HARVARD
INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

USCIS STEM OPT Application Checklist for e-Filing

This is a checklist of the evidence/documents an F-1 Student applying for STEM OPT is required to **UPLOAD** via the USCIS I-765 e-File system.

The e-Filing system will guide you through what you must submit and in what order.

NOTE: All evidence materials/documents must fit USCIS's specified file requirements to ensure successful uploads within the e-File system. Make sure all pictures or scans show the required information clearly. **You must be physically present in the U.S. to file your STEM OPT application.**

Getting Started ⌃

    Basis of eligibility

    Reason for applying

    Preparer and interpreter information

About You ⌄

Evidence ⌃

    2 x 2 photo of you

    Form I-94

    Employment Authorization Document

    Form I-20

    College degree

    Institution accreditation

Additional Information ⌄

Review and Submit ⌄

☐ A new 2 x 2 **passport style photo** taken within the last 30 days;
- Photos must meet these requirements, and cannot be enhanced or retouched
- It is recommended that your photos be taken professionally (many pharmacies, copy/print, and shipping stores offer this service.

☐ Clear image of your **most current I-94 record** (*you must be physically in the U.S.*);

☐ Clear image of your **current EAD** for your Post-OPT;

☐ Clear image of **STEM OPT Form I-20** with your **ORIGINAL (physical)** signature on page 1;

☐ Clear **image of your passport biographical page(s)** uploaded under section "Employment Authorization Document;"

☐ Clear images of your diploma AND **official** transcripts related to your STEM degree program uploaded under "College Degree;"
Note: *If diploma is in Latin, provide translation in this section as well.*

☐ Harvard Business School, MBA students must include this support letter from the Registrar's Office.

☐ USCIS I-765 Filing Fee paid via credit card or direct bank withdrawal at *"Review and Submit"* section of e-File system. **DO NOT PAY BEFORE APPLICATION IS FULLY COMPLETED AND REVIEWED**. Payment officially submits application to USCIS.

NOTE: Most students will NOT need to upload any evidence or documentation into the "Institutional Accreditation" section. This section ONLY applies to students applying for STEM based on prior degree program. If your current OPT I-20 is in a STEM field, you do not need to upload evidence into this section.