Apply for **Optional Practical Training (OPT)** Online in your **myUSCIS** Account

If you have not yet created your myUSCIS account, click here to follow these instructions in order to create your myUSCIS account.

1. Go to https://www.uscis.gov/i-765, then click Sign In.

2. You will receive a verification code via the method you chose when you created your myUSCIS account. Enter your verification code to authenticate your login, then click submit.

3. Click on myUSCIS.

4. Click on File a Form Online.

5. To apply for OPT, select "Application for Employment Authorization (I-765)," then click Start Form.

Once you start your form, we will automatically save your information for 30 days, or from the last time you worked on the form.

Select the form you want to file online.

- Application to Replace Permanent Resident Card (I-90)
- Request for a Hearing on a Decision in Naturalization Proceedings (N-336)
- Application for Naturalization (N-400)
- Application for Replacement Naturalization/Citizenship Document (N-565)
- Application for Certificate of Citizenship (N-600)
- Application for Citizenship and Issuance of Certificate Under Section 322 (N-600K)
- ● Application for Employment Authorization (I-765)

  Only certain F-1 students seeking optional practical training (OPT) may file Form I-765 online. This includes:
  - Pre-completion OPT - (c)(3)(A) eligibility category;
  - Post-completion OPT - (c)(3)(B) eligibility category; or
  - a 24-month extension for STEM students (students holding a degree in science technology, engineering, or mathematics) - (c)(3)(C) eligibility category.

  For all other eligibility categories, you must submit a paper Form I-765.
- Petition for Alien Relative (I-130)
- Application To Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status (I-539)

Start form

Cancel

---

6. Prepare to complete the I-765 application (screenshots on next pages). Click Next when ready.

Regarding **_Eligibility,_** note:

- **(c)(3)(A) Pre-completion OPT:** This option is typically for undergraduate and non-thesis Master's who wish to engage in OPT **during** their degree program, **before they graduate**, while they still have coursework to complete. This option is rarely used and is not recommended. As an undergraduate or graduate student, **do not** select this option if you are applying for OPT to work after you graduate. If you are a thesis-Master's student or Doctorate student who has completed all coursework and have only research/thesis/dissertation remaining towards your degree requirements, this may not necessarily be the option for you, either. Pre-completion OPT is limited to 20 hours per week during the Fall and Spring semesters. Pay close attention to the OPT recommendation on your I-20 to determine which option applies to you; 99% of the time, the correct option is **NOT pre-completion OPT**. Discuss with your F1 advisor.

- **(c)(3)(B) Post-completion OPT:** _If you are currently enrolled as an F1 student and would like to apply for the ability to train/work/volunteer based on completion of program/graduation_, you will apply for the 12-Month Full-Time standard Post-completion OPT - (c)(3)(B) eligibility category, regardless of whether your major is STEM Extension OPT eligible.

- **(c)(3)(C) STEM Extension OPT:** _If you are currently working as an F1 student on the 12-Month Full-Time standard Post-completion OPT_, and have a STEM Extension OPT eligible CIP code and would like to extend your current post-completion OPT, you will apply for the 24-Month Full-Time STEM Extension OPT - (c)(3)(C) eligibility category.

Regarding **_Fee_**, note:

- You will be able to pay via ACH, debit, or credit. Have your checkbook or debit/credit card ready.

Regarding **_Documents You May Need_**, note:

a) **I-94:** Download your I-94 from https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/home and save it as a PDF. Make sure the I-94 shows your most recent date of entry, "F1" and "D/S", and your specific details (name, DOB, passport number, etc.)
b) **EAD:** If you've had an EAD before, scan and save a copy of the front and back of the card as JPG/JPEG. If you have not had an EAD before, upload a copy of your valid passport
c) **A color, passport-style photograph:** Must be taken within 30 days of when you will submit your application, 2x2 inches (51 x 51 mm) in size, a resolution of 300 pixels per inch (12 pixels per millimeter), no more than 6MB

Regarding **_Biometrics_**, note:

- Currently, biometrics are not required to apply for OPT or STEM OPT.

