24 Month STEM OPT Extension Application

The 24 month OPT extension rule extends the maximum period of OPT from 12 months to 36 months for F-1 students who have completed a science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) degree and accept employment with employers enrolled in U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' (USCIS') E-Verify employment verification program. Applicants need to have obtained a bachelor's, master's, or Ph.D. degree in a STEM field from an accredited and SEVP certified U.S. school within 10 years of extension application. You must currently be on Post-Completion OPT and have fewer than 90 days of unemployment.

Name: _____
                        Family   First/Given   Middle

Current Address: _____
                                   Street Address   Apt Number

                           _____
                     City   State   Zip Code

SEVIS ID#: _____   Email: _____

KSU Wildcat ID #: _____   Date of Birth: _____

Daytime Phone: _____   Passport Expiration Date* _____
                                                 *Should be valid 6 months in the future.

Have you received a prior authorization of the 24 month STEM extension? _____ YES _____NO
If Yes, what degree level and program was the extension based on? _____

Do you plan to file your STEM OPT application via mail or through the USCIS online account system?

- ☐ I will file the paper-based I-765 form by mailing my application to USCIS.
- ☐ I will use the USCIS online filing system.

<u>OPT Employment History</u>: *Please provide detail of your employment history for the 12-month period.*

    Employer Name:_____   Employer Name:_____
    Start Date:_____   Start Date:_____
    End Date:_____   End Date:_____

*If more than 2 employers while on OPT please provide a separate sheet with details of your employment history for the 12-month period.

<u>STEM employment information:</u>

STEM Degree Program:_____   CIP Code listed on I-20 form: _____

Job title or position: _____

Supervisor's name: _____

Supervisor's email: _____   Supervisor's phone: _____

Submit the following application materials for STEM extension to ISSS
- STEM application form
- I-983 completed and signed (https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/students-and-the-form-i-983).
  - Information on how to complete can be found on www.ksu.edu/isss
- Completed I-765 (http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/i-765.pdf) –if filing paper-based form.
- Copies of your passport, I-94 (print out from www.cbp.gov/i94)), visa page, and most recent Port of Entry stamp
- Any EADs <u>and</u> I-20s with OPT or CPT authorizations
- Copy of your transcripts from the school the STEM degree was awarded
- Verification of employment history (pay stubs or letters from employers)

By signing this application form, I ensure that I fully understand the responsibilities in maintaining my status while on Post-Completion OPT and the 24-month STEM extension. These responsibilities include but are not limited to;

- Reporting requirements: you must confirm validity of the following every six months: legal name, residential/mailing address; employer name and address and status of employment experience. If there is a change to any of the above information before your 6-month update is due you must report this change to ISSS within 10 days. You can find the OPT Update form online: http://www.k-state.edu/isss/students/f1/opt.html. Please be sure ISSS also has a copy of your most recent EAD.
- Not to exceed 150 days of unemployment during the entire 36 month period (12 months of Post-completion OPT and 24 months of STEM).
- A new I-983 must be executed and submitted to ISSS within 10 days of beginning a new experience with a new employer OR if there is a material change to the current training experience.
- Evaluation requirements: Student must complete 2 self-evaluations during the STEM period. The first should be submitted within 12 months of the STEM start date and the second at the end of the STEM OPT period. If you change employers, a final evaluation must be submitted.
- While on the 24-Month STEM Extension all employers must be registered with E-Verify.
- Employment must be in a position related to the STEM degree for which the extension was approved.
- All work while on the STEM extension must compensated, **volunteering does not qualify**.

Types of employment: Students must be bona fide employees of the employer signing the Training Plan, and the employer that signs the Training Plan must be the same entity that employs the student and provides the practical training experience. Therefore, some types of employment such as self-employment, sole proprietorships, employment through "temp" agencies or consulting firms for hire may not be permitted. The student may not provide the employer attestations required for t I-983 on his or her own behalf.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____