

Preparing your 24-month STEM Optional Practical Training (OPT) Extension Application

Rutgers Global-International Student and Scholar Services

global.rutgers.edu

RUTGERS GLOBAL— International Student and Scholar Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS

Notice

Please note that this tutorial provides guided recommendations. All images used are samples. Information contained within should not be considered legal advice. Please remember that it is ultimately your responsibility to ensure the application materials you submit to USCIS are completed correctly.

This tutorial may change over time; please do not download this document, and instead access it newly each time at our website here with a <u>cleared cache</u>: <u>global.rutgers.edu/OPT-Extensions</u>

Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS

Overview

STEP 1 – Review and understand the STEM requirements and expectations on the <u>USCIS website</u> and <u>our STEM OPT page</u>

STEP 2 - Prepare all application materials (using this step-by-step tutorial)

STEP 3 - Submit STEM OPT Extension e-form request via RGlobal Portal to request your new I-20 with STEM OPT recommendation

Note – you can request an optional review of your application materials using this e-form, as well

STEP 4 - Receive your new I-20 with STEM OPT recommendation (you will receive an email saying it's ready)

STEP 5 - Mail your completed application (including a copy of the new I-20 you just received) to United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

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STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS

Important Reminders

BEFORE YOU APPLY, PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING:

- Pick ONE method to apply for STEM OPT. Either apply online OR through mail DO NOT apply both ways
- You MUST use the most updated I-765 form, which you can find at https://www.uscis.gov/i-765. Be sure the barcode appears on the bottom of each page after printing
- Your STEM OPT application should NOT be mailed to the USCIS more than 90 days prior to the end date on post-completion OPT EAD card
- Your STEM OPT application MUST reach the USCIS within 60 days of the date your new I-20 with STEM OPT recommendation was <u>issued</u> and <u>before the expiration of your current post-completion OPT EAD. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO MAIL YOUR COMPLETE APPLICATION!</u>
- If approved, the Employment Authorization Document (EAD) card will be sent directly to you at the address you provided on the Form I-765 or AR-11. USPS will not forward the EAD to another address once shipped. Once you receive the EAD card, you are authorized to work on OPT between the start and end dates listed on the card
- Understand the fees for the I-765 filing and premium processing, if needed
- You must be inside the U.S. to apply for STEM OPT
- As long as you file timely (i.e. prior to the expiration of the current EAD card) for a STEM OPT Extension, you may continue employment while the application is pending (up to 180 days) until a final decision from USCIS is made
- You **MUST** have proof that you completed all of your degree requirements BEFORE your STEM OPT period begins. You will need to provide this proof within your STEM OPT application

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STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 1

Review and understand the STEM requirements

Some F-1 students may be eligible for an extension of their initial 12 months of OPT if they have received a degree in an eligible STEM field or have a pending or approved H-1B application. If you are unsure if your degree is STEM-eligible, please contact an ISA.

There are different reporting requirements for STEM OPT, and the job experience must meet specific criteria.

It is critical that you understand the eligibility requirements for STEM by reviewing our website and the information provided by DHS.

Rutgers STEM OPT page

STEM Extension Reporting Requirements and Important Reminders

Study in the States, STEM OPT

USCIS, Optional Practical Training for STEM Students (STEM OPT) - includes information on staffing agencies

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STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials

For the STEM OPT recommendation on I-20, submit an e-form request along with form I-983 and a photocopy of your diploma via RGlobal portal in Step 2

For the STEM OPT application. Include 2-13 in your complete application to USCIS.

- 1. Form I-983 (completed together with your employer) this is NOT mailed to USCIS
- 2. Check, money order, or G-1450 (recommend to type)
- 3. Form G-1145 (recommend to type)
- 4. Form I-765 (recommend to type)
- 5. Two passport-style color photographs of you taken recently and not used before
- ☐ 6. Copy of your passport picture page
- 7. Copy of your most recent F-1 visa
- 8. Copy of your electronic Form I-94 OR photocopy of your paper Form I-94 (front & back)
- 9. Photocopy of all previous EAD card(s) (front and back)
- ☐ 10. Unofficial full transcript that bears your name and shows your degree award date
- ☐ 11. Photocopy of your STEM diploma
- 12. Evidence of previous CPT & OPT authorizations, if applicable (i.e. copies of previous I-20s with CPT authorization on pg. 2)
 - 13. *Copy of your NEW I-20 with STEM OPT Recommendation

^{*} You will receive (13) new I-20 with STEM OPT recommendation after submitting the e-form request along with form I-983 and a copy of your diploma via RGlobal portal.

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Special Note about Premium Processing

You may choose to apply for Premium Processing of your application for an **additional fee**. If you wish to do this, please follow the additional steps outlined by USCIS on their website here: https://www.uscis.gov/forms/all-forms/how-do-i-request-premiumprocessing

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Form I-983

SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT DEGREE COMPLETION

USCIS expects you to be able to show your current diploma in your STEM OPT application.

It is our interpretation that students must finish their most recent degree to be eligible to apply for the STEM extension. This is true even for students applying based on a previously degree at another level.

If you applied for OPT based on coursework completion, you are expected to complete all of your degree requirements (defense, revisions, paperwork, etc) prior to your OPT expiring. This is especially important for students eligible for STEM OPT, as USCIS expects you to be able to show your current diploma in your STEM OPT applications.

Failing to finish all degree requirements prior to the end of your OPT authorized employment period could result in your losing the STEM opportunity.

Please make an appointment with an adviser if you have any questions about this option.

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STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Form I-983

STEP 1 - Download fillable PDF Form I-983 here: https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/stem-opt- hub/additional-resources/form-i-983-overview

STEP 2 - For detailed instructions regarding how each field should be completed, please review the ICE form instructions and the Study in the States Form I-983 Overview.