NOTE:
- If you submit an application online, **do not** mail a paper application to USCIS. Likewise, if you already mailed a paper application to USCIS, do not file a second application online while the mailed-in application is pending.
- Once you start your online application, you will have 30 days to complete and submit it. If you do not submit it within 30 days, you will be required to start the application over.
- The online I-765 form is intuitive. You will not see all of the same questions on the online form as are visible on the paper form. Based on how you respond to questions, the online form will direct you regarding additional questions which require a response from you.

I-765, Application For Employment Authorization

Certain foreign nationals who are in the United States may file Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, to request employment authorization and an Employment Authorization Document (EAD). Other foreign nationals whose immigration status authorizes them to work in the United States without restrictions may also use Form I-765 to apply for an EAD that shows such authorization.

Foreign nationals may also apply for a Social Security number and card on Form I-765.

If you are a lawful permanent resident, a conditional permanent resident, or a nonimmigrant only authorized for employment with a specific employer under 8 CFR 274a.12(b), do not use Form I-765.

Learn more about employment authorization.

✔ Before You Start Your Application

🔲 Eligibility

Only certain F-1 students seeking optional practical training (OPT) may file Form I-765 online. This includes:

- Pre-completion OPT - (c)(3)(A) eligibility category;
- Post-completion OPT - (c)(3)(B) eligibility category; or
- a 24-month extension for STEM students (students holding a degree in science technology, engineering, or mathematics) - (c)(3)(C) eligibility category.

For all other eligibility categories, you must submit a paper Form I-765.

(c)(3)(A) eligibility category: Submit your application up to 90 days before being enrolled as an F-1 foreign student for one full academic year at an educational institution approved by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Student and Exchange Visitor Program (ICE SEVP). Your period of employment should not start before you have completed one full academic year. If you completed the one-year requirement while in another valid nonimmigrant status and you are now in valid F-1 status, you are still eligible to apply for OPT.

(c)(3)(B) eligibility category: Submit your application up to 90 days before, but no later than 60 days after your program end date. You must submit your application within 30 days of the date that your designated school official (DSO) enters the recommendation for OPT into your Student and Exchange Visitory Information System (SEVIS) record. If you fail to do so, we will deny your OPT request.

(c)(3)(C) eligibility category: Submit your application up to 90 days before your current OPT expires, but you must submit within 60 days of the DSO's approval of STEM OPT.

Note: If you are an F-1 student filing for initial or extension of OPT, your OPT and your employment authorization will be automatically terminated if you change educational program levels or transfer to another school. Working in the United States without authorization may result in your removal from the United States or denial of re-entry. Consult your DSO for additional details.

💲 Fee

Fee: $410.

Refund Policy: USCIS does not refund fees, regardless of any action we take on your application, petition or request, or how long USCIS takes to reach a decision. By continuing this transaction, you acknowledge that you must submit fees in the exact amount and that you are paying the fees for a government service.

Please refer to the instructions for the form(s) you are filing for additional information or you may call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283. For TTY (deaf or hard of hearing) 800-767-1833.

📄 Documents you may need

Most applicants must upload:

- A copy of your Form I-94, Nonimmigrant Arrival-Departure Record (front and back), a printout of your electronic Form I-94 from www.cbp.gov/i94, passport, or other travel document.
- A copy of your last EAD (front and back). If you were not previously issued an EAD, you must submit a copy of a government-issued identity document (such as a passport) showing your picture, name, and date of birth; a birth certificate with photo ID; a visa issued by a foreign consulate; or a national ID document with photo and/or fingerprint. The identity document photocopy must clearly show your facial features and contain your biographical information.
- A color passport-style photograph of yourself taken recently.

We will automatically inform you which documents and additional evidence you may need to provide as you fill out your application. These recommendations for additional information will be based on the information you provide in the application, such as your personal history and circumstances.

