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It will take ISSO approximately ten (10) business days to process your application.

**OPT EXTENSION PERIOD**

The employment authorization period for the 17-month OPT extension begins on the day after the expiration of the initial post-completion OPT employment authorization. It ends 17 months later, regardless of the date the actual extension is approved.

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES OFFICE MAILING ADDRESS**

Mail this form and requested photocopies to:

**International Student Services Office (ISSO)**  
**PO Box 10078**  
**Beaumont, TX 77710**  
**ATTN: OPT Extension**

**TO BE SIGNED BY THE STEM DEGREE HOLDER WHO IS CURRENTLY ON A 12-MONTH OPT PERIOD AND APPLYING FOR AN OPT EXTENSION**

Statement of Understanding:

- (1) I have not previously received a 17-month OPT extension after earning a STEM degree and my degree that is the basis for my current period of OPT is a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree in one of the degree programs on the current STEM Designated Degree Program List, published on the SEVP Web site at [www.ice.gov/sevis](http://www.ice.gov/sevis)
- (2) My employer is registered in the E-Verify program, as evidenced by either a valid E-Verify company identification number or, if my employer is using a designated agent to perform the E-Verify queries, a valid E-Verify client company identification number. The employer is a participant in good standing in the E-Verify program.
- (3) My employer agrees to report the termination or departure of my OPT to the DSO at Lamar University or through any other means or process identified by DHS if the termination or departure is prior to the end of the authorized period of OPT. Such reporting must be made within **48 hours** of the event. My employer shall consider a worker to have departed when the employee knows that I have left the employment or if I have not reported for work for a period of 5 consecutive business days without the consent of the employer, whichever occurs earlier
- (4) I understand that the *Duration of status while on post-completion OPT* is defined as the period beginning when my OPT Extension application was properly filed and pending approval, including the authorized period of post-completion OPT, and ending 60 after the OPT employment authorization expires (allowing me to prepare for departure, change educational levels at the same school, or transfer to a new school in accordance with federal regulations.
- (5) I understand that during post-completion OPT my F-1 status is dependent upon employment. I may not accrue a total of more than 90 days of unemployment during any post-completion OPT carried out under the initial post-completion OPT authorization. If I am granted a 17-month OPT extension, I may not accrue a total of more than 120 days of unemployment during the total OPT period comprising any post-completion OPT carried out under the initial post-completion OPT authorization and the subsequent 17-month extension period.
- (6) I have read and understand the above information on the 17-month OPT Extension for STEM degree holders provided by the International Student Services Office at Lamar University.
- (7) **I understand that it is my responsibility to submit this form along with required documents to the appropriate Service Center of USCIS.**

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

EAD Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_