STEP 3 - Note who is responsible for completing each section of the Form I-983:

- Sections 1 and 2: Completed by Student
- Sections 3 and 4: Completed by Employer
- Section 5: Completed by Student and Employer
- Section 6: Completed by Employer

Leave the Evaluation of Student Progress and Final Evaluation of Student Progress on page 5 blank at this time

Submit the complete I-983 (along with your completed Request form and a photocopy of your diploma) via RGlobal portal in Step 2 of this tutorial

Scie		TRAINING PLAN FO nology, Engineering & Mat		al Practical Training (OPT)
		ECTION 1: STUDENT INF	OBMATION (Completes)	d bee Charles
Student Name (Sumame/P			Student Email Addre	
	, , , , , ,	-,		
Name of School Recommer STEM OPT:		Name of School Where STEM Degree Was Earned:	SEVIS School Code digit suffix):	of School Recommending STEM OPT (including 3-
Designated School Official	(DSO) Nam	e and Contact Information:	Student SEVIS ID No.:	STEM OPT Requested Period (mm-dd-yyyy): From: To:
Qualifying Major and Classi	ification of in	nstructional Programs (CIP) Co	de:	
Level/Type of Qualifying De	egree:			
Date Awarded (mm-dd-yyy)	y):			
Based on Prior Degree?				
Employment Authorization	Number:			
1. I have reviewed, und	derstand, an	of this form. d will adhere to this Training P		, ,
I have reviewed, und I will notify the DSO delineated on this PI I understand that the determines are not enot, complying with 1 My practical training I will notify the DSO limited to, any chang from the amount per	derstand, and at the earlier and the earlier and this Plan; opportunity at the earlier e of Employ viously subn	d will adhere to this Training Pl at available opportunity if it belies t of Homeland Security (DHS) JPT in compliance with the law is directly related to the STEM at available opportunity regarder rel identification Number result	nee that my employer is not may deny, revoke, or termin, including the STEM OPT of degree that qualifies me for ing any material changes to ing from a corporate restruct of to a reduction in hours with	
I have reviewed, und I will notify the DSO delineated on this PI I understand that the determines are not e not, complying with I. My practical training I will notify the DSO limited to, any chang from the amount present at lengage in a S1	derstand, and at the earlier and the earlier and this Plan; opportunity at the earlier e of Employ viously subn	d will adhere to this Training Pl at available opportunity if it belies t of Homeland Security (DHS) JPT in compliance with the law is directly related to the STEM at available opportunity regarder rel identification Number result	nee that my employer is not may deny, revoke, or termin, including the STEM OPT of degree that qualifies me for ing any material changes to ing from a corporate restruct of to a reduction in hours with	i ("Plan"); providing me with appropriate training as nate the STEM OPT of students whom DHS of students who are not, or whose employers are the STEM OPT extension; and or deviations from this Plan, including but not tuting, any nontrivial reduction in compensation orded, any significant discrease in hours per week
1. I have reviewed, und 1 will notify the DSO delineated on this P1. 3. I understand that the determines are not e not, complying with 1. 4. My practical training 5. I will notify the DSO limited to, any chang from the amount pre-that I engage in a S1 signature of Student:	derstand, and the earlier at the earlier and t	d will adhere to this Training Pl at available opportunity if it belies t of Homeland Security (DHS) JPT in compliance with the law is directly related to the STEM at available opportunity regarder rel identification Number result	nee that my employer is not may deny, revoke, or termin, including the STEM OPT of degree that qualifies me for ing any material changes to ing from a corporate restruct of to a reduction in hours with	t ("Plan"); providing me with appropriate training as nate the STEM OPT of students whom DHS of students who are not, or whose employers are the STEM OPT coleansion, and or devisions from this Plan, including but not tauring, any northivial reduction in compensation orked, any significant decrease in hours per week rs-per-week minimum required under this rule.
I will notify the DSO delineated on this PI I understand that the determines are not end, complying with I Wy practical training I will notify the DSO limited to, any chang from the amount pre-that I engage in a S1	derstand, and the earlier at the earlier and t	d will adhere to this Training Pl at available opportunity if it belies t of Homeland Security (DHS) JPT in compliance with the law is directly related to the STEM at available opportunity regarder rel identification Number result	nee that my employer is not may deny, revoke, or termin, including the STEM OPT of degree that qualifies me for ing any material changes to ing from a corporate restruct of to a reduction in hours with	i ("Plan"); providing me with appropriate training as nate the STEM OPT of students whom DHS of students who are not, or whose employers are the STEM OPT extension; and or deviations from this Plan, including but not tuting, any nontrivial reduction in compensation orded, any significant discrease in hours per week

Last updated Sept 2023

International Student and Scholar Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Form I-983

STEP 4 - Complete the Form I-983, paying attention to these important reminders:

a. SEVIS School Code of School Recommending **STEM OPT:**

Undergraduate: NEW214F00147002

Graduate: NEW214F00147000

RBHS-Piscataway: NEW214F00884001

RBHS-Newark: NEW214F00884000

RBHS-Scotch Plains: NEW214F00884003

b. Your Designated School Official (DSO) is your International Student Adviser (ISA). Please add all contact information below into this box (you may need to handwrite if it does not fit with typing):

- Your ISA's name
- 848-932-7015
- isss-students@global.rutgers.edu 180 College Ave, New Brunswick NJ 08901

To confirm who is your ISA, review the "International Student Services Liaison List" on our website.

