

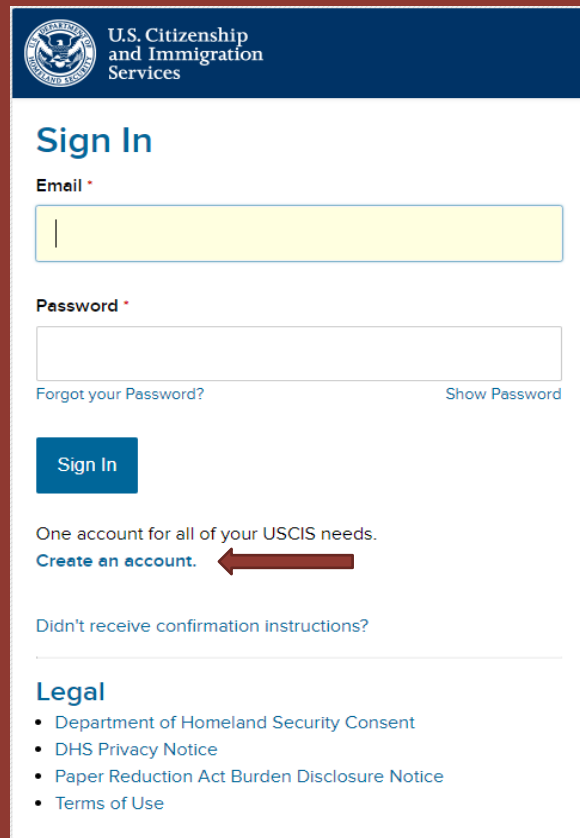
FILING YOUR OPT APPLICATION ONLINE



THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO

Campus and Student Life
International Affairs

STEP 3: Create Your USCIS Account



The screenshot shows the USCIS Sign In page. At the top left is the USCIS logo and the text "U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services". Below this is the "Sign In" heading. There are two input fields: "Email" and "Password". Below the password field are links for "Forgot your Password?" and "Show Password". A blue "Sign In" button is positioned below the fields. Below the button, there is a message: "One account for all of your USCIS needs. Create an account." with a red arrow pointing to the "Create an account" link. Below this is a link for "Didn't receive confirmation instructions?". At the bottom, there is a "Legal" section with a list of links: "Department of Homeland Security Consent", "DHS Privacy Notice", "Paper Reduction Act Burden Disclosure Notice", and "Terms of Use".

****You must be in the US at the time you apply for OPT****

Visit <https://myaccount.uscis.gov/> to create your USCIS account. Detailed instructions on how to create a USCIS account can be found [here](#).



STEP 4: File Form I-765 Online

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

- Basis of eligibility** ←
- Reason for applying
- Preparer and interpreter information

About You

Evidence

Additional Information

Review and Submit

What is your eligibility category?

⚠ You can file your request online only for certain eligibility categories. If your eligibility category does not appear on the drop-down list, you must file a paper [Form I-765](#). If you submit online and are not eligible for one of the listed categories, your application may be denied.

- A(12) Temporary Protected Status Granted
- c(3)(A) Student Pre-Completion OPT
- c(3)(B) Student Post-Completion OPT
- c(3)(C) STEM Extension

After you have logged in to your USCIS account, click on “**My Account**” and select “**File a form online**” from the drop-down menu. Select “**I-765, Application for Employment Authorization**” to start populating your form.

Getting Started

□ Basis of Eligibility

○ **(c)(3)(A) Pre-completion OPT** – select this option if your requested OPT start date occurs before the program end date listed on your I-20

○ **(c)(3)(B) Post-completion OPT** – select this option if your requested OPT start date occurs after the end date listed on your I-20, or after completion of course requirements for MA/PhD students

○ **(c)(3)(C) STEM Extension** – select this option if you are currently on valid post-completion OPT and eligible to apply for STEM extension based on your degree

STEM OPT applicants only (c)(3)(C):

○ What is your degree?

○ What is your employer’s name as listed in E-verify?

○ What is your employer’s E-verify company identification number or a valid E-verify client company identification number?

Getting Started

- Basis of eligibility**
- Reason for applying
- Preparer and interpreter information

About You

Evidence

Additional Information

Review and Submit

What is your degree?

What is your employer's name as listed in E-Verify?

What is your employer's E-Verify company identification number or a valid E-Verify client company identification number?

STEP 4: File Form I-765 Online Con't

What is your reason for applying?

Initial permission to accept employment

Replacement of lost, stolen, or damaged employment authorization document or correction of my employment authorization document NOT DUE to US Citizenship and Immigration Services error

Renewal of permission to accept employment

Have you previously filed Form I-765?