Any document containing foreign language submitted to USCIS must be accompanied by a full English language translation that the translator has certified as complete and accurate, and by the translator's certification that he or she is competent to translate from the foreign language into English.

🖐 Biometric services appointment

USCIS may require that you appear for an interview or provide biometrics (fingerprints, photograph, and/or signature) at any time to verify your identity, obtain additional information, and conduct background and security checks, including a check of criminal history records maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), before making a decision on your application or petition. After USCIS receives your application and ensures it is complete, we will inform you in writing if you need to attend a biometric services appointment.

➡ After You Submit Your Form

⊙ Track your case online

After you submit your form, you can track its status through your online account. Sign in to your account often to check your case status and read any important messages from USCIS.

↩ Respond to requests for information

If we need more information from you, we will send you a Request for Evidence (RFE) or Request for Information (RFI). You can respond to our request and upload your documents through your online account.

🖐 Receive your decision

The decision on Form I-765 involves a determination of whether you have established eligibility for the immigration benefit you are seeking. USCIS will notify you of the decision in writing. If your application is approved, we will either mail your EAD to you or we may require you to visit your local USCIS office to pick it up.

Next

📱 Completing Your Form Online

📱 Filing online

Submitting your application online is the same as mailing in a completed paper form. They both gather the same information.

🔀 Complete the Getting Started section first

You should answer all questions in the Getting Started section first so we can best customize the rest of your online form experience.

☑ Provide as many responses as you can

You should provide as many responses as you can. Incomplete fields or sections and missing information can slow down the process after you submit your form.

💾 We will automatically save your responses

We will automatically save your information when you select next to go to a new page or navigate to another section of the form. We will save your information for 30 days from today, or from the last time you worked on the form.

📰 How to continue filling out your form

After you start your form, you can sign in to your account to continue where you stopped last time.

DHS Privacy Notice

AUTHORITIES: The information requested on this application, and the associated evidence, is collected under the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1324a; 8 CFR 274a.12, and 8 CFR 274a.13.

PURPOSE: The primary purpose for providing the requested information on this application is to determine eligibility for certain aliens who are temporarily in the United States requesting an Employment Authorization Document. DHS uses the information you provide to grant or deny the benefit you are seeking.

DISCLOSURE: The information you provide is voluntary. However, failure to provide the requested information, including your Social Security number, and any requested evidence may delay a final decision or result in a rejection or denial of your application.

ROUTINE USES: DHS may, where allowable under relevant confidentiality provisions, share the information you provide on this application and any additional requested evidence with other Federal, state, local, and foreign government agencies and authorized organizations. DHS follows approved routine uses, as described in the associated published system of records notices [DHS/USCIS/ICE/CBP-001 Alien File, Index, and National File Tracking System of Records; DHS/USCIS-007 Benefits Information System; DHS/USCIS-010 Asylum Information and Pre-Screening System of Records; DHS/USCIS-017 Refugee Case Processing and Security Screening Information System of Records; and DHS/USCIS-018 Immigration Biometric and Background Check (IBBC) System of Records], and the published privacy impact assessments [DHS/USCIS/PIA-016(a) Computer Linked Application Information Management System (CLAIMS 3) and Associated Systems; DHS/USCIS/PIA-027 USCIS Asylum Division; DHS/USCIS/PIA-056 USCIS Electronic Immigration System (USCIS ELIS); and DHS/USCIS/PIA-068 Refugee Case Processing and Security Vetting], which can be found at www.dhs.gov/privacy. DHS may also share this information as appropriate for law enforcement purposes or in the interest of national security.

Paperwork Reduction Act

An agency may not conduct or sponsor an information collection, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information, unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated at 4 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering the required documentation and information, completing the application, preparing statements, attaching necessary documentation, and submitting the application. The collection of biometrics is estimated to require 1 hour and 10 minutes. The public reporting burden for the collection of information for Form I-765WS is estimated at 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering the required documentation and information, completing the application, preparing statements, attaching necessary documentation, and submitting the application. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to:

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
Office of Policy and Strategy, Regulatory Coordination Division
5900 Capital Gateway Drive, Mail Stop #2140
Camp Springs, MD 20588-0009

Do not mail your completed I-765 application to this address.