Science, Te	DEPARTMENT OF U.S. Immigration and TRAINING PLAN FOI chnology, Engineering & Mathe	R STEM OPT STU	JDENTS
	SECTION 1: STUDENT INFOR	RMATION (Completed	by Student)
Student Name (Surname/Primary Na	ime, Given Name):	Student Email Addres	SS:
SMITH, JOHN		EMAIL@EMAIL.C	COM
Name of School Recommending STEM OPT:	Name of School Where STEM Degree Was Earned:	SEVIS School Code of digit suffix):	of School Recommending STEM OPT (including 3-
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY	RUTGERS UNIVERSITY	NEW214F001470	002
VISER NAME] 848-932 SS-STUDENTS@GLOBAL.F Qualifying Major and Classification o	RUTGERS.EDU	NOO	From: 06/15/2020 To: 06/14/2022
Level/Type of Qualifying Degree: M2 Date Awarded (mm-dd-yyyy): 05/1 Based on Prior Degree? Yes Employment Authorization Number:	.7/2019 ⋉ No		
	perjury that the statements and info hat the law provides severe penalti		true and correct to the best of my knowledge, lly falsifying or concealing a material fact, or using
I certify that:			
1. I have reviewed understand a	nd will adhere to this Training Plan t	or STEM OPT Students ("	Plan"):
1. Thave reviewed, understand, a	id will deficit to this Training Flair	or or zim or r ordaonio (, idii /,

Last updated March 2023

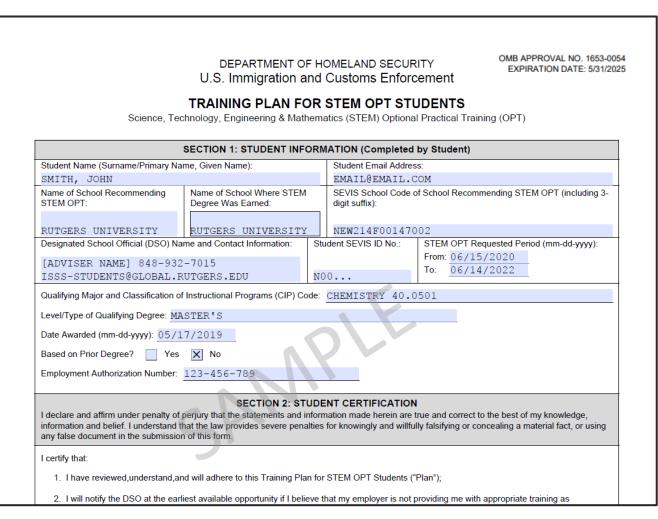
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STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Form I-983

(CONTINUED)

- c. The STEM OPT Requested Period begins the day after your current EAD card ends and continues up to 24 months later, one day before.
- d. Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) code is found on page 1 your I-20, next to your major/program of study. Write it exactly as it appears on the I-20.
- e. "Based on Prior Degree" is asking whether you are applying for this 24 Month Extension based on a previously earned STEM degree. If you are applying for this 24 Month Extension based on your most recent Rutgers degree, check "No". If you write "Yes", please alert your ISA.
- f. Employment Authorization Number is the 9-digit 'A' (Alien) number/USCIS # on your Employment Authorization Document (EAD card).
- g. Sign the form. Information on acceptable signatures is <u>found</u> here (click).



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STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Form I-983

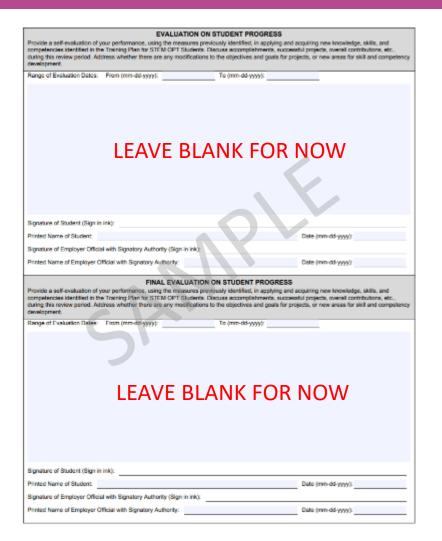
(CONTINUED)

Services

Continue with the rest of the form. A few reminders:

- h. The start date of employment on page 2 should be the requested start date of STEM OPT (see below)
- i. Page 5 is meant to be left blank at this time. It is only filled out during the 12 month and 24 month evaluation, or when ending work with an employer.

SECTION	3: EMPLOYER INFORMA	ATION (Completed by Employer)			
Employer Name:		Street Address: Suite:		e:	
Employer Website URL:		City:	State:	ZIP Code:	
Employer ID Number (EIN):	Number of Full-Time Employees in U.S.:	North American Industry Classification Syste	em (NAICS) Code:	
OPT Hours Per Week (must be at least 20 hours/week): Start Date of Employment (mm-dd-yyyy):	Compensation: A. Salary Amount and Fre B. Other Compensation (1 1. 2. 3. 4.	equency:			



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STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: check, money order or G-1450

FEE USING A CHECK, G-1450 FORM, OR MONEY ORDER

CHECK

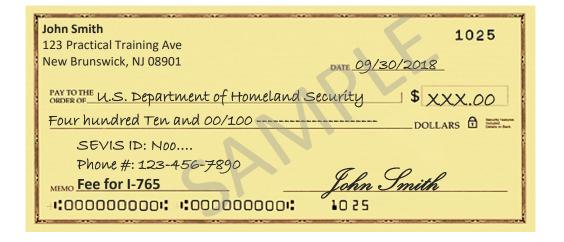
The check must be drawn from a bank or other financial institution located in the United States and must be payable in U.S. currency

Make the check payable to **U.S. Department of Homeland Security.** Spell this name out; DO NOT use USDHS or DHS or other abbreviations

Add your SEVIS ID number, phone number and the phrase "Fee for I-765" in the memo area

Include the date and be sure to sign your name with a pen

DO NOT write on the back of the check. If your check is a "starter check" and does not show any name/address in the top left corner, we instead suggest using a money order (see next slide)



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STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: check, money order or G-1450

OR MONEY ORDER

Each money order is different. Follow the instructions provided at the time of purchase or ask the institution providing the money order to explain how to fill in the necessary information. Money orders are sold at United States Post Offices and sometimes drugstores, like Walgreens. They cost a small fee.

