

STEM OPT ONLINE APPLICATION

How to complete the I-765 form online

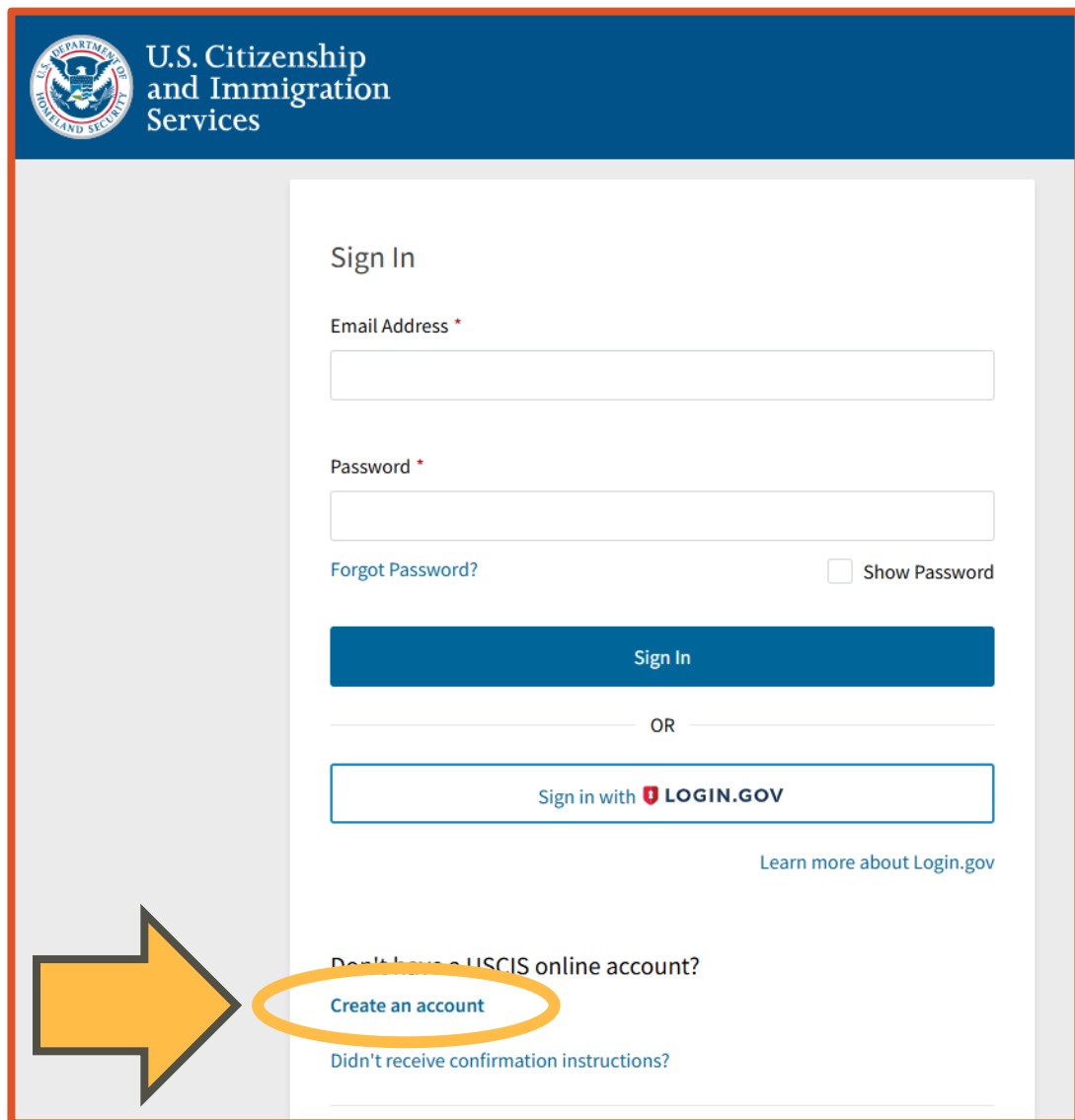
Do not submit the STEM OPT application without receiving a **special I-20** from your international advisor!

Do not submit the STEM OPT application after **60 days** of I-20 issuance!! If you have exceeded 60 days, reach out to your international advisor for a NEW special I-20.