Yes

No

Is someone assisting you with completing this application?

Yes

No

Getting Started

❑ Reason for Applying?

- o What is your reason for applying?
 - ▶ Select “Initial permission to accept employment”
- o Have you previously filed Form I-765?
 - ▶ If you have previously filed an I-765, select “Yes”. If you have not previously filed an I-765, select “No”.

❑ Preparer and Interpreter Information

- o Is someone assisting you with completing this application?
 - ▶ Select “No”

STEP 4: File Form I-765 Online Con't

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You

Your name

Your contact information

Describe yourself

When and where you were born

Your immigration information

Other information

Evidence

Additional Information

Review and Submit

About You

□ Your Name

o What is your current legal name?

- ▶ Enter your name as it appears on your Form I-20
- ▶ Have you used any other name since birth? If “Yes”, provide the other names you have used. If “No”, continue to the next section.

□ Your Contact Information

o How may we contact you?

- ▶ Enter your daytime telephone number, mobile number and email address

o What is your current U.S. mailing address?

- ▶ This is where your EAD will be sent. You must enter an address that will be valid for the next 4-5 months. If your address will change, you can ask a friend, relative or employer if you can add their name and U.S. address. EADs will not be sent abroad. If you use a friend, relative or employer’s address, you must write their full name in the “In Care of Name (if any)” field.

o Is your current mailing address the same as your physical address?

- ▶ Select “Yes” or “No”

STEP 4: File Form I-765 Online Con't

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You

- Your name
- Your contact information
- Describe yourself
- When and where you were born
- Your immigration information
- Other information

Evidence

Additional Information

Review and Submit

About You

□ Describe Yourself

o What is your gender?

- ▶ Select the gender as is reflected on your passport

o What is your marital status?

- ▶ Select your current marital status

□ When and Where Were You Born?

o What is your city, town, or village of birth?

- ▶ Complete the information as is listed on your passport/birth certificate

o What is your state or province of birth?

- ▶ Complete the information as is listed on your passport/birth certificate (if it applies to you)

o Is your country of birth?

- ▶ Complete the information as is listed on your passport/birth certificate

o What is your date of birth?

- ▶ Insert your date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY)

STEP 4: File Form I-765 Online Con't

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You

- Your name
- Your contact information
- Describe yourself
- When and where you were born
- Your immigration information
- Other information

Evidence

Additional Information

Review and Submit

About You

□ Your Immigration Information

o What is your country of citizenship or nationality?

- ▶ Insert the name of your country of citizenship. If you hold multiple citizenships or nationalities, select “add country” to ensure all countries of citizenships or nationalities are reflected.

o What is your Form I-94 Arrival-Departure Record Number (if any)?

- ▶ Your I-94 Arrival-Departure Record Number can be retrieved [here](#)

o When did you last arrive in the United States?

- ▶ List your arrival date, place of arrival and status at arrival. You can refer to your [most recent I-94](#) for this information

o What is the passport number of your most recently issued passport?

- ▶ Please refer to the biographical page of your passport

o What is your travel document number (if any)?

- ▶ **Note:** most F-1 students would not have a travel document separate from their passport

o What is the expiration date of your passport or travel document?

- ▶ Please refer to the biographical page of your passport

o What country issued your passport or travel document?

- ▶ Please refer to the biographical page of your passport

o What is your current immigration status or category?

- ▶ Select “F1 – Student, Academic or Language Program

o What is your Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) Number (if any)?

- ▶ Your SEVIS number can be found on the left-hand side of your most recent I-20

STEP 4: File Form I-765 Online Con't

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You

- Your name
- Your contact information
- Describe yourself
- When and where you were born
- Your immigration information
- Other information

Evidence

Additional Information

Review and Submit

About You

□ Other Information

o What is your A-Number?

- ▶ You can list your A-number (if you have one) or select “I do not have or know my A-number.”
Note: Most F-1 students will not obtain an A-Number until after being approved for Post-Completion OPT

o What is your USCIS Online Account Number (if any)?

- ▶ You can list your USCIS Online Account Number (if you have one) or select “I do not have or know my USCIS online Account Number”

o Has the Social Security Administration (SSA) ever officially issued a Social Security Card to you?

- ▶ If you have a Social Security Number, select “Yes” and enter your Social Security Number. If you do not have a Social Security Number, select “No”. You will then be asked if you want the SSA to issue you a Social Security Card to which your response will be “Yes”. You will need to agree to the “Consent for Disclosure” and provide your father’s and mother’s birth names (first and last names at birth).

2 X 2 Photo Of You

Upload a recent color photograph of yourself that measures 2 inches by 2 inches, with your face measuring 1 inch to 1 3/8 inch from your chin to the top of your head. Your eyes should be between 1 1/8 inch and 1 3/8 inch from the bottom of the photo.

