly maintained your status and HSU cannot recommend you for any further employment.

Instructions

Items you need to submit to the Center for International Programs for review and STEM OPT Recommendation (new I-20):

1. **Completed I-983 Form.** Instructions and resources can be found online here: <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/form-i-983-overview>.
2. Completed and signed **Request for STEM OPT Extension Form** (this form).
3. Completed typed **Form I-765** (<http://www.uscis.gov/i-765>). *Line #20 is (c) (3) (C) for post-completion OPT 24-month extension.*
4. An immigration advisor will review the I-983 and if approved, prepare a new I-20 with STEM OPT Recommendation.

Once Approved by CIP, you will need to mail the following items to USCIS within 60 days of CIP's approval:

1. Copy of new I-20 with STEM OPT Recommendation. Make sure to sign the original before making a copy to send to USCIS.
2. Personal check for \$410 payable to the Department of Homeland Security. Please make sure to double check the fee online here: <https://www.uscis.gov/i-765>.
3. Copy of Arrival/departure record (I-94).
4. Photo copy of your last EAD card (front and back) Photo copy of passport and visa (except Canadian citizens do not require visas).
5. Photo copy of your degree reflecting the conferred degree as well as your major field of study.
6. Two U.S. **passport-style photos** (print your name on the back of each photo). Pictures must be no more than **30 days old** upon submission. For more details regarding photos, see: http://travel.state.gov/passport/pptphotoreq/pptphotoreq_5333.html.

Please review the following website to identify where to file your application: <https://www.uscis.gov/i-765>. Please note: You do not need to send a copy of the I-983. That stays on file with the Center for International Programs.

Attention: As we prepare the instructions, we use the most updated information available. Rules, regulations, and policies change frequently. ALWAYS confirm the filing instructions at <http://www.uscis.gov/i-765> prior to filing.

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Part A: Student Information

1. Name: _____
Family name (Last) First name (Given)
2. Email: _____
3. Date of birth: _____
4. Address: _____
5. Phone number: _____
6. HSU Student ID #: _____
7. SEVIS #: _____
8. STEM major degree: _____
9. STEM degree: _____
10. Proposed OPT start date on EAD card: _____
- End date on EAD card: _____

Part B: Employment Information

Please list your employment since you completed your degree at HSU.

Name & Address of Employer	Job Title	From	To

If needed, list additional employers on separate sheet and attach.

Total number of days of unemployment you have accrued since your initial OPT start date: _____

Your current employer's name as listed in E-Verify: _____

E-Verify Company ID Number: _____

By signing below, I confirm that I am aware of my responsibilities for maintaining my status while on OPT.

Signature: _____

Date: _____