OMB No. 1615-0040
Expires: 07/31/2022

🔒 Security Reminder

If you do not work on your form for more than 30 days, we will delete your data in order to prevent storing personal information indefinitely.

Back   **Start**

7. Complete the Form I-765:

Regarding *Eligibility,* note:

- **(c)(3)(B) Post-completion OPT:** *If you are currently enrolled as an F1 student and would like to apply for the ability to train/work/volunteer based on completion of program/graduation,* you will apply for the 12-Month Full-Time standard Post-completion OPT - (c)(3)(B) eligibility category, regardless of whether your major is STEM Extension OPT eligible.

- **(c)(3)(C) STEM Extension OPT:** *If you are currently working as an F1 student on the 12-Month Full-Time standard Post-completion OPT,* and have a STEM Extension OPT eligible CIP code and would like to extend your current post-completion OPT, you will apply for the 24-Month Full-Time STEM Extension OPT - (c)(3)(C) eligibility category.

8. Select the applicable reason for applying (refer to Note to the right). Then, click Next.

NOTE:

- **Initial permission to apply to accept employment:** Select this if this is your first time applying for OPT *or* if you have applied for OPT after you received a Bachelor's/Master's and now you are applying for a second or third OPT based on the most recent degree completion (e.g. current Master's/Doctorate).

- If your EAD card was lost/stolen or you never received your card and need to replace it; if you need to have your card corrected due to an error you made in your application (and *not* a USCIS error).

- *Select if If you are currently working as an F1 student on the 12-Month Full-Time standard Post-completion OPT,* and have a STEM Extension OPT eligible CIP code and would like to apply for the 24-Month Full-Time STEM Extension OPT - (c)(3)(C) eligibility category.

- **If this is your FIRST I-765 form filed, answer NO. If you have filed an I-765 before, regardless of the category, answer YES.**

9. If you have a **legal representative** assisting you with completing this application, answer Yes. Otherwise, answer No. Then, click Next.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started ⌃
- Basis of eligibility
- Reason for applying
- **Preparer and interpreter information**

About You ⌄
Evidence ⌄
Additional Information ⌄
Review and Submit ⌄

Is someone assisting you with completing this application?

○ Yes
● No

[Back]   [Next]

10. Current Legal Name: Provide your name exactly as it appears in your passport. If you only have one name, you may be required to place it in the family/last name field. If you do not have a middle name, leave it blank. Other Names: If you have never had your name legally changed, answer No. Then, click Next.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started ⌄

About You ⌃
- **Your name**
- Your contact information
- Describe yourself
- When and where you were born
- Your immigration information
- Other information

Evidence ⌄
Additional Information ⌄
Review and Submit ⌄

What is your current legal name?

Your current legal name is the name on your birth certificate, unless it changed after birth by a legal action such as marriage or court order. Do not provide any nicknames here.

Given name (first name)

Middle name

Family name (last name)

Have you used any other names since birth?

Other names used may include nicknames, aliases and maiden names.

○ Yes
○ No

[Back]   [Next]

11. Provide the requested information. Then, click Next.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started ⌄

About You ⌃
- Your name
- **Your contact information**
- Describe yourself
- When and where you were born
- Your immigration information
- Other information

Evidence ⌄

Additional Information ⌄

Review and Submit ⌄

How may we contact you?

Daytime telephone number

[   ]

Mobile telephone number (if any)

☐ This is the same as my daytime telephone number.

[   ]

Email address

[   ]

- We recommend that you use a **personal email address** (e.g. GMail) just in case it is difficult to access your NSU email account.

What is your current U.S. mailing address?

We will use your current mailing address to contact you throughout the application process. We may not be able to contact you if you do not provide a complete and valid address. Please provide a U.S. address only.

In care of name (if any)

[   ]

- If you are using your own address, leave this blank. If you are using a friend's/family member's address, provide their name in this field.

