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General Information on 24-Month OPT Extension Based on Degree in Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math (STEM)



In this document:

- STEM OPT refers to the 24-month extension of post-completion optional practical training (OPT).
- Designated school official (DSO) refers to both the principal designated school official (PDSO) and DSO, unless otherwise noted.

Students who majored in an eligible science, technology, engineering, or math field may qualify for up to two STEM extensions of post-completion optional practical training.



A student may request a first STEM OPT extension if:

- Student is in a period of Active Post-Completion OPT.
- Student's primary or secondary major was a [STEM-eligible field](#), or the student completed a previous primary or secondary major in a currently STEM-eligible field.
- Student has not already had a STEM OPT extension of any duration based on the qualifying STEM degree.
- Qualifying STEM degree was at the bachelor's, master's, or doctoral level.
- Qualifying STEM degree was earned within the ten previous years of the date the DSO recommends the STEM OPT extension.
- School where the student earned the STEM degree is currently:
 - SEVIS-certified
 - Accredited by a U.S. Department of Education accrediting organization
- Student will be, or is working, for an employer enrolled in the [E-Verify program](#).

A student may request a second STEM OPT extension if:

- Student is in a period of Active Post-Completion OPT.
- Student has a second STEM degree at a higher level than the one used for the first STEM OPT extension.
- Student has not already based any portion of a STEM OPT extension on the second STEM degree.
- Second STEM degree meets all of the above requirements.

Regulations and Policy Guidance

Any STEM OPT requests entered into SEVIS must comply with applicable federal regulations and guidance. DSOs must understand the following regulations and policy guidance:



- [8 Code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\) 214.2\(f\)\(10\) through \(13\)](#)
- [8 CFR 274a.12\(c\)\(3\)](#)
- [SEVP Policy Guidance on OPT](#)
- [F-1 Optional Practical Training \(Help Hub/Study in the States\)](#)
- [STEM OPT Hub \(Study in the States\)](#)

OPT Request Statuses

The table below lists the statuses used to identify the stages of any type of OPT request in SEVIS:



Status	Status Meaning
Requested	DSO requested OPT in SEVIS on behalf of the student, but U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) has not yet received the Application for Employment Authorization (Form I-765).
Pending	USCIS has received the Form I-765.
Approved	USCIS has approved the Form I-765.
Denied	USCIS has denied the Form I-765.
Canceled	DSO has canceled the OPT request in SEVIS.
Withdrawn	USCIS approved the student’s request to withdraw the Form I-765.

Process Overview

SEVIS will compute the start and end dates of the STEM OPT extension. The requested STEM OPT Start Date is the day following the current post-completion OPT End Date. The requested end date for this segment of OPT is 24 months after the requested start date. DSOs cannot change these dates.

During the full period of the extension, the school that recommended the STEM OPT must continue to:

- [Maintain records](#) on the student.
- Update required SEVIS [student reporting](#) as notified by student.

The student can continue to work for 180 days after the original USCIS Employment Authorization Document (EAD) expires if:

