

Options After OPT (Optional Practical Training) Ends

***** To apply for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), if must be before OPT ends

Your options:

*** **You can enroll in another degree program** (check the dates of when that program will start because that can affect your status, if before or after certain dates.) You can seek advice from the International Director at the school which you will be attending, for the dates that you need to be concerned about for your status. After accepted, please send me the transfer form from that school and the acceptance letter they send to you. I then, can transfer your SEVIS I-20 to them, and they can issue you a new I-20 to begin the next degree program from their institution.

***If you have a STEM degree, **you can apply for two more years on STEM OPT**. If you are thinking this is an option, you need to let me know as soon as possible, as this requires much more than regular OPT approval on yours and your employer's parts. Your application must be submitted to USCIS (United States Citizenship and Immigration Services) at least 30 days (about 4 and a half weeks) before your regular OPT expires. There is a \$470 fee as with regular OPT.

You can research a different status and **apply for a change of status** or extension to choose to stay in the US. Immigration attorneys can assist you with further information.

If none of the others apply to you, you will have the 60 days grace period, **then you will need to depart the US.**

Please keep me informed of how you are doing and what your next steps will be.