The money order must be drawn on a bank or other financial institution located in the United States and must be payable in U.S. currency

Make the money order payable to **U.S. Department of Homeland Security.** Spell this name out; DO NOT use USDHS or DHS or other abbreviations

If a recipient address is needed, write the address where your application will be mailed - https://www.uscis.gov/i-765-addresses

If your address is needed, write the mailing address you wrote for #5a-c on page 2 of the I-765

Add your SEVIS ID number, phone number and the phrase "Fee for I-765" in the memo area

DO NOT write on the back of the money order

Keep the money order receipt for tracking purposes



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STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: check, money order or G-1450

OR G-1450

If you prefer to pay the filing fee by credit card, follow the instructions to complete form **G-1450**: https://www.uscis.gov/g-1450

Be sure to write out the full expiration date of your credit card i.e. "04/2024", not just "4/24"

You MUST sign the G-1450 with **black pen ink** after printing, not digitally/on the computer

If your credit card becomes unusable before USCIS can charge it, you may experience delays or a rejection. This includes the card being stolen or lost

Please alert your credit card company that you are expecting this charge to be made to your card – USCIS will only try to process the credit card ONCE. If it does not work the first time, your application will be rejected

Check that all of your card information is typed correctly (i.e. numbers are in right order, the dates are correct)

Applicant's/Petitioner's/Requester's	Informatio	n (Full Legal Name)			
Given Name (First Name)	Middle Nar	ne (if any)	Family	Name (Last Na	me)
John			Smith		
Credit Card Billing Information (Cr	edit Card H	Holder's Name as it Ap	pears of	n the Card)	
Given Name (First Name)	Middle Nar	ne (if any)	Family Name (Last Name)		
John			Smith		
Credit Card Holder's Billing Address:					
Street Number and Name 123 Training Ave		701		Apt. Ste. Flr.	Number 2G
City or Town				State	ZIP Code
New Brunswick				NJ 🔽	08901
Credit Card Holder's Signature and Co	ntact Inform	nation:			
Credit Card Holder's Signature John	Smith	ę,			
Credit Card Holder's Daytime Telephone Number Credit Card Holder's Email Address					
1234567890		john.smith@rutgers.edu			
Credit Card Information					
Credit Card Number 1234 1234 1234 1234	Credit Ca	nrd Type:	ard		d Payment Amount
Credit Card Expiration Date (mm/yyyy) 08/2020		American Discover	•		.00

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STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Form G-1145

STEP 1 - Download fillable PDF Form G-1145 here:

http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/g-1145.pdf

STEP 2 - Complete form providing your name, email address and phone number

Complete this form and clip it on top of the first page of your immigration form(s).

Applicant/Petitioner Full Last Name
Smith

Applicant/Petitioner Full First Name
John James

Mobile Phone Number (Text Message)
0115550101

Use this form to request an email/text notification from USCIS when your application is accepted by the lockbox facility

This notification does not replace the paper I-797C receipt you will receive in the mail

You must have the paper receipt in order to travel

International Student and Scholar Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Form I-765

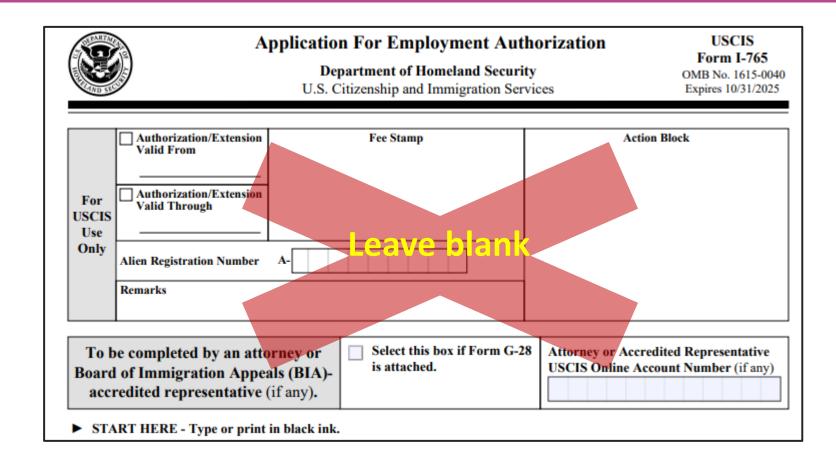
17

STEP 1 - Read official instructions for completing Form I-765: https://www.uscis.gov/i-765

STEP 2 - Download fillable PDF Form I-765 here: https://www.uscis.gov/i-765. Answers should be typed. When unable to type, please write answers very neatly with a black pen

Do not fill out the top portion of page 1. Please leave this blank

Note the instructions printed on page 1, explaining to write "N/A" or "None" for questions that do not apply to you for the entire I-765



Last Update March 2023

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STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Form I-765

STEP 3 - Be sure to check off "I am applying for: 1.c. Renewal of my permission to accept employment in Part 1

STEP 4 – If you have used other names on other documents, either formally or informally, please write them on questions 2-4, as needed. This includes maiden names or nicknames. If not, write N/A for each box

Part 1. Reason for Applying	Other Names Used
I am applying for (select only one box): 1.a.	Provide all other names you have ever used, including aliases, maiden name, and nicknames. If you need extra space to complete this section, use the space provided in Part 6 . Additional Information.
employment authorization document NOT DUE to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) error.	2.a. Family Name (Last Name) 2.b. Given Name (First Name) J.R
NOTE: Replacement (correction) of an employment authorization document due to USCIS error does not	2.c. Middle Name N/A
require a new Form I-765 and filing fee. Refer to Replacement for Card Error in the What is the Filing Fee section of the Form I-765 Instructions for	3.a. Family Name (Last Name) 3.b. Given Name
further details. 1.c. Renewal of my permission to accept employment.	3.b. Given Name (First Name) 3.c. Middle Name N/A
(Attach a copy of your previous employment authorization document.)	4.a. Family Name (Last Name)
Part 2. Information About You	4.b. Given Name (First Name)
Your Full Legal Name	4.c. Middle Name N/A
1.a. Family Name (Last Name)	
1.b. Given Name (First Name) JOHN JAMES	
1.c. Middle Name N/A	
Form I-765 Edition 10/31/22	Page 1 of 7

International Student and Scholar Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Form I-765

STEP 5 - Complete the rest of Part 2 of the form, paying attention to these important reminders:

a. Write in a U.S. mailing address in Part 2, question 5.b-e. where you will be able to receive documents for the next three or four months. **This should NOT be the ISSS office address or department address**

This does not necessarily need to be your current address; if it is not your current address, write the full name of person whose address you are using in 5.a., answer "No" to question 6, and provide your current address in question 7.a-d.

