

STEM OPT Application Filing – Helpful Links & Info

How long will it take to process my application?

USCIS provides information on current processing times at their website:

<https://egov.uscis.gov/processing-times/> You will need to check the appropriate Service Center website for the processing time for I-765 forms for F-1 academic students.

What if USCIS makes a mistake with my documents?

USCIS has an E-Request page for correcting mistakes and making other inquiries:

<https://egov.uscis.gov/e-request/Intro.do> You can inquire about a lengthy processing time and report a missing document or typographic error. We *strongly encourage* you to double check your Receipt Notice, EAD card and other documents to make sure all names and dates are correct.

What if I change my address after submitting my application? USCIS provides a Change of Address form for reporting a new home address: <https://egov.uscis.gov/coa/displayCOAForm.do>

Do I have any other reporting obligations to the TTU ISSS office? As you know, regulations require you to report your current home address as well as current employment information. You can find forms for doing so at our Important Forms website: <https://www.depts.ttu.edu/international/iss/impforms.php> When submitting employment information, please provide a copy of your EAD card to ensure we can update your SEVIS record in a timely fashion.

How long can I work for my current employer without having my new EAD-Card for the STEM Extension in hands?

You can work for 180 days without having your STEM EAD-Card if you keep working for the same employer. No need to stress out if it will take USCIS some time to adjudicate your application for STEM Extension OPT.

I received a Request for Evidence. What does that mean? RFE's are issued when an application is incomplete or there is some other error. In most cases, the problem is fairly straightforward (missing documents, bad pictures, etc.). Follow the instructions given on the RFE to resolve the issue. If you are not sure about what they are requesting, contact your ISSS counselor.