Make sure your whole face is visible, you are facing the camera directly, and the background is white or off-white. Your head must be bare, unless contrary to your religious beliefs.

If you need help understanding the photo requirements or want to resize, rotate, or crop your photo, you can use to the Department of State's [photo composition tools](#). Please note that we cannot approve your application without your photo.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, or PNG
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

I-94, Arrival And Departure Record

Upload a copy of one of the following:

- Your Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Record (front and back);
- A printout of your electronic Form I-94; or
- Your passport or other travel document.

If you were admitted to the United States by CBP at an airport or seaport after April 30, 2013, CBP may have issued you an electronic Form I-94 instead of a paper Form I-94. You may visit the [CBP website](#) to obtain a paper version of an electronic Form I-94. CBP does not charge a fee for this service. Some travelers admitted to the United States at a land border, airport, or seaport, after April 30, 2013, with a passport or travel document, who were issued a paper Form I-94 by CBP, may also be able to obtain a replacement Form I-94 from the CBP website without charge.

If your Form I-94 cannot be obtained from the CBP website, it may be obtained by filing [Form I-107, Application for Replacement/Initial Nonimmigrant Arrival-Departure Record](#), with USCIS. USCIS does charge a fee for this service.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

Employment Authorization Document Or Government ID

Upload a copy of your last Employment Authorization document (EAD) (front and back). If you were not previously issued an EAD, you must upload a copy of a government-issued identity document (such as a passport) showing your picture, name, and date of birth; a birth certificate with photo ID; a visa issued by a foreign consulate; or a national ID document with photo and/or fingerprint. The identity document photocopy must clearly show your facial features and contain your biographical information.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

Previously Authorized CPT Or OPT

Upload evidence of any previously authorized CPT or OPT and the academic level at which it was authorized.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

I-20, Certificate Of Eligibility For Nonimmigrant Student Status

Upload a copy of the Form I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status endorsed by the Designated School Official (DSO). For the (c)(3)(B) eligibility category, your DSO must have entered the recommendation for CPT into your SEVIS record within 30 days of you submitting Form I-765. If you fail to do so, we will deny your OPT request. For the (c)(3)(C) eligibility category, the Form I-20 must have been endorsed by the DSO within 60 days of submitting Form I-765.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

[Back](#)

[Next](#)

Additional Information

If you need to provide any additional information for any of your answers to the questions in this form, enter it into the space below. You should include the questions that you are referencing.

If you do not need to provide any additional information, you may leave this section blank.

[+ Add a response](#)

[Back](#)

[Next](#)

STEP 4: File Form I-765 Online Con't

Evidence

Use this section to upload your passport picture, Form I-94, biographical page of your passport, any previous Employment Authorization Document(s), previously authorized CPT (only if applying for initial OPT), your Form I-20s (including the OPT I-20 signed by you and OIA) and official transcript (if applying for STEM Extension).

STEM OPT extension application only: If you are applying for STEM OPT extension based on a prior STEM degree (prior to your most recently earned degree), you will need to upload evidence of institutional accreditation. ***Note that most students do not apply for STEM OPT based on a prior degree.*** If you think you are applying for STEM OPT based on a prior STEM degree, please email your [OIA adviser](#).



2 X 2 Photo Of You

Upload a recent color photograph of yourself that measures 2 inches by 2 inches, with your face measuring 1 inch to 1 3/8 inch from your chin to the top of your head. Your eyes should be between 1 1/8 inch and 1 3/8 inch from the bottom of the photo.

Make sure your whole face is visible, you are facing the camera directly, and the background is white or off-white. Your head must be bare, unless contrary to your religious beliefs.

If you need help understanding the photo requirements or want to resize, rotate, or crop your photo, you can use to the Department of State's [photo composition tools](#). Please note that we cannot approve your application without your photo.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, or PNG
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

Employment Authorization Document Or Government ID

Upload a copy of your last Employment Authorization document (EAD) (front and back), if you were not previously issued an EAD, you must upload a copy of a government-issued identity document (such as a passport) showing your picture, name, and date of birth; a birth certificate with photo ID; a visa issued by a foreign consulate; or a national ID document with photo and/or fingerprint. The identity document photocopy must clearly show your facial features and contain your biographical information.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

I-20, Certificate Of Eligibility For Nonimmigrant Student Status

Upload a copy of the Form I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status endorsed by the Designated School Official (DSO). For the (c)(3)(B) eligibility category, your DSO must have entered the recommendation for OPT into your SEVIS record within 30 days of you submitting Form I-765. If you fail to do so, we will deny your OPT request. For the (c)(3)(C) eligibility category, the Form I-20 must have been endorsed by the DSO within 60 days of submitting Form I-765.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

[Back](#) [Next](#)

I-94, Arrival And Departure Record

Upload a copy of one of the following:

- Your Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Record (front and back);
- A printout of your electronic Form I-94; or
- Your passport or other travel document.