Address line 1

[   ]

Street number and name

Address line 2

[   ]

Apartment, suite, unit, or floor

City or town	State	ZIP code
[ ]	[▼]	[ ]

- This is the address where USCIS will mail your OPT card and any other relevant documents. USCIS requests 90+/- days to adjudicate your application, therefore, you should be able to receive mail at this address for at least 3-4 months. If you move while your application is pending, you must complete the AR-11, Alien's Change of Address Card online.

Is your current mailing address the same as your physical address?

○ Yes

○ No

[Back]   [Next]

12. myUSCIS will ask you to verify the address. The Recommended Address is formated for USPS mailing. *If the recommended address looks correct,* select the Recommended Address to avoid delays.

⚠ Verify your address

We are unable to verify your address with the U.S. Postal Service. To avoid delays, please use the recommended address.

○ Original address:

123 nw 45 avenue
somewhere, fl 67890

◉ Recommended address:

123 NW 45th AVE,
Somewhere, FL 67890-5432

[Use selected address]   Edit original address

13. Provide the requested information. Then, click Next.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started ⌄

About You ⌃
  Your name
  Your contact information
  Describe yourself
  When and where you were born
  Your immigration information
  Other information

Evidence ⌄
Additional Information ⌄
Review and Submit ⌄

What is your gender?

○ Male
○ Female

What is your marital status?

○ Single
○ Married
○ Divorced
○ Widowed

Back   Next

14. Provide the requested information. Then, click Next.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started ⌄

About You ⌃
  Your name
  Your contact information
  Describe yourself
  When and where you were born
  Your immigration information
  Other information

Evidence ⌄
Additional Information ⌄
Review and Submit ⌄

What is your city, town, or village of birth?

What is your state or province of birth?

What is your country of birth?

What is your date of birth?

MM / DD / YYYY → • Make sure this is in MONTH / DAY / YEAR order!

Back   Next

15. Provide the requested information/documents for each section throughout the remainder of the application. Click Next to continue to each new section.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You
- Your name
- Your contact information
- Describe yourself
- When and where you were born
- **Your immigration information**
- Other information

Evidence

Additional Information

Review and Submit

What is your country of citizenship or nationality?

List all countries where you are currently a citizen or national.

+ Add country

What is your Form I-94 Arrival-Departure Record Number (if any)?

When did you last arrive in the United States?

List your arrival date, place of arrival, and status at arrival.

Date of arrival

MM/DD/YYYY

Place of arrival

Status at last arrival

What is the passport number of your most recently issued passport?

What is your travel document number (if any)?

What is the expiration date of your passport or travel document?

MM/DD/YYYY

What country issued your passport or travel document?

What is your current immigration status or category?

What is your Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) Number (if any)?

Use the "Additional Information" section to include all previously used SEVIS numbers.

N-

Back   Next

Most Recent I-94

Admission (I-94) Record Number: 12345678910

Most Recent Date of Entry: 2018 August 14

Class of Admission: F1

Admit Until Date: D/S

Details provided ~~in the I-94 Information~~: **SAMPLE**

Last/Surname: Gator

First (Given) Name: Alberta

Birth Date: 1984 August 01

Passport Number: G87654321

Country of Issuance: Swamp

Get Travel History

Click on *Get Travel History* to see your arrival location.

Passport Number : G87654321

Passport Country of Issuance : Swamp

SAMPLE

	Date	Type	Location
1	2018-08-14	Arrival	ORL
2	2018-05-10	Departure	MIA
3	2017-08-20	Arrival	ORL

- If you have renewed your passport since you last entered the US, your most recently issued passport may have a different number from your most recent I-94. That is fine. Provide the number of your valid and most recently issued passport.

- F1 students do not have a Travel Document. You have the F1 visa and a passport.

- Enter the end date of your most recently issued passport.

- You must be in F1-Student status to be eligible for OPT. If you are currently in the US in a status other than F1, you are not eligible for OPT.

