



International Services Office

BEFORE YOU APPLY

What is the STEM OPT Extension?

Students who completed a degree in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) field are eligible for an additional 24 months of OPT.

How do I know if I am eligible?

A student with a STEM-qualifying bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree from an accredited, SEVIS-certified U.S. educational institution, who is in a valid period of standard post-completion OPT, has an offer of paid employment for at least 20 hours per week from an employer enrolled in E-Verify.

When should I apply for OPT?

Your OPT application must be received by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

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APPLICATION PROCESS for the *PAPER* option

- Gather the following documents:
 - A completed I-765 form. Please find the form and instructions at <http://www.uscis.gov/i-765>. *USCIS wants students to **type** out their applications.*
 - Completed I-983/STEM OPT Training Plan <https://www.ice.gov/doclib/sevis/pdf/i983.pdf>
 - Completed G-1145 <https://www.uscis.gov/g-1145>
 - A **\$410.00** check or money order made payable to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
 - Valid passport
 - Most recent I-94 <http://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/i94/#/home>
 - Two (2) 2x2 passport style pictures on a white background taken within the last 6 months. Print your name and SEVIS ID on the back with a pencil
 - Photocopies of any previous employment authorization documents (EAD cards), front and back
 - Copy of Detroit Mercy diploma or official transcripts showing your conferred degree
 - OPT Agreement completed and signed
- Post/courier or e-mail (if the latter, send directly to advisor) all documents to the address below. **You must include a pre-paid and self-address envelope with your documents so we may send it back to you.**

University of Detroit Mercy
c/o International Services Office
Engineering and Science Building, Rm. 269
4001 W. McNichols Rd
Detroit, MI 48221
- ISO will process your request and will return your documents to you. **NOTE:** ISO will include two copies of your I-20: one to send with your application packet and the other for your records. You must sign and date both copies to validate the I-20. If you want your I-20 to be returned to you, send us a pre-paid UPS label.
- Student is responsible for sending their applications to USCIS. After receiving an STEM Extension OPT recommendation I-20, mail application documents to:

If using U.S. Postal Service (USPS)

USCIS
PO Box 805373
Chicago, IL 60680

For FedEx, UPS, and DHL deliveries:

USCIS
Attn: I-765 C03
131 South Dearborn 3rd Floor
Chicago, IL 60603-5517



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APPLICATION PROCESS
for the **ONLINE** option

1. Ensure that you have zero holds or monies owed to your Titan EMC (T)-8 (i)5 (C (T)-ud)5 (en (t)6t)-4 (ac)1Oha


