

AFTER FILING YOUR OPT APPLICATION

I have e-Filed my I-765, what now?

- 1 Download and save a copy of your e-filed I-765 application for your records.
- 2 You will receive a receipt number in your USCIS online account shortly after submitting your application. Report your OPT receipt information to the HIO using [this form](#).
- 3 Your USCIS account is the best place to track all updates related to your case. Monitor your case status and progress regularly.

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After filing, you may receive a request to get additional photos or biometrics taken at a local Application Support Center (ASC). Failure to comply with the request may result in a denial of your OPT application.

All applicants should receive three (3) pieces of mail from USCIS to the mailing address listed on your I-765:

- an I-797 notice of receipt,
- an I-797 notice of approval,
- and the official Employment Authorization Document (EAD) card.

You should review these documents carefully for any errors. Be in touch with your HIO advisor if you notice an error on any of these documents.

USCIS processing times can vary widely. Please refer to [USCIS Processing Times](#) for the most current information.

My I-765 has been pending longer than expected. Can I expedite my case?

Yes, USCIS offers “[Premium Processing](#)” as an extra service available to F-1 students applying for OPT.

- This requires filing an “I-907 Request for Premium Processing” form along with a substantial fee, to USCIS. Instructions can be found [here](#).
- Please note “Premium Processing” does not mean USCIS will approve the application within 30 days or that you will receive your EAD in that timeframe. “Premium Processing” means USCIS will adjudicate the application within 30 days (i.e., approve, deny, or issue a Request for Evidence).
- Cases can be upgraded to premium processing after they are filed and are pending with USCIS.

Can I travel while my OPT application is pending?

- If you are re-entering the U.S. **BEFORE** the I-20 program end date, you may travel internationally with a pending OPT application, so long as you have all [required documents](#).
- If you are re-entering the U.S. **AFTER** the I-20 program end date, travelling internationally is **NOT RECOMMENDED** while your OPT application is pending.
- Review the HIO’s website carefully so that you are aware of [travel considerations while on OPT](#).

Contact your [HIO advisor](#) immediately if:

- You do not receive your USCIS receipt notice within 60 days of submitting your OPT application in the mail (even if you can view an electronic version of it through the USCIS portal);
- You receive a Request for Evidence (RFE) ;
- There is incorrect information any of the following: I-797 notice of receipt, I-797 notice of approval, EAD card.