

HARVARD INTERNATIONAL OFFICE



Request for HIO Recommendation For STEM OPT based on a Prior Degree (F-1 Students)

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security permits schools to recommend an extension of Optional Practical Training (OPT) for students in certain Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) major fields. While OPT must always be for the most recent degree earned, a STEM OPT extension can be recommended on the basis of a prior STEM-major degree earned from an accredited and SEVP-certified institution of higher education earned in the U.S. within the past 10 years.

This form will be used by Harvard University students to request a STEM OPT recommendation based on a prior degree, and to outline the evaluation process which the HIO will use to determine whether your prior degree meets the criteria for a STEM OPT recommendation. Final adjudication of a complete STEM OPT application (including an I-765 application for employment authorization, with application fee and supporting documents) will be made by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

Please submit this form along with [required supporting documentation](#) to support your request. Documentation may vary, depending on your case.

Student Information			
Family Name:	First Name:	Harvard ID Number:	
Phone Number:	Email Address:		
Was your degree STEM Eligible?			
What was your official graduation date? (mm/dd/yyyy)		Level of education <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> Master's <input type="checkbox"/> Doctoral <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
What was your Major Field(s) of Study and Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code?* (not minor)	Major 1:	CIP Code for Major 1:	<i>HIO Use Only:</i> STEM eligible? <input type="checkbox"/> Major 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Major 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Major 3
	Major 2:	CIP Code for Major 2:	
	Additional Major:	CIP Code for Additional Major:	
Did you receive any OPT during your past degree?	Post-Completion OPT? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Dates of OPT: _____	
	STEM OPT? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Dates of OPT: _____	
<i>* You can find the major and CIP code in the "Program of Study" section of I-20s issued after July 2015. For forms issued before July 2015, the major will be listed under item 5. There will be no CIP Code.</i>			
Did you earn your degree at a college/university that meets STEM OPT requirements?			
Was your college/university in the U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes		<i>HIO Use Only:</i> DOAPSIP: <input type="checkbox"/> Verified on DOE List	
Name of College/University		_____	
City/State		SEVP Code: _____	
Student Certification			
I am requesting an HIO recommendation for STEM OPT based on a prior degree. I believe my prior degree qualifies for STEM OPT consideration:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ My prior degree is in a STEM major field, with a qualifying CIP code. ✓ The college/university at which my prior degree was conferred is a U.S. institution of higher education that is accredited and SEVP-certified. ✓ I earned my degree within the past 10 years ✓ I may have used OPT at the prior degree level, but did not apply for a STEM OPT extension based on the <i>same</i> prior degree. 			
_____ Signature of Harvard Student		_____ Date	
For HIO only: <input type="checkbox"/> Documentation is sufficient to demonstrate eligibility for STEM OPT recommendation		HIO Initials _____	
Eligibility Concerns? <input type="checkbox"/> STEM Major <input type="checkbox"/> CIP Code <input type="checkbox"/> 10-year <input type="checkbox"/> Other		Date _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Accreditation - https://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/search.aspx <input type="checkbox"/> SEVP Certification - https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/school-search			

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