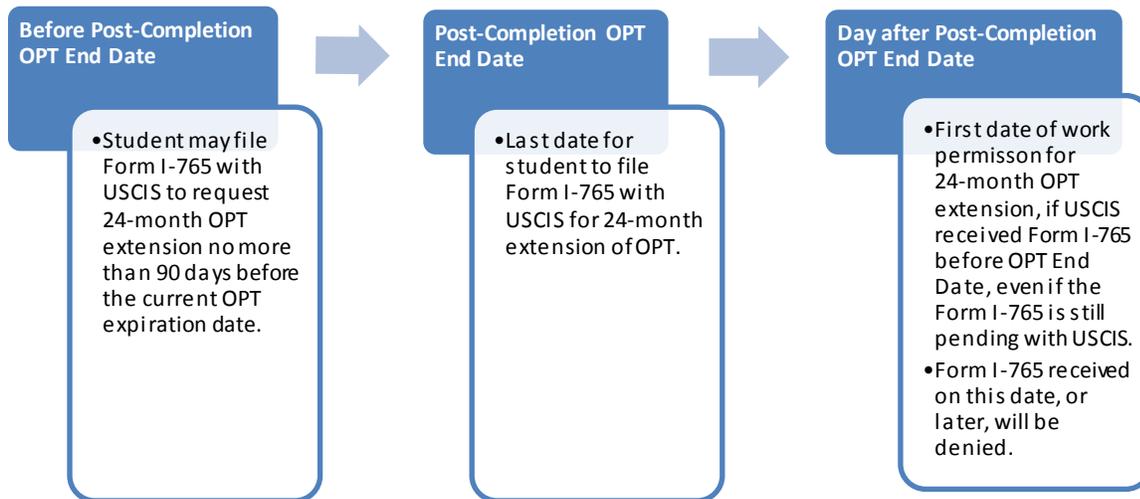
- Student filed a Form I-765 for the STEM OPT extension.
- USCIS received the Form I-765 for the extension before the EAD for the original post-completion OPT expired.



The Request Status will be listed as “Pending” in SEVIS once USCIS receives the Form I-765.



[8 CFR 214.2\(f\)\(10\) to \(f\)\(13\)](#)



While a DSO recommends STEM OPT in SEVIS, it is the student who must apply for the work permit with the USCIS. If the STEM OPT is approved, USCIS will issue an EAD.



- DSOs should know the USCIS regulations that extend work permission in special cases while USCIS processes extension requests.
- [8 CFR 274a.12\(b\)\(6\)\(iv\)-\(v\)](#)

Recommend STEM OPT Extension



Students must submit a completed [Form I-983 Training Plan for STEM OPT Students](#) to the DSO before the DSO can recommend the STEM OPT extension in SEVIS. Students must submit a new Form I-983 for every new employment/training experience they accept during their STEM OPT extension.



For more information and a tutorial on completing the Form I-983, see the [STEM OPT Hub](#) on the Study in the States site.

To recommend the STEM OPT extension after receiving the completed I-983 Training Plan for STEM OPT Students, DSOs should:

1. Navigate to the *Student Information* page.



Student Information
[Reprint I-20](#) [Print Draft I-20](#)

Actions: Authorize To Drop Below Full Course Cap-Gap Extension Change Education Level Complete Program Disciplinary Action Registration Shorten Program Terminate Student Transfer Out Edits: Dependents Financial Information Personal Information Program Information View: Event History Request/Authorization Details Employment/Training: CPT Employment Authorization Off-Campus Employment OPT Request	Personal Information SEVIS ID: N0004705871 Surname/Primary Name: Blokhin Given Name: Eugene Suffix: I Passport Name: Preferred Name: Eugene Blokhin, I SEVIS Legacy Name: Eugene Blokhin Country of Birth: RUSSIA Date of Birth: 02/05/1957 Country of Citizenship: RUSSIA Gender: MALE Foreign Address: ul. Lsnaya d. 5, kv. 176 Moscow 2396665 RUSSIA U.S. Address: 105 N PORT ST Address2 Baltimore MARYLAND 21224 Address Status: Override - On-campus business address Email Address: blokhin.e@gmail.com Telephone: The student has provided information that he/she does not have a telephone number.	Program Information Active Post-Completion OPT Status: ACTIVE Date of Last Event: 04/21/2015 Termination Reason: Visa Type: F-1 School Name: SEVP Studies School Code: BAL214 Campus Name: SEVP Studies I-20 Issue Reason: CONTINUATION Education Level: MASTER'S Major: 52.0201 - Business and Management Secondary Major: 00.0000 - No Major Minor: 00.0000 - No Minor Program Start Date: 09/10/2013 Program End Date: 06/10/2015 Normal Length of Study: 36 Current Session End Date: 06/09/2015 Next Session Start Date: 06/10/2015 School Requires English Proficiency: Yes Student Has English Proficiency: Yes English Is Not Required Because: Remarks:
	Financial Information Number of Months: 04 Tuition Fees: \$1.00 Living Expenses: \$2.00	Travel Information Passport Number: Passport Expiration Date: Visa Number:

- Click **OPT Request** from the *Student Information* page. The *OPT Employment* page opens.

