OPT STEM Extension Information Sheet

F-1 students who are currently authorized for OPT employment based on completion of a Bachelor, Master or Ph.D. degree in a Science, Technology, Engineering or Math (STEM) field, as defined by DHS, may be eligible for a 24-month extension of OPT.

In order to be eligible for this extension, students applying for this benefit must:

- Already be on valid OPT, based on a STEM-eligible degree
- Have had fewer than 90 days of unemployment while on OPT
- Be employed by, or have a job offer from, an employer who is registered in the E-Verify employment verification system

Materials required for the OPT STEM extension application:

**Provide to International Student and Scholar Center:**

___ Completed and signed "Request for 24 Month Extension of OPT"
___ Completed Training Plan I-983 form

**Provide to USCIS:**

___ Completed and signed Form I-765 (see “Hints” on reverse side)
___ Check or money order for $410, payable to “Dept of Homeland Security”
___ 2 color, U.S. passport-style photographs (see “Guidelines” on page 2) – write name and SEVIS ID# on back
___ Copy of the front and back of your current OPT card
___ Copy of new I-20 from ISSC that shows recommendation for OPT extension (student should keep the original I-20)
___ Copy of all previous I-20s
___ Evidence that your degree meets the STEM degree/major requirements
   **ONLY ONE** of the following must be submitted with your application:
   - Official transcript (Request from Registrar’s Office)
   - Copy of the diploma that shows your degree level and program of study
___ Copy of your current I-94 printout
___ Copy of your passport identity page (and any renewal pages)
___ Copy of visa page

Hints for filling out Form I-765

Item #3 If you move while this application is being processed, use a stable, U.S. address. Mail from USCIS is not forwarded by the Postal Service.

Item #9 Use your U.S. Social Security Number.

Item #10 “No” (you should already have a SS card).

Item #14 This is the 11-digit number on your most recent I-94.

Item #18 USCIS wants to know what your status was the last time you entered the U.S. For most students applying for OPT, it is “F-1”

Item #20 (C)(3)(C)

Item #21 Degree = your degree level and major; Employer’s name as listed in E-Verify; Employer’s E-Verify Identification Number (E-Verify information can only be obtained from your employer).

Guidelines for the “Two Passport Style” photos

- Photos must measure 2 inches by 2 inches
- Head should be positioned directly facing the camera
- Photo should capture from slightly above top of hair to middle of chest
- Background should be plain white or off-white
- Photos should be taken within the last 30 days prior to the extension application. Photos used for obtaining a non-U.S. passport or a U.S. visa stamp are generally not acceptable, as they are often not the correct size, and rarely taken within 30 days of the OPT application.

✔ Submit the STEM OPT application to USCIS within 90 days of your initial OPT expiration date.

✔ While the STEM OPT I-765 is pending with USCIS, you may continue to work for up to 180 days.
Complete this form and email to issc@weber.edu

Request for 24 Month Extension of OPT

Last Name: ______________________________ First Name: ______________________________

SEVIS ID #: N__________________________ Phone #: _________________________________

WSU Email Address: ________________________________

Current Physical Address: __________________________________________________________________________

Job Title: ________________________________________________________________

By signing below, you are verifying that you understand and agree to adhere to the following DHS regulatory requirements:

1. You are currently on Optional Practical Training (OPT) and are employed or have been offered employment for practical training in your major field of study
2. Your current or future employer is enrolled in E-Verify. For more information, see:  
   http://www.dhs.gov/ximage/programs/gc_1185221678150.shtm
3. You have not been unemployed for more than 90 days while on OPT
4. You will report to sis@weber.edu within 10 days of each occurrence:
   • any change in your physical address each time that you move
   • any change in the name AND/OR address of your employer by submission of a new I-983 form
   • the loss of your job, at any time, during your OPT authorization
5. Your employer agrees to notify the International Student and Scholar Center (sis@weber.edu) within 5 days, in the event of the termination of your employment or your departure from the job
6. You and your employer agree to submit an I-983 form to update your employment information as soon as a material change occurs, and within 10 days of each 12-month evaluation.
7. During your STEM OPT extension, you will “check in” with the ISSC (via an email to sis@weber.edu titled “STEM OPT validation”) every six months from the start date listed on your new OPT card
   • At each check-in, you will provide your physical AND mailing address, as well as your employer’s name and physical address.
8. Your OPT will end if you accrue a total of 150 days of unemployment (counted from the start of your total OPT period), or if you transfer to another school

I affirm that I understand the information provided to me on this application form and on the supplemental “OPT STEM Extension Information Sheet”, and I agree to the conditions set forth by these documents.

_________________________________________________                    ______________________
Print Name (will serve as your signature for this form)              Date