- Enter the numbers which follow the "N" in your SEVIS number on your I-20.

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

SEVIS ID: N

SURNAME/PRIMARY NAME

PREFERRED NAME

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started ⌄

About You ⌃
- Your name
- Your contact information
- Describe yourself
- When and where you were born
- Your immigration information
- **Other information**

Evidence ⌄

Additional Information ⌄

Review and Submit ⌄

What is your A-Number?

☐ I do not have or know my A-Number.

[A-]

What is your USCIS Online Account Number?

Providing your unique USCIS Online Account Number (OAN) helps us manage your account. You may already have an OAN if you previously filed certain paper forms and received an Account Access Notice in the mail. You can find the OAN at the top of the notice; it is not the same as an A-Number.

☐ I do not have or know my USCIS Online Account Number.

[   ]

Has the Social Security Administration (SSA) ever officially issued a Social Security card to you?

○ Yes
○ No

Do you want the SSA to issue you a Social Security card?

○ Yes
○ No

[Back]   [Next]

- If you have previously been issued an Employment Authorization Document (EAD), your A# is the same as the USCIS# found on the EAD. Otherwise, check the "I do not have or know my A-Number" box.

- If this is the first application you are filing online, you do not have a USCIS Online Account Number yet. You will have a USCIS Online Account Number after filing this application.

- This is asking whether you have a Social Security Number (SSN) already. Answer accordingly.

- If you already have an SSN, answer NO. This is NOT the same as requesting a *replacement* SSN card.

- If you do not have a SSN/card and would like one issued to you as part of the OPT application, answer YES.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started ⌄
About You ⌄

Evidence ⌃
- **2 x 2 photo of you**
- Form I-94
- Employment Authorization Document
- Previously authorized CPT or OPT
- Form I-20

Additional Information ⌄
Review and Submit ⌄

2 X 2 Photo Of You

Upload a recent color photograph of yourself that measures 2 inches by 2 inches, with your face measuring 1 inch to 1 3/8 inch from your chin to the top of your head. Your eyes should be between 1 1/8 inch and 1 3/8 inch from the bottom of the photo.

Make sure your whole face is visible, you are facing the camera directly, and the background is white or off-white. Your head must be bare, unless contrary to your religious beliefs.

If you need help understanding the photo requirements or want to resize, rotate, or crop your photo, you can use to the Department of State's photo composition tools. Please note that we cannot approve your application without your photos.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, or PNG
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[**Choose** or drop files here to upload]

[Back]   [Next]

I-94, Arrival And Departure Record

Upload a copy of one of the following:

- Your Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Record (front and back);
- A printout of your electronic Form I-94 ; or
- Your passport or other travel document.

If you were admitted to the United States by CBP at an airport or seaport after April 30, 2013, CBP may have issued you an electronic Form I-94 instead of a paper Form I-94. You may visit the CBP website to obtain a paper version of an electronic Form I-94. CBP does not charge a fee for this service. Some travelers admitted to the United States at a land border, airport, or seaport, after April 30, 2013, with a passport or travel document, who were issued a paper Form I-94 by CBP, may also be able to obtain a replacement Form I-94 from the CBP website without charge.

If your Form I-94 cannot be obtained from the CBP website, it may be obtained by filing Form I-102, Application for Replacement/Initial Nonimmigrant Arrival-Departure Record, with USCIS. USCIS does charge a fee for this service.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

Choose or drop files here to upload

[Back] [Next]

- You may obtain your most recent electronic I-94 at https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/home.

  Click on "Get Most Recent I-94."

  NOTE: If you upload the electronic I-94, there is no "back." If you have not travelled since the electronic I-94 system was established and you still have the 3x5 paper I-94 card, then a copy of the front and back is required.