OPT Employment

POST-COMPLETION - FULL TIME	Status Active	Receipt Number APPROVED XYZ123456789	View	Extend
-----------------------------	-------------------------	---	----------------------	------------------------

OPT AUTHORIZATION DATES			Employers			
OPT Dates	Start	End	Employer Name	Start	End	Actions
DSO Recommended	06/11/2015	06/10/2016	SEVP Applied Labs	07/01/2015	06/10/2016	Edit Delete
USCIS Approved	06/11/2015	06/10/2016				
Actual	06/11/2015	06/10/2016				

[Return](#) [Print I-20](#)

- Click **Extend**. The *Extend OPT Employer* page opens.



Extend OPT Employer

SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies
Eugene Blokhin

Required fields are marked with an asterisk (*).

Prior to recommending a 24-month extension for Optional Practical Training (OPT), you must ensure the student earned a STEM designated bachelors, masters, or doctorate degree within the last 10 years from an institution that is currently SEVP certified. The STEM Designated Degree Program List is available at www.ice.gov/sevis (the SEVP Website). These students are also subject to the requirements found in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 8, Sections 214.2(f)(10) to (f)(13). Your school must continue to maintain records on the student for the full period of the extension, including Form I-983 or successor form. The details of these rules can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 8, Sections 214.2(f)(10) to (f)(13). The CFR has been amended and the sections relevant to OPT are available at www.ice.gov/sevis (the SEVP Website).

Explain how employment is related to student's course of study *

Student will work in the field of engineering.
I have reviewed the Form I-983. It is complete, signed and addresses all program requirements.
Extension based on prior STEM degree: Civil Engineering, Bachelor's, CIP 15.0201, Awarded May 31, 2012, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA WAS214-1364700, COA: H-4

Max 1000 characters (682 remaining)

Employer Information

Employer Name * **Employer EIN * Highly Recommended** -

Job Title **Start Date *** / / **End Date** / /

Full Time / Part Time *

Full Time: more than 20 hours/week

Part Time: 20 or less hours/week

Employer Address *

Supervisor Information

Last Name * **First Name ***

Telephone Number * - - ext. **Email Address ***

4. Enter the employer information.

Note: An * (asterisk) indicates required fields.



Field	Description
* Explain how employment is related to student’s course of study	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Describe how the job relates to the student’s major area of study. The student should be able to provide this explanation. Refer to Form I-983, Section 5, Student Role.DSOs must note in this field they have seen the Form I-983 by entering text, “I have reviewed the Form I-983. It is complete, signed, and addresses all program requirements.”If this STEM extension is based on a prior STEM degree, the DSO will also enter the following information in this field, “Extension based on prior STEM degree:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Degree nameDegree levelDegree CIP codeDate degree awardedName of school that awarded degreeLocation of school that awarded degreeSEVIS code of school awarded degree, if availableClass of admission at time of degree” <p>Note: These remarks do not appear on the Form I-20.</p>
* Employer Name	<ul style="list-style-type: none">This field displays any information previously entered into SEVIS, but can be edited.Enter or update the business name of the employer.
* Employer EIN	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Enter the Employer Identification Number (EIN) for the student’s employer. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) issues EINs to employers for tax reasons. <p>Note: This field is required for STEM OPT, even though Highly Recommended appears to the right of it.</p>
Job Title	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Enter the student’s job title.
* Start Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Enter the date the student began or will begin the job. If the student will continue work for the same post-completion OPT employer, enter the start date for the STEM OPT. <p>Note: SEVIS will not allow you to enter any date earlier than the start of STEM OPT authorization.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The start date will stop SEVIS’ count of consecutive days of unemployment.