Reminder:

The STEM OPT Application window opens **90 days** before your OPT EAD expires.

Do not submit your STEM OPT Application earlier than 90 days, or after your OPT expires, otherwise it will be denied by USCIS!



The screenshot shows the USCIS Sign In page. At the top left is the U.S. Department of Homeland Security logo and the text "U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services". The main heading is "Sign In". Below it are fields for "Email Address *" and "Password *". There is a link for "Forgot Password?" and a checkbox for "Show Password". A blue "Sign In" button is present. Below the button is an "OR" separator and a "Sign in with LOGIN.GOV" button. A link "Learn more about Login.gov" is below that. At the bottom, there is a link "Don't have a USCIS online account?" with "Create an account" circled in orange. A large yellow arrow points to the "Create an account" link. Below it is a link "Didn't receive confirmation instructions?".

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Sign In


Email Address *

Password *

[Forgot Password?](#) ☐ Show Password

Sign In

OR

Sign in with  LOGIN.GOV

[Learn more about Login.gov](#)

[Don't have a USCIS online account?](#)

[Create an account](#)

[Didn't receive confirmation instructions?](#)

Creating a USCIS Account

To complete an online application for STEM OPT, you must login to (or create) an online USCIS account at:

myaccount.uscis.gov



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

Please enter your verification code to continue.

Enter your verification code

If you have lost access to your authentication device, enter your backup code instead, or [Contact Us](#).

Secure verification code from your authentication app *

Submit

Verification Codes

Follow all the instructions to finish setting up your account, then login.

The system will send you a **verification code**. Enter the code, depending on how you set up your account, and log in to start/continue your application.

Apply for STEM OPT through “myUSCIS”


Once you are logged in, select **“Go to myUSCIS”**.

You can start or continue your application where you left off.

Welcome to your USCIS Account

Please select what you want to do.

Edit My Account Profile	Editing your profile includes making changes to your email, password, phone number, security questions, or the two-step verification method and backup code. Edit My Account	myUSCIS Apply for immigration benefits, find tools and resources to assist in preparation for naturalization, and search for doctors in your local community. Go to myUSCIS
FIRST Submit, manage and receive Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. Go to FIRST	myE-Verify Confirm your records for employment eligibility, track E-Verify or Self-Check case status, and protect your identity by locking your Social Security Number (SSN) Go to myE-Verify	
E-Verify+ E-Verify+ is only for newly hired employees contacted by their employer to complete the Employment Eligibility Verification, Form I-9, as part of the E-Verify+ process. Go to E-Verify+		



Account Type

USCIS only offers certain benefit types for online filing. Please refer to the [USCIS File Online webpage](#) for further guidance.

H-1B registrations and Form I-129 H-1B petitions can only be filed using the attorney or accredited representative account or a company account.

Select an account type:

☐ I am an individual applicant, petitioner, requestor, or supporter.

- I am an individual and want to file an application, petition, or request for myself.
- I am an individual and want to file Form I-134A as a supporter on behalf of a beneficiary.

☐ I am a Legal Representative.

- I am an attorney eligible to practice law in the United States and want to file forms on behalf of clients.
- I am an accredited representative of a qualified organization that is recognized by the Department of Justice in accordance with 8 CFR part 1292 and want to file forms on behalf of clients.

⚠ Note: Do not create a representative account if you are a paralegal.

☐ I am part of an organization or company, a sole proprietor, or an agent.

