F-1 STEM Optional Practical Training (STEM OPT)

**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]

**Source URL:** [https://oiss.yale.edu/position-title/f-1-stem-optional-practical-training-stem-opt](https://oiss.yale.edu/position-title/f-1-stem-optional-practical-training-stem-opt)

**Links**