



## Optional Practical Training (OPT)

### F-1 Student Status Responsibilities while on Post-Completion OPT

During your period of authorized Post-completion of Studies OPT, you are continuing in your F-1 Student Status and have legal responsibilities. Below is a list of responsibilities. Please read them carefully and sign the Acknowledgement below that you understand them.

1. Only work in your major field of study and within the dates that you have been authorized on your EAD.
2. To maintain your F-1 status during Post-OPT, you must work full-time (more than 20 hours per week) in your major field of study. Your employment may be paid or unpaid.

You may not accrue more than 90 days of unemployment or the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) may find you in violation of that requirement and terminate your F-1 status and jeopardize future immigration-related benefits.

3. **You are required to report your personal (address, change of name, etc.) and employment information through the SEVP Portal for the duration of your Post-OPT.**
  - You will receive an email from the SEVP Portal once your OPT request has been approved and must create your account within 14 days or you will be locked out.
  - Complete Portal information and help is found on the [Study in the States site](#).
  - It is your obligation to report this information. If you fail to report OPT activity/employment information to the SEVP Portal, you could be considered in violation of your F-1 immigration status by the Department of Homeland Security and your F-1 Status Terminated.
4. It is your responsibility to pay federal, state and local taxes on your income and fulfill tax reporting requirements.
5. It is strongly recommended that you keep a record and supporting evidence of all your OPT-related activities such as:
  - Details of job searches: correspondence with prospective employers, interviews, etc.
  - Employment information: dates, name/location of employer, position, part/full-time
  - Volunteer work: dates, name/location/type of volunteer work, part/full-time. Please note that federal law requires that a volunteer may not assume a normally paid position or displace a U.S worker.
6. Beginning a new course of study or transferring U.S schools automatically terminates OPT employment authorization and may jeopardize future employment benefits.
7. Obtain a DSO's I-20 endorsement to travel every 6 months. To return to the U.S you will need a passport valid for at least 6 months, your endorsed form I-20, a valid F-1 visa (unless traveling to a neighboring country), your EAD Card and proof of your employment.



8. Your F-1 status ends 60 days after your employment authorization on your EAD. You may not work after the EAD end date. If you wish to remain in the U.S you have to request to change status, transfer schools or begin a new program of study before the 60 days end.
  
9. Employment authorization is automatically suspended in the event of a strike or other labor dispute involving work stoppage at the place of employment [8 CFR 214.2(F)(14)]

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RESPOSNBILITIES WHILE ON POST-OPT

I have read and understand my F-1 student status responsibilities while am on Post-OPT.

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My Signature

My Name (please print)