We do not recommend using to your on-campus address. You may instead choose to purchase a P.O. box.

If you are unable to type in these boxes, please write neatly in black ink instead, or try a different browser/after downloading and saving to desktop

Par	t 2. Information About You (continued)
You	r U.S. Mailing Address
5.a.	In Care Of Name (if any) JANE JONES (if none, write N/A in this box)
5.b.	Street Number and Name 456 PRACTICAL STREET
5.c.	Apt.
5.d.	City or Town NEW BRUNSWICK
5.e.	State NJ v 5.f. ZIP Code 08901
6.	Is your current mailing address the same as your physical address?
	NOTE: If you answered "No" to Item Number 6., provide your physical address below.
U.S	. Physical Address
7.a.	Street Number N/A and Name
7.b.	Apt. Ste. Fir. NONE
7.c.	City or Town N/A
7.d.	State NJ 🔽 7.e. ZIP Code NONE

If you answered "Yes" to question 6, please write "N/A" for questions 7.a., 7.c., and 7.d.; write "NONE" for 7.b. and 7.e.

International Student and Scholar Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Form I-765

STEP 5 - Complete the rest of Part 2 of the form, paying attention to these important reminders:

- b. Enter your 9-digit 'A' number for question 8, found on your Employment Authorization Document (EAD card)
- c. Answer "Yes" to question 12 and attach a copy of your previous EAD card
- d. If you applied online before, write your USCIS Online Account Number. Otherwise, write "NONE"
- e. Write in your SSN information

Other Information		13.b. Provide your Social Security number (SSN) (if known). ▶ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
_	aber (A-Number) (if any) a-987654321	14. De you want the SSA to issue you a Social Security card? (You must also answer "Yes" to Item Number 15 Consent for Disclosure, to receive a card.) ☐ Yes ☒ No
9. USCIS Online Account ▶ N O	Number (if any)	NOTE: If you answered "No" to Item Number 14., skip to Part 2., Item Number 18.a. If you answeed "Yes" to Item Number 14., you must also answer "Yes" to Item Number 15.
	ed Form I-765? XYes No Administration (SSA) ever	15. Consent for Disclosure: I authorize disclosure of information from this application to the SSA as required for the purpose of assigning me an SSN and issuing me a Social Scentity sero. Yes No NOTE: If you enswered "Yes" to Hem Numbers 14 15., provide the information requested in Hem Numbers 16.a 17.b. Father's Name Provide your father's birth name. 16.b. Given Name (First Name) 16.b. Given Name (First Name) M/A Mother's Name Provide your mother's birth name.
Number 13.a., provide Number 13.b.		17 a Family Name m/A
	List all countries where you are currently a of If you need extra space to complete this item provided in Part 6. Additional Information 18.a. Country FAKELAND 18.b. Country N/A	a, use the space
updated Sept 2022		

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STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Form I-765

- d. Obtain your I-94 number and write in question 21.a.; to view and print your I-94 go to: https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/
- e. Write in the airport code, city, and state for question 23
- f. If you entered the U.S. on another status other than F-1 and completed a change of status with USCIS, write your last entered status type for question 24
- f. Enter your current SEVIS ID number in question 26. Your SEVIS ID is located at the top left corner of your I-20. Use Part 6. "Additional Information" to provide any previously used SEVIS ID numbers, if applicable
- g. Fill in (c)(3)(C) in question 27 for STEM extension optional practical training (1st c is lower case, 2nd C is upper case)
- h. In question 28.a-c., provide your degree level and major (for example, Bachelor's English) and the requested information about your current employer. If it does not fit, abbreviate and add it as additional information on page 7

NOTE: The E-Verify number is <u>different</u> from the EIN number required on the form I-983; e-Verify numbers are generally four to seven digits long

Information About Your Last Arrival in the United States 21.a. Form I-94 Arrival-Departure Record Number (if any) ▶ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 9 8 0 0 21.b. Passport Number of Your Most Recently Issued Passport J123456 21.e. Travel Document Number (if any) 21.d. Country That Issued Your Passport or Travel Document FAKELAND 21.e. Expiration Date for Passport or Travel Document (mm/dd/yyyy) 01/17/2032 22. Date of Your Last Arrival Into the United States. On or About (mm/dd/yyyy) 01/17/2022 23. Place of Your Last Arrival Into the United States EWR, NEWARK, NJ 24. Immigration Status at Your Last Arrival (for example, B-2 visitor, F-1 student, or no status) F-1 STUDENT 25. Your Current Immigration Status or Category (for example, B-2 visitor, F-1 student, parolee, deferred action, or no status or category) F-1 STUDENT 26. Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) Number (if any) N- 00123456789

Information About Your Eligibility Category

- Eligibility Category. Refer to the Who May File Form 1-765 section of the Form 1-765 Instructions to determine the appropriate eligibility category for this application.
 Enter the appropriate letter and number for your eligibility category below (for example, (a)(8), (c)(17)(iii)).
 - (c)(3)(C)
- (c)(3)(C) STEM OPT Eligibility Category. If you entered the eligibility category (c)(3)(C) in Item Number 27., provide the information requested in Item Numbers 28.a 28.c.
- 28.a. Degree MS CHEMICAL ENG
- 28.b. Employer's Name as Listed in E-Verify

MAGICAL COMPANY

28.c. Employer's E-Verify Company Identification Number or a Valid E-Verify Client Company Identification Number

123456

International Student and Scholar Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Form I-765

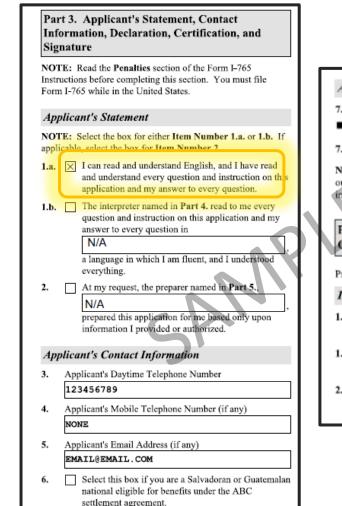
I. For questions 29 and 31.a. write NONE

k. Do NOT check the boxes for questions 30. or 31.b.