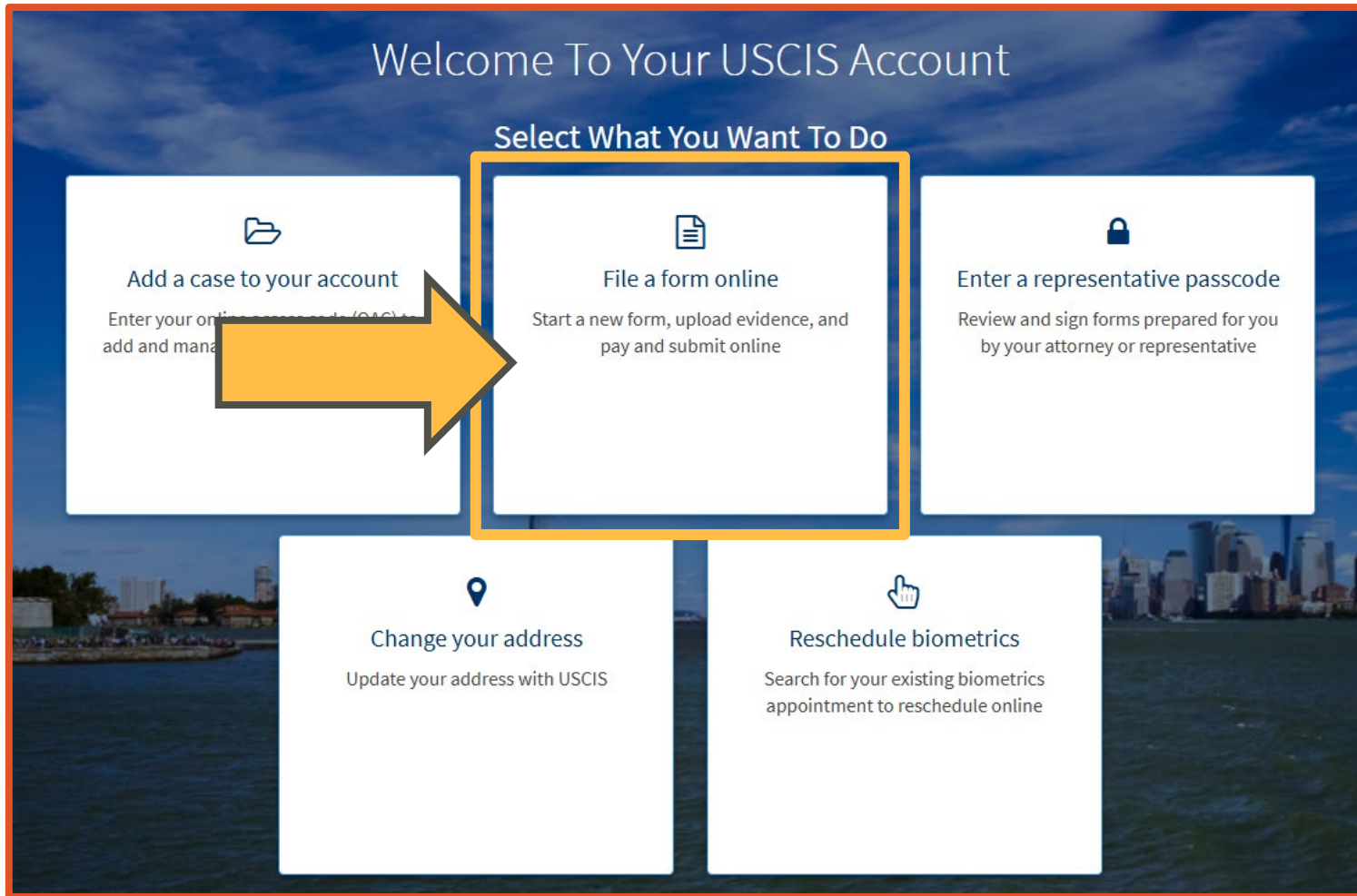
- I am an authorized signatory and I want to submit H-1B registrations and/or file Form I-129 H-1B petitions.
- I am an authorized signatory and I want to sign H-1B registrations and/or Form I-129 H-1B petitions prepared by my attorney or accredited representative.

Select your Account Type

If you are setting up a new account, you must select an Account Type.

Select “I am an individual applicant, petitioner, requestor, or supporter.”

You are an individual that wants to file an application for yourself.



File a Form

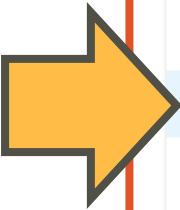
Select
“File a form online”

File a Form

Select the form you want to file online. For some forms you will have the option to either fill out your form online or upload a completed form. Once you start, we will automatically save your information for 30 days, or from the last time you worked on the form.

Fee waiver: Fee waivers can be requested online only when submitting certain benefit requests using the PDF filing option. If your desired benefit request is not eligible for PDF filing, you must file a paper version of both the Form I-912, Request for Fee Waiver and the form for the specific benefit you are requesting. You can review the fee waiver guidance at www.uscis.gov/feewaiver.