Field	Description
End Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter the date the student will stop working for the employer, if known. Leave this field blank, if the end date is not known. <p>Note: The date entered in the End Date field will not affect the overall SEVIS-calculated STEM extension end date.</p>
* Full Time/Part Time Indicator	By default, this field is pre-populated as full-time. It is not editable.
* Employer Address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Click the Add Employer Address button. The <i>Address</i> modal opens. Enter the employer address following SEVP guidance on entering U.S. addresses. This field validates when Address Doctor is working. Enter the Employer’s site address as shown in Section 5 of the Form I-983.
Note: The Supervisor Information section will be renamed to Employer Official in a future SEVIS release.	
* Supervisor Last Name	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter the last name of the student’s supervisor, as shown in Section 5 of the Form I-983. This is a required field for STEM OPT.
* Supervisor First Name	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter the first name of the student’s supervisor, as shown in Section 5 of the Form I-983. This is a required field for STEM OPT.
* Supervisor Telephone Number	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter the work/business telephone number for the student’s supervisor, as shown in Section 5 of the Form I-983. This is a required field for STEM OPT
* Supervisor Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter the email address for the student’s supervisor, as shown in Section 5 of the Form I-983. This is a required field for STEM OPT.

5. Click one of the following:

- **Extend OPT Employer:** Processes the recommended OPT extension in SEVIS. An *Update Successful* message displays.



Update Successful

Submitted change(s) require adjudication. Please print I-20 and send it with the appropriate documentation to the Service Center.

[Return to Employment List](#)

[Print I-20](#)

- Click **Print I-20** and sign page one of the Form I-20. Give the printed Form I-20 to the student. The student must also sign page one of the Form I-20 and submit a copy of the Form I-20 to USCIS, along with the Application for Employment Authorization (Form I-765).
- Click **Return to Employment List**. The *OPT Employment* page opens with the requested extension.

OPT Employment

STEM - FULL TIME	Status	Receipt Number	View	Cancel Request		
	REQUESTED					
OPT AUTHORIZATION DATES		Employers Add Employer				
OPT Dates	Start	End	Employer Name	Start	End	Actions
DSO Recommended	06/11/2016	06/11/2018	Spinmechanical	06/11/2016	06/11/2018	Edit Delete
USCIS Approved						
Actual						

POST-COMPLETION - FULL TIME	Status	Receipt Number	View			
Active	APPROVED	XYZ123456789				
OPT AUTHORIZATION DATES		Employers Add Employer				
OPT Dates	Start	End	Employer Name	Start	End	Actions
DSO Recommended	06/11/2015	06/10/2016	SEVP Applied Labs	07/01/2015	06/10/2016	Edit Delete
USCIS Approved						
Actual						

[Return](#) [Print I-20](#)

- **Cancel Request:** Returns to the *OPT Employment* page without adding the OPT extension request to the student's record.



USCIS highly recommends sending transcripts with the STEM OPT application if the extension is based on a prior degree. DSOs can find additional employment authorization filing information and



requirements at the USCIS [Form I-765](#) site.

Record-keeping Requirements during STEM OPT

During the STEM OPT, DSOs must maintain the following in the student's file:

- All Forms I-983 training plans submitted by the student
- All self-evaluations submitted by the student

Reporting Requirements during STEM OPT

There are three types of reporting requirements for students while on the STEM OPT extension:

- **General Reporting:** Any changes in the student's legal name, address, employer, or employment status within 10 days of the change.
- **Validation Reporting:** A 6-, 12- and 18-month validation report to the DSO that confirms the student's name, address, employer name and address, and employment status are correct.
- **Self-Evaluations:** Self-evaluations are submitted at the end of any employment and at the 12 and 24 month marks from the start date of the STEM extension.

General Reporting

During the STEM OPT extension period, such as the initial 12 months of post-completion OPT, the student must:

- Report to the DSO any changes in the student's legal name, address, employer, or employment status within 10 days of the change.

DSO Actions:

- Use the **Personal Information** link on the *Student Information* page to update the student's name or address changes in SEVIS.
- Use the **OPT Request** link on the *Student Information* page to update the employer or employment status changes in SEVIS.