STEP 6 - Complete Part 3 of the form, paying attention to these important reminders:

- a. Check response 1.a. "I can read and understand English, and I have read and understand every question and instruction on this application and my answer to every question."
- b. Fill out the rest of the contact information on page 4
- c. Sign and date in question 7.a.-7b. Signature must be in black pen ink and fit within box provided. USCIS will not accept a stamped or digital name in place of a signature. For question 7.b., write the date out completely as mm/dd/yyyy, such as 03/17/2021

d. You must be located inside of the U.S. to apply for an EAD card



7.a.	Applicant's Signature Lohn Smith
7.b.	Date of Signature (mm/dd/yyyy) 01/15/2022
out t	TE TO ALL APPLICANTS: If you do not completely fi his application or fail to submit required documents listed e Instructions, USCIS may deny your application.
Par	4. Interpreter's Contact Information,
	rtification, and Signature
Cei	
Prov	rtification, and Signature
Prov	ide the following information about the interpreter.
Prov Inte	ide the following information about the interpreter.
Prov Inte	ide the following information about the interpreter. erpreter's Full Name Interpreter's Family Name (Last Name)
Prov Inte	ide the following information about the interpreter. erpreter's Full Name Interpreter's Family Name (Last Name) N/A
Prov Inte	ide the following information about the interpreter. erpreter's Full Name Interpreter's Family Name (Last Name) N/A Interpreter's Given Name (First Name)

International Student and Scholar Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Form I-765

STEP 7 - Complete Parts 4 and 5 of the form, paying attention to these important reminders:

> a. If a question does not apply to you in Part 4 and Part 5, type "N/A". If a question asks for a numerical response and does not apply to you, write "NONE"

Part 4. Interpreter's Contact Information, Certification, and Signature	Part 5. Contact Information, Declaration, and Signature of the Person Preparing this Application, If Other Than the Applicant	
Interpreter's Mailing Address	Provide the following information about the preparer,	Part 5. Contact Information, Declaration, an Signature of the Person Preparing this
S.a. Street Number and Name	Preparer's Full Name	Application, If Other Than the Applicant (continued)
i.b. Apt. Ste. Fir. NONE	1.a. Preparer's Family Name (Last Name)	Preparer's Statement
A.d. State 3.e. ZIP Code NONE	1.b. Preparer's Given Name (First Name)	7.a. I am not an attorney or accredited representative but have prepared this application on behalf of the applicant's consent.
i.f. Province N/A i.g. Postal Code NONE	Preparer's Business or Organization Name (if any) N/A	7.b.
h. Country N/A Interpreter's Contact Information	Preparer's Mailing Address 3.a. Street Number NONE	NOTE: If you are an attorney or accredited representative, you may need to submit a completed Form G-28, Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Accredited
Interpreter's Daytime Telephone Number NONE	3.b. Apt. Ste. Fir. NONE 3.e. City or Town N/A	Representative, with this application. Preparer's Certification
Interpreter's Mobile Telephone Number (if any) NONE Interpreter's Email Address (if any)	3.d. State 3.e. ZIP Code NONE 3.f. Province N/A	By my signature, I certify, under penalty of perjury, that I prepared this application at the request of the applicant. T applicant then reviewed this completed application and
N/A	3.g. Postal Code NONE 3.h. Country	informed me that he or she understands all of the informat contained in, and submitted with, his or her application, including the Applicant's Declaration and Certification that all of this information is complete, true, and correct.
Interpreter's Certification certify, under penalty of perjury, that:	N/A Preparer's Contact Information	completed this application based only on information that applicant provided to me or authorized me to obtain or use
am fluent in English and N/A hich is the same language specified in Part 3., Item Number		Preparer's Signature
the, and I have read to this applicant in the identified language very question and instruction on this application and his or her newer to every question. The applicant informed me that he o	NONE	8.a. Preparer's Signature N/A
the understands every instruction, question, and answer on the opplication, including the Applicant's Declaration and	NONE	8.b. Date of Signature (mm/dd/yyyy) NONE
Certification, and has verified the accuracy of every answer.	Preparer's Email Address (if any) N/A	
Interpreter's Signature		

7.b. Date of Signature (mm/dd/yyyy)

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

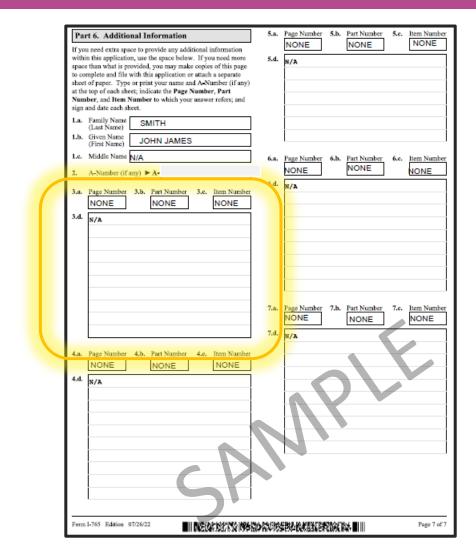
Prepare all application materials: Form I-765

STEP 8 - Complete Part 6:

- **a.** Add any past approved CPT information
- **b**. Add any past approved OPT information
- c. You have used a different SEVIS ID in F-1 status in the US
 - For example, if you attended school for a while, left the US
 to take a break from school, and returned with a new I-20,
 you would have a SEVIS ID from your first period of
 attendance that is different than your current SEVIS ID).