Select the form you want to file online.



A dropdown menu with a search bar at the top. The menu is open, showing a list of immigration forms. The option 'I-765, Application for Employment Authorization' is highlighted in light blue. The list includes:

- I-539, Application To Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status
- I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal
- I-751, Petition to Remove Conditions on Residence
- I-765, Application for Employment Authorization**
- I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
- I-821D, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

Select the I-765 Form

Select “I-765, Application
for Employment
Authorization”

Eligibility Category

Select “**c(3)(C) STEM Extension**” then start the form.

- STEM OPT is **only** for students with degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math ([see STEM degree list here](#)).
- If you are eligible for a STEM OPT extension, you can only apply **90 days before your OPT EAD end date and NOT after it expires!**

Select the form you want to file online.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

What is your eligibility category?

If your eligibility category is not listed in the drop down menu, you can submit a [paper form](#) by mail.

(c)(3)(C) STEM Extension

(a)(12) Temporary Protected Status Granted

(c)(3)(A) Student Pre-Completion OPT

(c)(3)(B) Student Post-Completion OPT

(c)(3)(C) STEM Extension

(c)(8) Pending Asylum and Withholding of Deportation
Applicants for Asylum under the ABC Settlement Agreement

(c)(9) Adjustment Applicant under Section 245

(c)(11) Parole

c(3)(C) STEM Extension

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 to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for an EAD that shows such authorization.

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

You may apply online if your eligibility category is:

- (a)(12) - Temporary Protected Status (You are submitting an initial Form I-821 or you have an approved Form I-821);
- (c)(3)(A) - F-1 student, pre-completion OPT;
- (c)(3)(B) - F-1 student, post-completion OPT;

I-765 Information

Read the instructions on this page and select “**Next**” at the bottom.

Online Form Information



Completing Your Form Online



Filing online

Submitting your form 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 processing of your case after you submit your form.

Read the information on this page and select “**Start**” at the bottom.

Eligibility Category

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

You must complete all fields with an asterisk (*) to submit this form.

What is your eligibility category? *

⚠

You can file your request online only for certain eligibility categories

If your eligibility category does not appear on the drop-down list, you must file a paper [Form I-765](#). If you submit online and are not eligible for one of the listed categories, your application may be denied.

(c)(3)(C) STEM Extension

Yes, you just answered the same question in a previous section, but please select “**c(3)(C) STEM Extension**” again.

Degree Information

Your STEM work must be **related to the degree** that you completed.

You need to list your degree and major, but the text field has a character limit. Enter as much as you can in this field, then provide the full response in the **Additional Information Section** later on if needed.

What is your degree?

Employer E-Verify Information

What is your employer's name as listed in E-Verify?

What is your employer's E-Verify company identification number or a valid E-Verify client company identification number?

Provide a 4 to 7-digit employer identification number.

You may only be employed **by an E-Verified employer** on STEM OPT. Your employer will know their own e-verification information if you need it.

*****E-Verify is not the same as EIN!!! It will be 4-7 digits long!*****

Premium Processing

Select “**No**” *unless* you would like to pay an added fee for Premium Processing. This ensures your application is processed within 30 calendar days.

More information on Premium Processing can be found at the end of this PowerPoint.

Would you like to request Premium Processing Service?

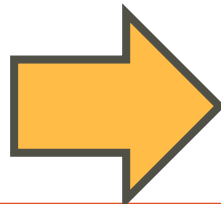
Premium Processing Service guarantees that USCIS will take one of several possible actions (issue an approval notice, a denial notice, a notice of intent to deny, or a request for evidence or open an investigation for fraud or misrepresentation) on your Form I-765 within 30 days.

If you request premium processing, you will be asked to complete the Form I-907 after you sign your Form I-765. You will then be able to pay for and submit both forms at the same time.

☐ Yes

☒ No

Back



Next

What is your reason for applying? *

- ☒ Initial permission to accept employment
 - ☐ Replacement of lost, stolen, or damaged employment authorization document or correction of my employment authorization document NOT DUE to US Citizenship and Immigration Services error
 - ☐ Renewal of permission to accept employment
-

Have you previously filed Form I-765?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

What is your reason for applying?