  You may also upload a copy of your passport identification pages(s) in this section as an *additional document,* however, the next section also allows for uploading your passport, if you have never been issued an Employment Authorization Document, previously.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Employment Authorization Document Or Government ID

Upload a copy of your last Employment Authorization document (EAD) (front and back). If you were not previously issued an EAD, you must upload a copy of a government-issued identity document (such as a passport) showing your picture, name, and date of birth; a birth certificate with photo ID; a visa issued by a foreign consulate; or a national ID document with photo and/or fingerprint. The identity document photocopy must clearly show your facial features and contain your biographical information.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

Choose or drop files here to upload

[Back] [Next]

- If you **have** been issued an Employment Authorization Document by USCIS in the past (such as for OPT after a previous degree program), upload a copy, in this section.

  If you have **not** been issued an Employment Authorization Document by USCIS in the past, upload a copy of your passport identification page(s) in this section.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Previously Authorized CPT Or OPT

Upload evidence of any previously authorized CPT or OPT and the academic level at which it was authorized.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

Choose or drop files here to upload

Back | Next

Navigation sidebar:
- Getting Started
- About You
- **Evidence**
  - 2 x 2 photo of you
  - Form I-94
  - Employment Authorization Document
  - **Previously authorized CPT or OPT**
  - Form I-20
- Additional Information
- Review and Submit

- *If* you have had CPT or OPT before:
  - *CPT:* upload a copy of the I-20 you received with the CPT authorization.
  - *OPT/STEM OPT:* Upload a copy of the Employment Authorization Document you received from USCIS.

  If you have not had either CPT or OPT, click Next to continue.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

I-20, Certificate Of Eligibility For Nonimmigrant Student Status

Upload a copy of the Form I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status endorsed by the Designated School Official (DSO). For the (c)(3)(B) eligibility category, your DSO must have entered the recommendation for OPT into your SEVIS record within 30 days of you submitting Form I-765. If you fail to do so, we will deny your OPT request. For the (c)(3)(C) eligibility category, the Form I-20 must have been endorsed by the DSO within 60 days of submitting Form I-765.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

Choose or drop files here to upload

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Navigation sidebar:
- Getting Started
- About You
- **Evidence**
  - 2 x 2 photo of you
  - Form I-94
  - Employment Authorization Document
  - Previously authorized CPT or OPT
  - **Form I-20**
- Additional Information
- Review and Submit

- Upload the I-20 which your F-1 Advisor/DSO issued to *you with the OPT recommendation on page 2 of the I-20*. Make sure the I-20 is signed and dated by both you (on page 1) and the advisor (on pages 1 and 2).

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Additional Information

If you need to provide any additional information for any of your answers to the questions in this form, enter it into the space below. You should include the questions that you are referencing.

If you do not need to provide any additional information, you may leave this section blank.

+ Add a response

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Navigation sidebar:
- Getting Started
- About You
- Evidence
- **Additional Information**
  - **Additional information**
- Review and Submit

- Add a response only if you need to add clarification for any of the sections in the form, such as change of names.

16. Check your application before you pay the fee and submit.

- Make sure to pay the correct fee for the OPT application! You will be able to pay by ACH withdrawal from your savings/checking account or by credit/debit card.

- Make sure there are no alerts or warnings regarding your application!

REVIEW YOUR APPLICATION RESPONSES CAREFULLY!!

- After careful review, you may click on PRINT to save a copy, if you'd like. You will not be able to change your responses after you submit the application.

Confirm the statement.

17. Confirm the statement and provide your electronic signature.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started ⌄
About You ⌄
Evidence ⌄
Additional Information ⌄

Review and Submit ⌃
  Review your application
  Your application summary
  Your statement
  Your signature

Applicant's Declaration and Certification

You must read and agree to the certification below. If you knowingly and willfully falsify or conceal a material fact or submit a false document with your application, we can deny your application and may deny any other immigration benefit. You may also face criminal prosecution and penalties provided by the law.

Copies of any documents I have submitted are exact photocopies of unaltered, original documents, and I understand that USCIS may require that I submit original documents to USCIS at a later date. Furthermore, I authorize the release of any information from any and all of my records that USCIS may need to determine my eligibility for the immigration benefit that I seek.

