

POST COMPLETION OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING – F1 STUDENTS

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. WHO MAY QUALIFY FOR POST COMPLETION PRACTICAL TRAINING?

A student who has been enrolled full-time for at least one full academic year, is on the graduation list, and is currently in f-1 status.

2. WHAT GROUP DOES NOT EVER QUALIFY FOR POST-COMPLETION PRACTICAL TRAINING?

Students in English Language Programs may not qualify.

3. WHERE MAY I OBTAIN A PACKET FOR AN APPLICATION?

Through the Office of Global Education.

4. WHERE AND WHEN DO I SUBMIT MY APPLICATION?

The application must be submitted to the Service Center, which will issue a EAD card. You must work with the Office of Global Education to file the application. The application may be submitted up to 90 days before graduation or 60 days after.

5. HOW MUCH IS THE APPLICATION FEE?

The application fee is payable to the Department of Homeland Security by Check or Money Order at the time of filing. To check the current fee, go to www.uscis.gov.

6. WHAT IS THE PHONE NUMBER OF THE USCIS SERVICE CENTER?

1-800-375-5283

This is an automated system. You will need to listen and press the number for the option that you want. To check for current change, please go to www.uscis.gov.

7. FOR HOW LONG IS THE EAD CARD AUTHORIZED?

An EAD card may be authorized for an F-1 student for 12 month of practical training.

8. HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE POST COMPLETION TRAINING?

An F-1 student is eligible for 12 months of practical training and the student becomes eligible for another 12 months of practical training when he/she completes a higher educational level.

9. WHEN MAY I START WORKING?

Only after you receive the EAD card, and only from the start date established on the EAD card. You may not work past the end date listed on the EAD.

10. WHEN MUST I COMPLETE MY OPT?

You must complete all optional practical training within 14 months after graduation.

11. MAY I TAKE ADVANCED CLASSES DURING POST COMPLETION PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR ANOTHER DEGREE?

No, the practical training automatically terminates when you begin study at another educational level.