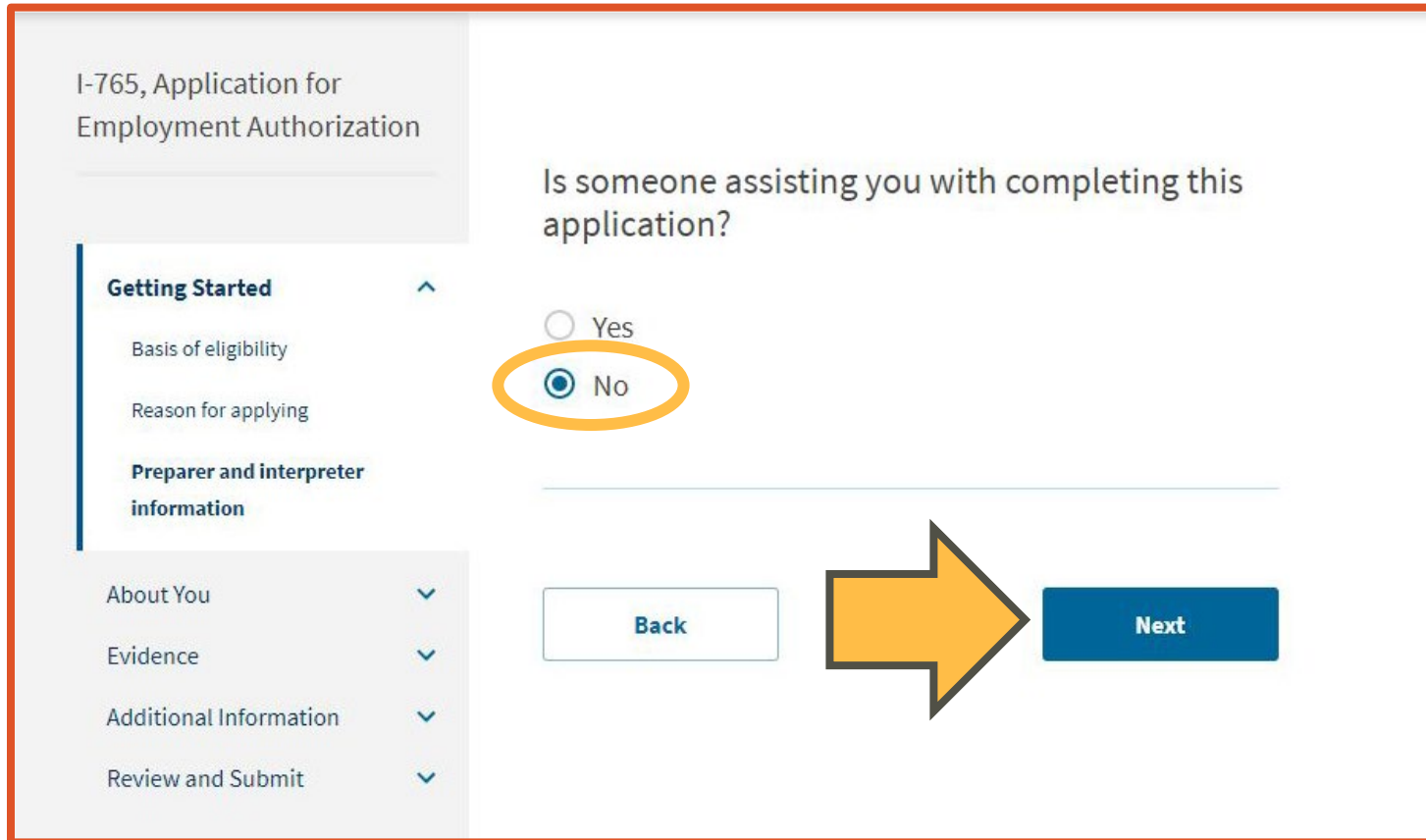
Select **“Initial permission to accept employment”**.

Next, select **“Yes”** because you filed an I-765 for OPT previously. If you’re not currently on regular OPT, you are not eligible for STEM OPT.

Is someone assisting you?

Select **“No”**

Even when your DSO reviews your application, we are not actually “assisting” you. This question is not directed toward DSO advising.



