



After Filing Your Pre-Completion OPT Application

After filing your OPT application with USCIS, it is important that you read and understand the information presented below. More detailed information can be found on the HIO website here: <http://www.hio.harvard.edu/optional-practical-training-opt>

AFTER FILING

- Download and save a copy of your e-filed I-765 OPT application for your records.
- You will receive a confirmation and receipt number from USCIS shortly after submitting your online application to USCIS. You may track your case status via your USCIS account.
- You should also receive three (3) pieces of mail from USCIS: an I-797 notice of receipt, an I-797 notice of approval, and the official EAD card. Review the information carefully on all documents for accuracy.
- You may start working only AFTER you receive the physical EAD and the start date has commenced.
- Contact your HIO advisor immediately if:
 - ✓ You do not receive your USCIS receipt notice within 60 days of submitting your OPT application;
 - ✓ You receive a Request for Additional Evidence (RFE) from USCIS;
 - ✓ There is incorrect information on your EAD card.

The HIO provides general guidance on your OPT/STEM OPT application based on information obtained from reliable sources and reflecting our years of experience in working with students. We make every attempt to ensure that we provide you with the most up-to-date information available. Any advice provided to you by our office (as well as the information in this packet) does not constitute legal advice, however. The OPT application is a personal application for which you are responsible; the application preparation and USCIS case decision will vary depending on the facts at issue in your particular case. The HIO does its best to provide you with the most current guidance, but please be mindful that USCIS may change its interpretation of these policies, procedures, regulations, and eligibility requirements at any time. The HIO is not responsible for any errors or omissions, or for the results obtained from USCIS.