UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

International Student and Scholar Services
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24-MONTH STEM OPT EXTENSION FOR STUDENTS IN F-1 STATUS APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The earliest you can submit your 24-Month STEM OPT Extension Request for Students in F-1 Status is 90 days before your OPT end date. USCIS must receive your STEM OPT extension application before your current post-completion OPT (standard or cap-gap) expiration date. Click here for a comprehensive timeline of the OPT STEM Application and Approval Process.

1. Prepare the following documents:

    a) **Form G-1145**
    b) **Form I-765** *Follow link to USCIS and click on "Form I-765".*
        ISSS recommends that you complete these forms in typing and print single-sided.
        - *Enter eligibility code (c)(3)(C) for STEM OPT.*
        - *Enter information about previously approved OPT(s) on page 7, items 1.a. through 3.d. Reference page 2, part 2, item 12.*
        - *You must sign your form with a black pen. USCIS will not accept typed electronic signatures.*
    c) **Form I-983.** *For assistance in completing Form I-983, please see Form I-983 Instructions*
    d) **Two U.S. passport-style photos.** *Submit two identical color passport-style photographs of yourself taken recently. The photos must be 2 inches by 2 inches, have a white background, be printed on thin paper with a glossy finish, and be unretouched. Write your name and I-94 number on back of both photos.*
    e) **Most recent Form I-94** *Go to GET MOST RECENT I-94.*
    f) **Copy of passport biographical page**
    g) **Copy of passport page with F-1 visa**
    h) **Copy of passport page with last entry stamp** *(if one was given)*
    i) **Copy of Previously Issued EAD(s)**
    j) **Copy of STEM Degree Diploma**
    k) **Official STEM degree Transcript**
    l) **Money order or cashier's check for $410.00** *Must be made payable to "U.S. Department of Homeland Security". You can obtain one from your bank, any US Post Office, CVS, or Western Union.*
    m) **Copies of all previously issued SEVIS Forms I-20** *Please do not submit these to ISSS, but you will need to include them in your application to USCIS.*

2. Submit your 24-Month STEM OPT Extension Request to ISSS by clicking on www.miami.edu/stemoptapplication.

3. Upon receipt of a completed request form, an ISSS advisor will review your application and if eligible, issue a new Form I-20 indicating that STEM OPT was requested on page 2. You will be notified via e-mail when the Form I-20 will be e-mailed to you. You will also receive instructions on how to prepare and mail your STEM OPT application to USCIS for processing.