DSOs can always access the OPT Request and Personal Information functions. (Refer to the [F-1 Optional Practical Training Guidelines](#) for detailed OPT instructions.)



- [8 CFR 214.2\(f\)\(12\)\(ii\)\(E\)](#)
- [SEVP OPT Policy Guidance](#)



Validation Reports

During the STEM OPT extension period, the student must make a 6-, 12- and 18-month validation report to the DSO that confirms the student’s current name, address, employer, and employment status are correct.

DSO Action: Use the **Report OPT Employment** link on the *Student Information* page to report the validation has been completed.



DSOs can only access the Report OPT Employment function during the three separate reporting windows. (See [STEM OPT Validation Report Deadlines.](#))



SEVIS will auto-terminate the student record, if the following statements are true:

- Student is in a period of active STEM OPT extension.
- SEVIS record was not updated to reflect the validation report.
- Date is 46 days after the reporting deadline.

Note: This auto-terminate functionality is currently disabled but will be enabled in a future release. However, even though the auto-terminate is not on now, a government official can still terminate a record at any time.



The DSO is required to report the student’s participation within 21 days of the established report date.



[Planning Tool for 24-Month Extension of STEM OPT](#)

This interactive tool provides a customized reporting schedule for a student.

Validation Report Deadlines

DSOs must validate a student’s employment data three times during the STEM OPT extension. Validation reporting is done in SEVIS. Paper documentation is NOT mailed to SEVP.

Activity	Timeline
Validation Reports due	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 months after start of STEM OPT Extension • 12 months after start of STEM OPT Extension • 18 months after start of STEM OPT Extension
Report link displays in SEVIS	15 days before each report due date
Report link no longer displays in SEVIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After DSO submits validation report • 46 days after reporting deadline

The **Report OPT Participation** link appears in the Employment/Training section on the left-hand side of the *Student Information* page.



Actions:
[Authorize To Drop Below Full Course](#)
[Cap-Gao Extension](#)
[Change Education Level](#)
[Complete Program](#)
[Disciplinary Action](#)
[Registration](#)
[Shorten Program](#)
[Terminate Student](#)
[Transfer Out](#)
Edits:
[Dependents](#)
[Financial Information](#)
[Personal Information](#)
[Program Information](#)
Views:
[Event History](#)
[Request/Authorization Details](#)
Employment/Training:
[OPT Employment Authorization](#)
[OPT-Campus Employment](#)
[OPT Request](#)
[Report OPT Participation](#)
[Employment Information](#)
Corrections:
[Request Change to Program Dates](#)
[Request Change to Student Request](#)
[Request Change to Student Status](#)

Student Information

Reprint I-20 Print Draft I-20

Personal Information

SEVIS ID: N0004717307

Surname/Primary Name: **Shelly**

Given Name: **Mary**

Suffix:

Passport Name:

Preferred Name: **Mary Shelly**

SEVIS Legacy Name:

Country of Birth: **UNITED KINGDOM**

Date of Birth: **10/30/1990**

Country of Citizenship: **UNITED KINGDOM**

Gender: **FEMALE**

Foreign Address: **150 London Tower Rd.
London
UNITED KINGDOM**

U.S. Address: **130 N WAYNE ST
ARLINGTON
VIRGINIA
22201 - 1518**

Address Status: **Valid**

Address Type: **H - High-rise default address**

Email Address: **fakeaddress@fake.email.com**

Telephone:

U.S. Number: **555-555-5555**

Foreign Number:

Program Information

Active STEM OPT

Status: **ACTIVE**

Date of Last Event: **10/30/2015**

Termination Reason:

Visa Type: **F-1**

School Name: **SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies**

School Code: **BAL214F4444000**

Campus Name: **SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies**

I-20 Issue Reason: **CONTINUED ATTENDANCE**

Education Level: **DOCTORATE**

Major: **40.0202 - Astrophysics**

Secondary Major: **00.0000 - None**

Minor: **00.0000 - None**

Program Start Date: **08/13/2009**

Program End Date: **05/13/2014**

Normal Length of Study: **72**

Current Session End Date: **05/13/2014**

Next Session Start Date: **05/13/2014**

School Requires English Proficiency: **Yes**

Student Has English Proficiency: **Yes**

English Is Not Required Because:

Remarks: **Student will seek training in her field of study**

Financial Information

Number of Months: **09**

Tuition Fees: **\$15,000.00**

Living Expenses: **\$5,000.00**

Dependent Expenses:

Other Costs:

Other Costs Comments:

Total Expenses: \$20,000.00

Student's Personal Funds: **\$0.00**

Funds From This School: **\$20,000.00**

School Fund Type: **scholarship**

Funds From Other Sources:

Source Type:

On-Campus Employment:

Total Funding: \$20,000.00

Travel Information

Passport Number:

Passport Expiration Date:

Visa Number:

Visa Issue Date:

Visa Expiration Date:

Visa Issue Post:

Port of Entry:

Date of Entry:

I-94/Admission Number:

Port of Departure:

Date of Departure:

I-901 SEVIS Fee Payment Information

Transaction Number:

Validate STEM OPT Participation

To report (validate) STEM OPT participation:

1. Click the **Report OPT Participation** from the *Student Information* page. The *Report OPT Participation* page opens.

F-1 Student
Marlowe, Philip

SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies - SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies
 Start Date: 06/02/2009 End Date: 03/02/2014

Status: **ACTIVE**
 SEVIS ID: **N0004705320**

GENDER	MALE		EMAIL
DOB	08/24/1983		
PREFERRED NAME	Philip Marlowe	U.S. ADDRESS	126 N WAYNE ST APT 4
PASSPORT NAME			ARLINGTON, VA 22201
COUNTRY OF BIRTH	UNITED KINGDOM		
CITIZENSHIP	UNITED KINGDOM		

Report OPT Participation

Employer Information Add

Employer Name (EIN)	Job Title	FT/PT	Start Date	End Date	City	State	Zip	Actions
XYZ Corp	Biochemical postdoctoral fellows	PART TIME	09/01/2015	08/02/2016	FORT WASHINGTON	MD	20744	Edit Delete
PDQ Corporation	Research Assistant	FULL TIME	03/03/2015	08/02/2016	VALRICO	FL	33594	Edit Delete

By checking this box, I verify that the student has confirmed his or her current address and employment information



2. Review the information displayed on the screen:
 - a. If the employer address or information is wrong, correct the information:
 - Add any missing employer.
 - Edit incorrect information in an employer record.
 - Delete all employer information, if the student never worked there.
 - b. If the student's address is wrong, update the address on the *Personal Information* page, which is accessed from the *Student Information* page.
 - c. If the address and employer information is correct, click the checkbox to verify that the student has confirmed his or her current address and employment.
3. Click either **Report OPT Participation** or **Cancel**:
 - **Report OPT Participation** verifies the student has confirmed his or her current address and employment information.
 - A message indicates that the update was successful.



(ALT Text: Screenshot of *Update Successful* message.)

- Click **Return to View Record** to view the *Student Information* page.

Note: The *Student Information* page will no longer display the **Report OPT Participation** link.

- **Cancel** returns the user to the *Student Information* page without validating the student's information.

Self-Evaluations

Students must create self-evaluations that detail the progress made toward the training goals outlined on the Form I-983 for that particular employer. An employing supervisor must confirm and sign each self-evaluation. DSOs must keep these self-evaluations in the student's file. The submission timelines are below:

- **Student still works for original employer:** Must submit a self-evaluation within 10 days of the 12- and 24-month marks of the start date of STEM OPT employment authorization.
- **Student changes employers before the 12- and/or 24-month marks:**
 - Must submit self-evaluation within 10 days of ending each employment with current employer.



- Must submit self-evaluation within 10 days of 12- and 24-month marks of the start date of STEM OPT employment authorization.