I furthermore authorize release of information contained in this application, in supporting documents, and in my USCIS records, to other entities and persons where necessary for the administration and enforcement of U.S. immigration law.

I understand that USCIS may require me to appear for an appointment to take my biometrics (fingerprints, photograph, and/or signature) and, at that time, if I am required to provide biometrics, I will be required to sign an oath reaffirming that:

1) I reviewed and understood all of the information contained in, and submitted with, my application; and

2) All of this information was complete, true, and correct at the time of filing.

I certify, under penalty of perjury, that all of the information in my application and any document submitted with it were provided or authorized by me, that I reviewed and understand all of the information contained in, and submitted with, my application, and that all of this information is complete, true, and correct.

☑ I have read and agree to the applicant's statement

Applicant's signature

You must provide your digital signature below by typing your full legal name. We may deny your application if you do not completely fill out this application or fail to submit required documents. We will record the date of your signature with your application.

[_____]

Back   Next

Confirm the statement.

Type your Full Legal Name within this field.

This will serve as your electronic signature. A handwritten signature is not required.

18. Pay the fee to then submit your application.

Pay for and submit your application

The final step to submit your Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, is to pay the required fee.

Your application fee is: **$410**.

Refund Policy: By continuing this transaction, you agree that you are paying for a government service and that the filing fee, biometric services fee and all related financial transactions are final and not refundable, regardless of any action USCIS takes on an application, petition or request, or how long USCIS takes to reach a decision. You must submit all fees in the exact amounts.

We will send you to Pay.gov — our safe and secure payment website — to pay your fees and submit your form online.

Here are the steps in the payment and submission process:

1. Provide your billing information on Pay.gov
2. Provide your credit card or U.S. bank account information
3. Submit your payment

When you have paid your fee, your form will be submitted.

Pay.gov will redirect you to a uscis.gov confirmation screen, which will include your receipt number. Please keep a copy of your receipt number for your records. You can track the status of your application through your USCIS online account.

Click Pay and Submit.
You will be taken to Pay.gov
to pay the application fee.

19. Choose your payment method.

20. You will go through a series of Pay.gov sections to pay according to your chosen method. Once you have completed the Pay.gov sections, you should
a) see a screen which confirms "You successfully submitted your I-765" application, and
b) receive an email from Pay.gov with your payment confirmation.

You successfully submitted your I-765

We will contact you if we have any questions or need additional information. You can track the status of your application through your USCIS online account.

Congratulations! You have submitted your OPT application! You may follow the progress of the application by viewing "Your Cases" in your myUSCIS account and clicking on Case Status, Case History, or Documents for application history/receipt.

Frequently Asked Questions

A. Can I complete the online Form I-765 and apply for OPT while I am abroad?
- NO, you must be in the US to apply for OPT.

B. Can I send two applications, one online and one by mail?
- NO; only submit ONE application.
- If you filed by mail, USCIS will mail the I-797C receipt notice to you. The notice should contain your online access code. Once you have the receipt and online access code, you will be able to link your paper application to your myUSCIS account. The access code is valid for 90 days. Enter the access code into your USCIS account to link your OPT application to your myUSCIS account. If you do not link the application within 90 days, the access code is no longer valid. You will need to contact USCIS Customer Service for assistance.

C. If I file online, will my application be processed faster?
- NO; USCIS requires +/- 90 days to adjudicate the application, regardless of filing method.

D. What are the benefits of filing Form I-765 online?
- The myUSCIS system is designed to alert you if there is an incomplete field, thereby decreasing the chances you did not submit a complete application.
- Your application is immediately delivered to USCIS when you pay and submit the application.
- You immediately receive the receipt number.
- If you receive a Request for Evidence/Request for Information (RFE/RFI), you can submit the additional evidence/information in your myUSCIS account to respond to the RFE/RFI.

E. I found a typo in my application after I clicked the pay and submit button. How do I address that?
- You are not able to edit your application once you pay the fee and submit the application. If you notice any typos, you can upload a letter under "unsolicited evidence" to clarify the typo.