

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

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

**Length of Stay:**

24-month extension to OPT (36 months total)

**Purpose of Visit:**

To work with authorization from DHS for STEM Optional Practical Training (STEM OPT)

**Processing Time:**

USCIS processing of STEM OPT applications can take up to 90 days.

**Application Considerations:**

- 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].
- Must be eligible for STEM OPT, have authorization from USCIS, and work in a STEM field related to major field of study in order to apply.

**Immigration Sponsorship:** Self**Financial Support:**

Any

**Special Notes & 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).
- Must provide work authorization information by start date.
- Supervisor will need to be involved with OPT STEM reporting; employment must be in a field related to the earned degree.
- Must consult with OISS about plans for Yale employment beyond OPT time.
- Visa sponsorship beyond the duration of F-1 OPT is allowed only if it is a faculty or research position.

### [Hiring F-1 STEM OPT Employees](#) [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-student-visa-holders/hiring-f-1-stem-opt-employees> [2]

<https://www.ice.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Document/2016/i983.pdf>