STEM OPT Extension and Unemployment

Students authorized for STEM OPT must be employed by an E-Verify-certified employer. A student on STEM OPT can be unemployed for a total of 150 days. This includes any of the remaining 90 days of unemployment allotted from the standard post-completion OPT.



- DSOs must [enter employer information](#) into SEVIS.
- Student whose record lacks employer information is considered unemployed.



- SEVIS will not auto-terminate students until the following timeframes have passed:
 - Number of days of unemployment allowed in regulation

Note: SEVIS will only use consecutive days of unemployment, even though the regulatory limits are for the total days of unemployment. This will change to count aggregate days with a future SEVIS release.

- Reporting periods for BOTH:

- Student
- DSO

Note: This auto-terminate functionality is currently disabled.



- SEVP officials can **manually terminate** a student who accrues more total days of unemployment than regulations allow.



- [8 CFR 214.2\(f\)\(10\)\(ii\)\(E\)](#)
- [SEVP Policy OPT Guidance](#)

Related SEVIS Alerts and Lists

The following Alert and Student Lists in SEVIS help DSOs monitor and manage students on STEM OPT:

Alert/List	Description
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Alert/List	Description
Students who have Approved OPT without Current Employer Information	<p>This Alert List shows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SEVIS ID• Surname/Primary Name• Given Name• OPT Type (Post-completion or STEM)• OPT Actual Start Date• OPT Actual End Date• Latest OPT employment end date• Number of days since the last employment date <p>This Alert lists students in Active status who have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Current, approved OPT request• No employer information in their records
Students Requiring OPT Reporting (STEM OPT Validation Alert)	<p>This Alert lists students in Active status who have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Current, approved STEM OPT extension• Not reported on their STEM OPT within the required reporting period <p>If the DSO does not report participation for the student, the system automatically terminates the record with the reason of “Failure to Report While on OPT.”</p> <p>Note: This auto-terminate functionality is currently disabled.</p>



Alert/List	Description
Students with Requested, Pending, or Approved Optional Practical Training	<p>This Student List shows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Active indicator• SEVIS ID• Visa Type• Surname/Primary Name• Given Name• DSO Recommended Start and End Dates• USCIS Approved OPT Start and End Dates• OPT Type• Request Status and Receipt Number <p>This lists Active students who have an OPT request that is in Requested, Pending, or Approved status. Students remain on the list from the time OPT is requested until:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Request is canceled or withdrawn• USCIS denies the application• Actual OPT End Date, if approved
Students Terminated for Exceeding the Maximum Number of Days of Unemployment	<p>This Student List shows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SEVIS ID• Class of Admission• Surname/Primary Name• Given Name• Termination Date• OPT Type

H-1B Cap-Gap Extension of STEM OPT

SEVIS will automatically extend STEM OPT if:

- On or after April 1 (as directed by USCIS timely filing rules), an employer files an eligible H-1B petition to change the student's status.
- Requested start date for the H-1B is October 1.
- Student's OPT or STEM OPT extension ends on or after April 1, and the H-1B petition was filed with USCIS before the EAD expired.



Correcting OPT Data: Correction Requests and Data Fixes

If OPT information in SEVIS does not reflect applications filed with or decisions made by USCIS, DSOs can ask to have the record corrected. There are two ways to correct data in a student record:

Method	What Can Be Fixed
<u>Correction Request</u>	<p>This option is used to request changes (using SEVIS) for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of OPT Request • Employment Start Date
Help Ticket (Data Fix)	<p>This option is used for more complicated data fixes and requires DSOs to call the SEVIS Help Desk (1-800-892-4829). Types of OPT-related data fixes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adding retroactive OPT to a record • Changing the OPT request status for an OPT request that is already in Approved status • Any data fix that cannot be submitted in a correction request

Icon Guide

See the [SEVIS Help Icons](#) on the SEVIS Help Hub for a quick-reference of the icons used in this user guide.

Document Revision History

Date	Revision Summary
November 13, 2015	Initial Release
April 27, 2016	Updated to reflect 24-Month STEM OPT Extension rules