

## F-1 STEM Optional Practical Training (STEM OPT)

### [F-1 STEM Optional Practical Training \(STEM OPT\)](#) [1]

#### Duration:

24-month extension to OPT (36 months total)

#### Processing Information:

- Process is undertaken by the individual and requires no involvement from OISS or the hiring department.
- The department must complete parts of [form I-983](#) [2].
- USCIS processing of OPT applications can take up to 90 days.

#### Use at Yale:

- Assistant Professor
- Postdoctoral Associate
- Postdoctoral Fellow
- Postgraduate Associate
- Postgraduate Fellow
- Lecturer
- Lector
- Staff (M&P) Position (if approved for sponsorship)
- C&T Position (if approved for sponsorship)

#### Considerations:

- Yale employees with a STEM degree and working in a STEM field can use this category to initiate employment or for positions that are shorter than the duration of F-1 STEM OPT (36 months).
- Visa sponsorship beyond the duration of F-1 OPT is allowed only if it is a faculty or research position.
- Must be eligible for STEM OPT, have authorization from USCIS, and work in a STEM field related to major field of study.
- Must consult with OISS about plans for Yale employment beyond OPT time.

### [Hiring Student Visa Holders](#) [1]

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**Source URL:** <https://oiss.yale.edu/position-title/f-1-stem-optional-practical-training-stem-opt>

#### Links

[1] <https://oiss.yale.edu/for-departments/hiring-international-students> [2]  
<https://www.ice.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Document/2016/i983.pdf>