

Division of Global Engagement (DGE)

620 McKinley Street
Student Union – Suite 136
Lafayette, LA 70504

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E: opt-cpt@louisiana.edu

W: internationalaffairs.louisiana.edu

Optional Practical Training (OPT) Graduate Application

Please complete the following information when turning in the application for OPT.

Name: _____

ULID: _____ **SEVIS ID:** _____

Physical Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____
(Area Code) Number

Personal Email Address _____

Please submit the following documents along with your completed OPT application to the Division of Global Engagement:

- [Form I-765](#) (Form MUST be typed)
- Copy of your [most recent I-94](#)
- Copy of picture page of visa only
- Copy of picture page of passport only
- Copy of I-20
- Copy of previous OPT EAD card (if any)

Remember, it is your RESPONSIBILITY to file the OPT application packet to USCIS online immediately once the Division of Global Engagement returns it to you including:

- \$470 filing fee for I-765 to USCIS (credit/debit card)
- 2 X 2 inches DIGITAL passport style photographs in JPEG or PNG formats

Memorandum of Agreement

A. While on post-completion OPT, an F-1 student must:

- Work in a position directly related to the degree and educational level your OPT is based on.
- Work for a minimum of 20 hours per week.
- Keep records of your employment or volunteer history such as hours worked, dates, pay stubs (if available), letters verifying employment/volunteer work, etc. to show that you maintained your F-1 OPT status.
- Report to your Designated School Official (DSO) via email at opt-cpt@louisiana.edu within 10 days of new or a change in information regarding:
 - Legal name change
 - New/Change in residential or mailing address
 - New/Changes in employer, providing employer name and address
 - Loss of employment
 - Departing the U.S. and forfeiting the remainder of your OPT period

B. Once approved for OPT, you CANNOT:

- Work in a position for any employer that is unrelated to your degree and educational level.
- Accrue more than 90 days unemployment time during the entire period of post-completion OPT (12-months).

Please report all required information by emailing opt-cpt@louisiana.edu.

I have read and understood the above listed responsibilities, and I agree to follow all of the above listed requirements governing my F-1 OPT. I understand that I may be denied future immigration benefits if I fail to comply with the requirements during the OPT authorization period.

Student name (printed)

Student's Email Address (during OPT period)

Student signature

Date

Graduate Student Application for Optional Practical Training (OPT)

Do NOT submit this OPT application to the Division of Global Engagement until after completing steps 1-8 (below):

1. You have checked your most recent I-20 to verify that:
 - Your name is correctly listed and spelled. It should match your passport.
 - The major field of study matches your OPT request
 - The I-20 expiration date listed is **NOT** prior to your actual program completion date

If any of the above items are not correct, you must request a correction to your I-20.

2. You have filed for graduation.
3. You have downloaded the most recent version of this application and the I-765 form by going to our website: <https://internationalaffairs.louisiana.edu/>.
4. You have obtained all required departmental signatures on Page 5 of this OPT application.
The DGE is accepting electronic signatures on this application including the student's signature, advisor's signature and the Dean of the Graduate School's signature.
 - Students, please email this completed application to your academic advisor so they can electronically sign the form.
 - Once your advisor has electronically signed page 5, please email this application to gradschool@louisiana.edu so the Dean of the Graduate School can electronically sign.
5. You have included your completed I-765 form.
6. You have checked that all forms included in this OPT application have been filled out in their entirety. Any missing information will result in delays in processing your OPT application.

OPT Graduate Application

To be completed by the F-1 international student:

A. Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

B. I am applying for OPT based on: MS/MA PhD in: _____
(Major)

C. OPT authorization requested dates: Start Date: _____ End Date: _____
(mm/dd/yyyy) (mm/dd/yyyy)

D. Have you ever had full-time CPT authorization for the same education level as your OPT request?
 Yes No

If YES, for which degree: _____

If YES, please list all dates for current education level: _____

E. Have you ever had OPT or OPT STEM authorization for any degree level? Yes No

If you answered "YES" to this question, please submit a copy of your previous EAD card(s) with this application.

If YES, for which degree(s) and level(s): _____

List all dates of OPT and OPT STEM at all levels: _____

F. Have you ever violated your F-1 status: Yes No

If YES, which semester (s): _____

If YES, my F-1 status was reinstated via: Mailing reinstatement application to USCIS Exiting the U.S. and reentering with a new I-20

If YES, date of reinstatement approval: _____ Date of reentry: _____
(mm/dd/yyyy) (mm/dd/yyyy)

While on OPT, you are required to report any changes to your name or residential address within 10 days. You are also required to report your employer's name and address as well as any future changes in employment (termination, lay-off, change of company) within 10 days of the employment or change in employment. You should report this information by emailing opt-cpt@louisiana.edu.

*By signing below, you, the F-1 student certify that all information on this application is true and correct. While on OPT, you are not authorized to register for classes in a secondary or new degree program. If you are pursuing a second degree, by signing below, you are verifying that you have informed the academic advisor and department head of your second degree program and that you will not be able to pursue any coursework in that degree while on OPT. If you do not complete the program that this OPT application is based on by the anticipated graduation date you have listed above, you must notify the Division of Global Engagement **immediately**.*

F-1 Student's Name Printed

F-1's Student Signature

Date



Division of Global Engagement Optional Practical Training (OPT) OPT Graduate Application

Name of Student: _____

ULID: _____ Level of Education: _____
Master's/Doctoral

Major: _____

Section below to be completed by academic advisor and the Graduate School:

Note to academic advisor: The international F-1 student named above is applying for Optional Practical Training (OPT) based on the major listed. In order to determine the above-named student's eligibility for OPT, we ask that you please check one of the boxes below and fill in the appropriate semester. Once you verified, please send to gradschool@louisiana.edu for final approval. If you have any questions regarding this section, please contact the Division of Global Engagement at opt-cpt@louisiana.edu.

I verify that the above named student is expected to complete all of his/her course requirements excluding thesis/dissertation during the _____ semester.
Spring/Summer/Fall

I verify that the above named student is expected to complete his/her degree requirements and graduate during the _____ semester.
Spring/Summer/Fall

Academic Advisor's Name (printed) REQUIRED

Dean of Graduate School's Name (printed) REQUIRED -

Academic Advisor's Signature REQUIRED

Dean of Graduate School's Signature REQUIRED

Date of Signature REQUIRED

Date of Signature REQUIRED