What is Optional Practical Training?

Post-Completion Optional Practical Training (OPT) is an employment authorization that allows F-1 students to work off campus in a position directly related to their field of study AFTER completion of studies.

Who is Eligible?

- F-1 students in good academic standing who expected to complete their program of study.
- Students must have studied full-time for at least one academic year before OPT begins.

LEARN

Students must demonstrate familiarity with the conditions of this benefit. Attend an in-person session OR complete an online session & quiz in Canvas.

internationalservices.georgetown.edu/employment

When Can I Apply?

Apply up to 90 days before or 60 days after your program end date

Sample Check

Joe Hoya
123 Bulldog Alley
Washington D.C. 20057

Date March 1, 2014

Pay to the order of Department of Homeland Security $410.00

Four hundred and ten and 00/100 Dollars

Memo I-765 Filing Fee (OPT) Joe Hoya

Reminder

Make a copy of the entire application before you mail it to USCIS.

How Can I Apply?

1. Submit OPT Request Form to OGS
   - internationalservices.georgetown.edu/post-completion-opt/
   - Processing Time: 3-5 business days: OGS will issue you a new I-20

2. Submit Application to USCIS
   - Processing Time: Up to 3 months
     - Filing Fee: Personal check, cashier's check or money order
     - Two passport-style photos
     - Form G-1145 (uscis.gov/g-1145)
     - Form I-765 (uscis.gov)
     - Copy of new I-20 (with your signature and OPT recommendation)
     - Copies of all previous I-20s
     - Copies of previous EADs (if any)
     - Copy of passport biographic page
     - Copy of I-94 card (front & back) or automated I-94 record
     - Copy of F-1 visa

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For students who do not have an SSN, OGS recommends answering "No" to item 10 and continuing with item 14. OGS recommends applying for the SSN separately after the EAD card is received and the start date is current until we verify the new collaboration between USCIS and the Social Security Administration.