I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started ^

- Basis of eligibility
- Reason for applying
- Preparer and interpreter information

About You v

Evidence v

Additional Information v

Review and Submit v

Is someone assisting you with completing this application?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Back Next

Your Name

A middle name is not required.

Students with only one name should enter that name in the “Family name (last name)” field.

If you’re not sure, please refer to how your name is listed in your I-20. You can also add other names used below.

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

You must complete all fields with an asterisk (*) to submit this form.

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

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) ★

Address line 1 *

Street number and name

Address line 2

Apartment, suite, unit, or floor

City or town *

State *

ZIP code *

Provide a 5 or 9-digit ZIP code.

Your U.S. Mailing Address

Provide your current U.S. mailing address where USCIS will deliver your EAD card.

- ★ If you wish to receive the EAD elsewhere, provide an address that you'll have access to for at least 3-4 months. This can also be a trusted and reliable family member/friend's address. If you do this, you **must** include their name in the *"In care of name"* field.

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

☐ Yes

☒ No ★

Where in the United States do you live?

Address line 1

Street number and name

Address line 2

Apartment, suite, unit, or floor

City or town

State

ZIP code

Provide a 5 or 9-digit ZIP code.

Mailing & Physical Address

If your U.S. mailing address will be the **same** as your physical address as listed previously, select “**Yes**”.

★ If your U.S. mailing address and physical address is **NOT** the same, select “**No**” and provide your physical address.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You

Describe yourself

When and where you were born

Your immigration information

Other information

Evidence

Additional Information

Review and Submit

You must complete all fields with an asterisk (*) to submit this form.

What is your sex?

Indicate whether you are male or female as provided on your birth certificate issued at the time of birth or issued closest to the time of birth or in secondary evidence you provided to USCIS, if applicable.

☐ Male

☐ Female

What is your marital status?

☐ Single

☐ Married

☐ Divorced

☐ Widowed

Back

Next

Describe Yourself

Please answer the required fields and select “**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

You must complete all fields with an asterisk (*) to submit this form.

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

When and Where You Were Born

Please fill out the required fields and enter your birthday correctly:

★ **MM/DD/YYYY**
(Month/Day/Year)

Example:
01/31/2002
(January 31st, 2002)

Your Immigration Information

Input your citizenship(s) and your I-94 Arrival-Departure Record Number.

You will find this number on your most recent I-94 document. You can retrieve the document on the [I-94 website here](#), select “**Get Most Recent I-94/I-95**” and inputting your passport information.

Save a copy of your I-94 document. You will need to upload it later in the I-765 form.

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

You must complete all fields with an asterisk (*) to submit this form.

What are your countries 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)?

Provide an 11-character I-94 Number.

When did you last arrive in the United States?

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

Date of arrival (on or about)

MM/DD/YYYY

Place of arrival

Status at last arrival

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

Your Immigration Information

Your place of arrival (port of entry) will be the city where your plane landed in the US.

Input the passport number exactly as it is written in your current passport.

Your Immigration Information

Leave the travel document number **blank**. It is not a required field.

Input your passport expiration date (Month/Day/Year).

Input the country that issued your passport.

What is your travel document number (if any)?

LEAVE BLANK

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?

F1 - Student, Academic Or Language Program. ▼

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-

Provide a 10, 11, or 12-digit SEVIS number.

Back


Next

Your Immigration Information

Your immigration status is **“F1 – Student, Academic Or Language Program.”**

Your SEVIS Number is located on the **top left corner of your current I-20.**

What is your A-Number?

 I do not have or know my A-Number.

A-

Provide a 7, 8, or 9-digit number. If the A-Number is fewer than 9 digits, the system will automatically add zero(s) after the "A" and before the first digit so there is a total of 9 digits, for example: A-001234567.

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.

Provide a 12-digit Online Account Number.

Other Information

Select: **“I do not have or know my A-Number.”** If the system requires it, it will be the 9-digit number next to **“USCIS#”** seen on your current OPT EAD card.

Select: **“I do not have or know my USCIS Online Account Number.”** Sometimes the system will auto-populate a number. If so, please keep it there. It is a valid number.

Other Information

Select “**No**” if you already have an SSN.