For each of the items listed above, complete **one box** in Part 6. We suggest using the following to complete the Page number, Part Number, and Item number, as this information is required specific to Category (c)(3)(C) (per the <u>I-765 instructions</u>). Please see next page for a sample

Write your name for questions 1.a.-1.b, and your A-Number for question 2



International Student and Scholar Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Form I-765

Page 3, Part 2, Item 27

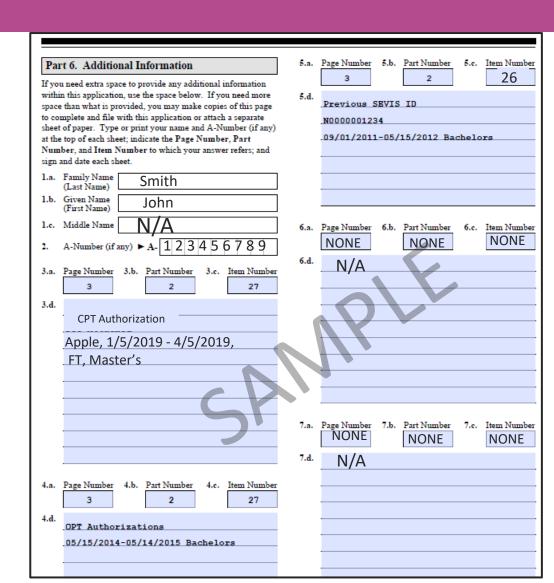
- **a. CPT:** List all previous CPT authorizations
 - Employer's name, start& end date, PT/FT, degree level
 - Attach copies of previous I-20(s) with your previous CPT authorization(s)
- **b. OPT:** Please list your past OPT approvals
 - OPT Authorizations (as a title to the section)
 - Start date-End date; Degree Level (Bachelor, Master's, or PhD)

Page 3, Part 2, Item 26

- c. Previous SEVIS ID's: Please list your other SEVIS ID's you have used in the past.
 - Previous SEVIS ID's(as a title to the section)
 - SEVIS ID: N00.... Program start date- Program end date; Degree Level (Bachelor's, Master's, or PhD)

STEP 9 - Remember to include all 7 pages of Form I-765 in your application to USCIS

Last updated August 2022



International Student and Scholar Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Two passport style photographs

2 COLOR PHOTOGRAPH SPECIFICATIONS

The color photographs must have a white to off-white background and be printed on thin paper with a glossy finish—do not mount or retouch

The photograph must be sized at 2 inches by 2 inches and must be in full color with a frontal view of your full face

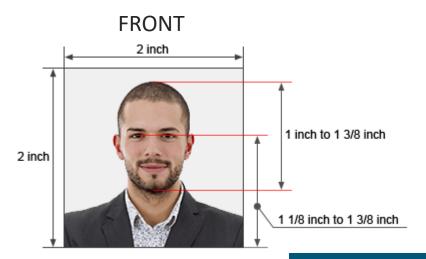
The head height in the photograph should measure 1 inch to 1 3/8 inches from top of hair to bottom of chin

Eye height in the photograph should be between 1 1/8 inch to 1 3/8 inches from top of eyes to bottom of photo

Your head must be bare unless you are wearing headwear as required by a religious denomination of which you are a member

Resources:

Dept of State Photo Requirements https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/photos.html



BACK

John Smith A-Number: 123-456-789 Photographs must be taken recently (within 6 months of the application date) and not been used before on another application (i.e. your visa or passport)

Using a pencil or felt pen, lightly print your name and Alien (A) Number on the back of the photo

International Student and Scholar Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Copies of other immigration documents

Include the following in your packet:

- 1) Image of your most recent passport. You only need to show 1 page showing your biographical information and picture of yourself. The bottom numbers (Machine Readable Zone) must be visible
- **2) Image of your F-1 visa.** If you do not have a F-1 visa, include a copy of your I-797 F-1 approval notice. Canadian and Bermudian students will not have F-1 visas
- 3) ALL previous EAD cards, front and back. If you ever worked on OPT (pre or post), H-4 EAD, and/or J-1 Academic Training at any degree level







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STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

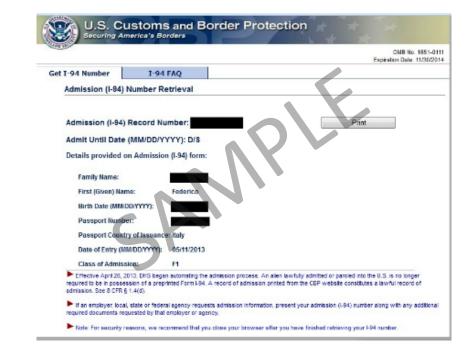
Prepare all application materials: Copies of other immigration documents

Include the following in your application packet:

4) I-94 number. To view and print your digital I-94 go to: https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/

If you have a paper I-94, you must obtain a clear image of it and upload to the application

NOTE - if you changed your status to F-1 while inside the United States (through a USCIS I-539 form), then your I-94 will be located on the bottom of your I-797 F-1 approval notice





Make sure the images are clear and readable

International Student and Scholar Services

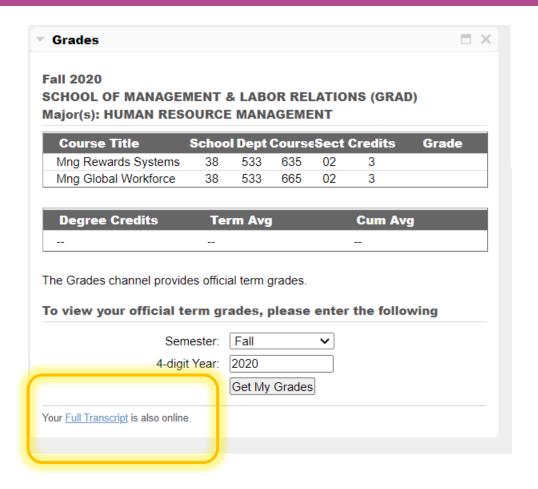
STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: Unofficial Full Transcript

1 Visit my.rutgers.edu and click "Get My Grades" under the Academics tab.

NOTE - you must upload a recent transcript that notates your earned diploma!

