

Regular OPT Responsibilities Form

All applicants for OPT must ensure they have met all Immigration-mandated requirements and must also show they are aware of the responsibilities to maintain their status. This form will help you be aware of what you must do. Please **INITIAL EACH SECTION** in the space provided to indicate your understanding of the items below. Any changes to the following policies and regulations will be announced on the ISSlist-I listserv, to which all ODU international students must belong. There is a separate F-1 OPT Responsibilities Form for STEM OPT.

While on Regular OPT (12-month authorization), I understand that:

1. I must complete my thesis/project and graduate **before the start date of my OPT**. (This may not apply to Ph.D. students.)
2. **EMPLOYMENT:** I acknowledge that I cannot work on-campus or off-campus after my program end date until I have received the EAD card and the start date has passed. I must notify VISA of any information updates while I am on OPT (e.g. name change, address changes, etc.). In addition, I will send VISA a scan of my EAD when I receive it.
3. **TRAVEL:** If I leave and return to the U.S. during my OPT, I must be returning to begin or resume a job upon re-entry and will have proof of my employment, my EAD and my I-20 (with valid travel signature). Travel while my application is pending with USCIS is strongly discouraged.
4. **I-20:** OPT Authorization and dates will be listed on the second page of the I-20. I-20s will not be issued automatically upon OPT approval or employment update, but I may request an updated I-20 if needed.
5. **OPT EMPLOYMENT UPDATES:** I can change employers and/or have multiple jobs as long as all employment is directly related to my major (including volunteer work). If I change my job or become unemployed, I must notify VISA via the OPT Employment Update.
6. **UNEMPLOYMENT:** I have a period of 90 days in which I can be unemployed but remain in the U.S.
7. **CLASS REGISTRATION:** I can register for one or two classes per semester for recreational or professional development reasons but only as a **nondegree** student.
8. **INSURANCE:** Having health insurance is **STRONGLY** recommended when I am doing OPT, and I am still eligible for the ODU health insurance.
9. **SEVIS TRANSFER:** My OPT will be terminated once my I-20 is transferred from ODU to another school or an I-20 for another degree program is issued.
10. **STEM OPT:** If I am eligible for STEM OPT, I will submit my application to VISA between three and four months before my Regular OPT expires.
11. **POLICY UPDATES:** This responsibilities form is valid for current VISA policies and USCIS regulations. I will follow any regulatory updates, which will be announced on the VISA site and/or via the ISSlist.

I have read and agree these regulations.

Student Name (Print) & UIN

Student Signature Date