If you **do not have an SSN**, please contact your international advisor for SSN assistance. You will then need to apply for an SSN using a job offer letter or EAD card before working in the U.S..

What is your U.S. Social Security number (SSN)?

☐ I do not have or know my U.S. Social Security number.

Provide a 9-digit Social Security number.

[Back](#)

[Next](#)

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 the Department of State's [photo composition tools](#). Please note that we cannot approve your application without your photo.

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.
- Upload no more than one document at a time
- Accepted file name characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 12MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

2" x 2" Photo of You

Upload a **digital** photo here. It must meet specific standards such as size, background, headspace, etc. Once uploaded, the system will tell you whether the photo meets the requirements or not.

Locations that take valid digital photos:

- Walgreens
- CVS
- Walmart

Do not use special characters in the file name.

Do not use scanned copies of physical photos.

Upload I-94 or Passport

If you have not done so before, retrieve your **most recent I-94 document here** by selecting “**Get Most Recent I-94**”, inputting your passport information, and downloading the document.

Upload the I-94 at the bottom.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You

Evidence

2" x 2" photo of you

Form I-94 or passport

Employment Authorization Document

Previously authorized CPT or OPT

Form I-20

Additional Information

Review and Submit

You must complete all fields with an asterisk (*) to submit this form.

Form I-94, Arrival And Departure Record Or Passport

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. For specific information about fees applicable to this form, [see Form G-1055](#).

If you do not have and cannot get a required document, you must

Employment Authorization Document or Government ID

Please upload a copy of your passport here.

If you've ever filed the I-765 form for any other type of work authorization other than OPT (*uncommon*), please upload a copy of that EAD here, too.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You

Evidence

2" x 2" photo of you

Form I-94 or passport

Employment Authorization Document

Previously authorized CPT or OPT

Form I-20

Additional Information

Review and Submit

You must complete all fields with an asterisk (*) to submit this form.

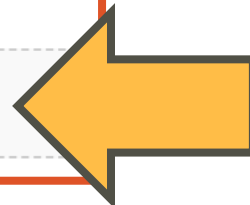
Employment Authorization Document Or Government ID

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.
- Upload no more than five documents at a time
- Accepted file name characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 12MB per file

Choose or drop files here to upload



I-20, Certificate Of Eligibility For Nonimmigrant Student Status



Important information regarding your Form I-20

Do **NOT** submit this form until you receive a Form I-20 recommendation from your DSO. We will deny your application if you do not include your Form I-20 recommendation when you submit Form I-765. If you need to provide Form I-765 to your DSO, print or download this draft before you submit.

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.

Submitting the Special I-20

Upload the special I-20 you received from your DSO for this STEM OPT application.

The DSO's signature/date on the I-20 **must not be older than 60 days** from the date you submit this online application. If your I-20 is passed 60 days of issuance, please reach out to your DSO for a **NEW** I-20.

You must get a special STEM OPT I-20 from your DSO (international advisor) **BEFORE** you submit this application. If you **do not submit** the special STEM OPT I-20 with this application, it will be **denied by USCIS!!!**

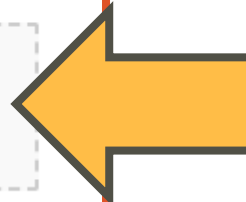
College Degree

Upload evidence the degree that is the basis for the STEM OPT extension is in one of the degree programs currently listed on the [STEM Designated Degree Program List](#) or a copy of your prior STEM degree.

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.
- Upload no more than five documents at a time
- Accepted file name characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 12MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload



College Degree

To qualify for STEM OPT, you must show proof that you have graduated with a [STEM degree](#). Please upload a copy of your diploma on this page.

If you do not have your diploma, contact the [Office of the Registrar here](#).

Again, be advised that the work opportunity **must be related to the degree** that you completed.

Institutional Accreditation

Institution Accreditation

Upload evidence that the institution that granted your STEM degree is currently accredited by the U.S. Department of Education and certified by the Student Exchange and Visitor Program (SEVP), if this STEM OPT extension is based on a previously earned STEM degree.

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.
- Upload no more than five documents at a time
- Accepted file name characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 12MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

You **do not** need to upload a document here.