- Use your NetID to log in and receive your unofficial transcript.
- 3 Print your unofficial transcript
- 4 RBHS students can get their transcripts at my.rutgers.edu under the banner "self-service" tab



International Student and Scholar Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: STEM Diploma



Take a picture/scan of your diploma to submit via the RGlobal portal in Step 3

Make a copy of your STEM diploma to submit with your application to USCIS

You may wish to upload both a copy of your paper diploma AND the official digital copy offered by the Registrar

International Student and Scholar Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 2

Prepare all application materials: CPT authorizations

ТУРЕ	FULL/PART-TIME	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE
CPT	PART TIME	APPROVED	07 SEPTEMBER 2018	20 DECEMBER 2018
EMPLOYER INFORMATIO	ON .			
TYPE		AUTHORIZATI	ION DATES	
CPT		07 SEPTEMBER	2018 - 20 DECEMBRA	
EMPLOYER NAME	START DATE	END DATE	CITY & STATE	
	07 SEPTEMBER 2018	20 DECEMBER	2018	and the same of th

If you received CPT authorization at any degree level, you should include copies of pages 1 & 2 of the (previous) I-20s on which CPT authorization was shown

Add these copies to your application before mailing to USCIS

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STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 3

Submitting STEM OPT I-20 Request

STEP 1 - Login to the <u>RGlobal portal</u> with your NetID and password, you will find the STEM OPT Extension e-form request under 'F-1 Practical Training' menu. If you wish, you can have your STEM OPT application materials reviewed using this eform. You may also <u>schedule an optional appointment with an ISA here</u>.

STEP 2 - Complete the necessary fields in the e-form and upload the following documents to request a new I-20 with STEM OPT recommendation via the RGlobal Portal:

- a. completed I-983
- b. copy of your diploma

** Documents will not be accepted by email.

All requests must be submitted via RGlobal portal.

RBHS Newark students: for next steps, please contact

973-972-6138 or isss-rbhs@global.rutgers.edu

It can take up to 7 business days to process a new I-20 which notes the STEM OPT recommendation on page 2 of the document

Missing or incomplete documents can delay your receipt of your new I-20. Please make sure you've prepared all required documents listed on this slide before submitting request for new I-20 via the RGlobal portal

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 4

Receiving your OPT recommended I-20

STEP 1 - Look for an email confirming that your new I-20 with STEM OPT recommendation is ready. **The I-20 will be** attached to the email

STEP 2 - Review the STEM OPT I-20 and make sure all information on it is accurate. You will be given 24 months of STEM OPT. **Print and sign this I-20** with a pen and make a copy to mail with the STEM OPT application. Keep the original I-20

STEP 3 – Carefully read the email for important guidelines and reminders



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STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 5

Mail your completed application to USCIS

STEP 1 – Review your application materials for correctness and completeness. Make a photocopy/take pictures of your entire application to keep for your own records. We suggest paperclipping your documents together instead of using any staples. Review USCIS's optional application checklist here: https://www.uscis.gov/forms/optional-checklist-for-form-i-765-c3b-filings

STEP 2 - Select a carrier and request a tracking number so you know the application was received. Do NOT throw away your tracking information after delivery. **USICS does not receipt packages on weekends. Please be sure your package arrives on a weekday BEFORE your post-completion OPT period ends**

Please review the <u>Direct Filing Addresses for Form I-765</u> page to see where you should file your application.

STEP 3 – After mailing you should receive the official receipt notice at your mailing address. **If you do not get your receipt**, please view this USCIS webpage: https://egov.uscis.gov/e-request/displayNDNForm.do

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS STEP 5

Mail your completed application to USCIS

Please note that <u>USCIS announced</u> the ability to apply for OPT online

You can **EITHER** mail your application to USCIS **OR** apply online

Do NOT submit an application both ways! You can only submit your OPT application through 1 method

Please decide if you will mail your application, **OR** if you will submit it online

International Student and Scholar Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS

Track your USCIS deliveries

You can track the status of your application through the Case Status Tracker: https://egov.uscis.gov/casestatus/mycasestatus.do

Closely review the "How to Track Delivery of Employment Authorization Document (EAD)" page from USCIS for important delivery information: <a href="https://www.uscis.gov/forms/filing-guidance/how-to-track-delivery-of-your-green-card-employment-authorization-document-ead-and-travel-document-ead-

The United States Postal Service (USPS) offers a free service to help you digitally track your daily mail called **Informed Delivery.** This may be helpful in tracking your receipt notices and EAD card.

You can sign up for this service on their website here: https://tem-informeddelivery.usps.com/box/pages/intro/start.action

Secure Access

Interact with your incoming mail and packages on the secure, online dashboard.

Delivery Instructions

Leave delivery instructions if you won't be home to accept a package.

犚

Preview Incoming Mail

View grayscale images of the exterior, address side of lettersized mailpieces scheduled to arrive soon.*

s S

Schedule Redeliver

Missed a delivery? Schedule a package to be redelivered.

T_O

Track Packages

Check the delivery status of packages and when they're scheduled to arrive.

Φ,

Manage Notifications

Set up email and/or text notifications to track the delivery status of your package(s)

RUTGERS GLOBAL— International Student and Scholar Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS

Rejections, Denials, and RFEs

REJECTED, DENIED, OR RFE APPLICATIONS

If your application is rejected or denied by USCIS for any reason, or if you receive a Request for Evidence (RFE), please contact our office BEFORE you submit your RFE reply/new application, if time allows. You may need an updated I-20 from our staff.

Please let us know if you wish to have a second review of your application materials.

IF YOU DO NOT GRADUATE AS EXPECTED

This will impact your OPT application! Please contact our office right away if you have already applied for OPT but then find out you did not meet the degree completion deadline as originally planned. You may be directed to withdraw your application. Our advisers will help you review your options.

International Student and Scholar Services

STEM OPT APPLICATION PROCESS

Contact Us

Email us:

New Brunswick - <u>isss-students@global.rutgers.edu</u>

RBHS - isss-rbhs@global.rutgers.edu

Join our QQA or make an appointment:

https://global.rutgers.edu/advising

Call us:

- New Brunswick 848-932-7015
- RBHS 973-972-6138

Join us for an OPT Chat Session:

•https://global.rutgers.edu/opt