Paying the OPT Application Fee

You will need to include a check or money order for $410 USD payable to 'U.S. Department of Homeland Security' with your OPT package.

If you are using a check, it should be linked to a U.S. bank account.

Important Note: Please make sure to:

- Date your check using the MM/DD/20YY format, and
- Maintain a high enough balance in the account linked to your check for at least the next two months or until USCIS cashes your check.

Money orders can be purchased at a Post Office or obtained from your bank (also called a ‘cashier’s check’).

Please see the images below if you need help writing your check or filling out your money order.

Sample Check

Sample Money Order
You can find the appropriate USCIS address to include in your money order on this page [2]; look under “Foreign Students”, category (c)(3)(i). Please note that the address of the lockbox facility is slightly different depending on your mailing method (via USPS or courier service).

< Back to How to Apply by Mail [3]