This is because you are applying for STEM OPT based on your **MOST RECENT** degree (the same degree you are currently authorized for during your regular OPT).

You may ignore the evidence warning, as it does not pertain to you.

You must complete all fields with an asterisk (*) to submit this form.

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

Back

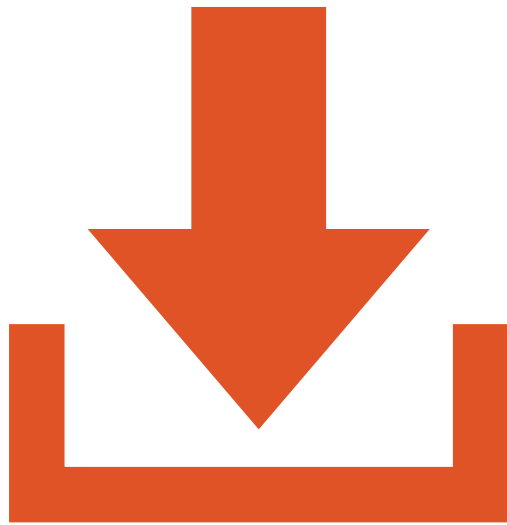
Next

Additional Information

In most cases, you **do not need to add any additional information** because you have provided all the previous documentation and answers already.

If you feel like you need to add something, please consult your DSO first.

Review and Submit



Finally, review your application before entering your payment information. Save and keep a record of your application receipt.

You can use your receipt number to monitor your [case's status here](#). Please note that the case status is not always accurate.

You can also view the [general processing times for I-765's here](#).

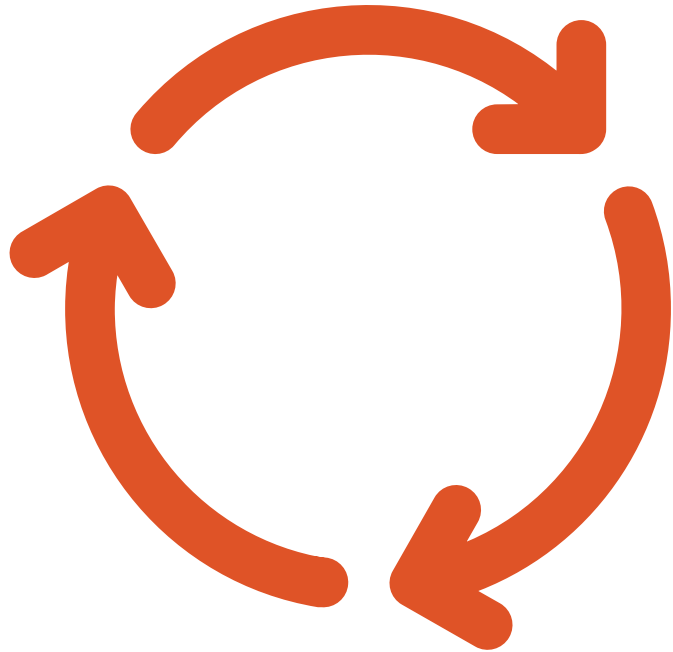
Premium Processing

Additionally, if you'd like to receive your EAD card faster, you can apply for **Premium Processing** when (or after) you submit your application for an added fee.

Premium Processing guarantees your application is processed within **30 calendar days**. If your application is approved, the EAD will arrive in the mail about **2-3 weeks** after approval.

You can apply afterward for [Premium Processing here](#) by filling out the I-907 form.

After Submission



After you submit your application, please allow USCIS **2–4 months** to process it, depending on their current processing times and whether you've applied for premium processing (which may take up to 2 months).

When you receive your new STEM OPT EAD card, **please send your DSO a copy of the front and back of the EAD!!**

Then you will be provided with **STEM OPT reporting requirements** that are *different* from your OPT reports and are critical to maintaining your F-1 visa status.

FAQs



If you have any additional questions about STEM OPT, please review our [Frequently Asked Questions page](#) for guidance.

You can also contact your current DSO if your questions aren't answered in the FAQs ([find out who your current DSO is here](#)).

Congrats!

You've completed the STEM OPT
Application Guide!

We wish you the best of luck on your
STEM OPT application. Remember,
we are always here to assist you!



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Office of the Provost

International Affairs™