

24-month STEM OPT Extension

F-1 students approved for post-completion Optional Practical Training (OPT) based on a bachelor's, master or doctorate degree in a certain STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) field may be eligible 24-month STEM extension.

Additional Resources

- [Study in the States STEM Hub](#)

Step 1: Mail in or drop off at the front desk the following documents:

- Completed Form I-765** ([Instructions](#))
- Form I-983, Training Plan for STEM OPT Students** ([Instructions on how to complete](#))
- Copy of your diploma** in one of the STEM fields on the DHS STEM-designated program list
- Copy of your job offer and employment verification letter** (2 separate letters)
- Employer Affidavit and Agreement letter** ([click here for template](#))
- Copies of the following:** I-94 form, passport identity page including its expiration date; visa stamp; I-20 forms (page 1 and 3) issued to you during the initial OPT period; current EAD
- Form G-1145, E-Notification of Application/Petition Acceptance (OPTIONAL)**

Step 2: ISS will assign the \$250.00 fee after initial review of a complete application.

- Pay \$250 OPT Processing fee** ([UTSA ASAP](#))
- Provide a copy of the receipt to ISS either in-person or via email** (InternationalPrograms@utsa.edu)

Step 3: Allow 7-10 business days for review of all documentation – you will receive email notification once the packet has been processed.

IF THE APPLICATION IS NOT COMPLETE, EXPECT LONGER PROCESSING TIMES AS WE WILL HAVE TO WAIT FOR YOU TO SUBMIT MISSING/CORRECTED DOCUMENTS.

- You will receive an email notification once your packet has been processed and you will be responsible for choosing a shipping method.**

Step 4: Combine the items below with the packet from ISS and mail the application in its entirety to USCIS within 60 days or prior to expiration of your post-completion OPT, whichever comes first:

- Check or money order for \$410.00 USCIS Application Fee** made payable to *U.S. Department of Homeland Security*: Write "USCIS I-765" in the memo line of the check or money order.
- 2 passport-style photos on white background taken within 30 days of application:** Your name and I-94 number must be printed in pencil or felt pen on the back of the photos. For an example photo, see http://travel.state.gov/visa/visaphotoreg/photoexamples/photoexamples_5331.html.
- If you live in Texas or used the OIP address (One UTSA Circle, MB 1.210, San Antonio, TX 78249),** mail your application packet to one of the following depending on your preferred delivery method:

For U. S. Postal Service deliveries:

USCIS Dallas Lockbox
USCIS, P O Box 660867
Dallas, TX, 75266

For express mail & commercial courier service:

USCIS, Attn: AOS
2501 S. State Hwy 121, Business
Lewisville, TX, 75067

If you live in a different state refer to the I-765 Instructions (<http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/i-765instr.pdf>) to choose the correct mailing address.