If you were admitted to the United States by CBP at an airport or seaport after April 30, 2013, CBP may have issued you an electronic Form I-94 instead of a paper Form I-94. You may visit the [CBP website](#) to obtain a paper version of an electronic Form I-94. CBP does not charge a fee for this service. Some travelers admitted to the United States at a land border, airport, or seaport, after April 30, 2013, with a passport or travel document, who were issued a paper Form I-94 by CBP, may also be able to obtain a replacement Form I-94 from the CBP website without charge.

If your Form I-94 cannot be obtained from the CBP website, it may be obtained by filing [Form I-107, Application for Replacement/Initial Nonimmigrant Arrival-Departure Record](#), with USCIS. USCIS does charge a fee for this service.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

Previously Authorized CPT Or OPT

Upload evidence of any previously authorized CPT or OPT and the academic level at which it was authorized.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

Additional Information

If you need to provide any additional information for any of your answers to the questions in this form, enter it into the space below. You should include the questions that you are referencing.

If you do not need to provide any additional information, you may leave this section blank.

[+ Add a response](#)

[Back](#) [Next](#)

STEP 4: File Form I-765 Online Con't

Evidence

Employment Authorization Document or Government ID:

- Copy of passport bio page

Previously Authorized CPT Or OPT:

- CPT screenshot (provided by OIA if you've used CPT)
 - If you have not used CPT, you may have nothing to upload in this section.
 - The application should allow you to proceed, but may show a warning message
- Copy of any previous EAD card

I-20 Certificate Of Eligibility For Nonimmigrant Student Status:

- OPT Recommended I-20 (provided by OIA, less than 30 days old, signed by student)
- If you had a break in your UChicago program (ex. LOA) or change in program dates, we recommend also submitting your first/oldest I-20 from UChicago showing your original program dates

2 X 2 Photo Of You

Upload a recent color photograph of yourself that measures 2 inches by 2 inches, with your face measuring 1 inch to 1 3/8 inch from your chin to the top of your head. Your eyes should be between 1 1/8 inch and 1 3/8 inch from the bottom of the photo.

Make sure your whole face is visible, you are facing the camera directly, and the background is white or off-white. Your head must be bare, unless contrary to your religious beliefs.

If you need help understanding the photo requirements or want to resize, rotate, or crop your photo, you can use to the Department of State's [photo composition tools](#). Please note that we cannot approve your application without your photo.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, or PNG
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

I-94, Arrival And Departure Record

Upload a copy of one of the following:

- Your Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Record (front and back);
- A printout of your electronic Form I-94; or
- Your passport or other travel document.

If you were admitted to the United States by CBP at an airport or seaport after April 30, 2013, CBP may have issued you an electronic Form I-94 instead of a paper Form I-94. You may visit the [CBP website](#) to obtain a paper version of an electronic Form I-94. CBP does not charge a fee for this service. Some travelers admitted to the United States at a land border, airport, or seaport, after April 30, 2013, with a passport or travel document, who were issued a paper Form I-94 by CBP, may also be able to obtain a replacement Form I-94 from the CBP website without charge.

If your Form I-94 cannot be obtained from the CBP website, it may be obtained by filing [Form I-107, Application for Replacement/Initial Nonimmigrant Arrival-Departure Record](#), with USCIS. USCIS does charge a fee for this service.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

Employment Authorization Document Or Government ID

Upload a copy of your last Employment Authorization document (EAD) (front and back). If you were not previously issued an EAD, you must upload a copy of a government-issued identity document (such as a passport) showing your picture, name, and date of birth; a birth certificate with photo ID; a visa issued by a foreign consulate; or a national ID document with photo and/or fingerprint. The identity document photocopy must clearly show your facial features and contain your biographical information.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

Previously Authorized CPT Or OPT

Upload evidence of any previously authorized CPT or OPT and the academic level at which it was authorized.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

I-20, Certificate Of Eligibility For Nonimmigrant Student Status

Upload a copy of the Form I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status endorsed by the Designated School Official (DSO). For the (c)(3)(B) eligibility category, your DSO must have entered the recommendation for CPT into your SEVIS record within 30 days of you submitting Form I-765. If you fail to do so, we will deny your OPT request. For the (c)(3)(C) eligibility category, the Form I-20 must have been endorsed by the DSO within 60 days of submitting Form I-765.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

[Choose](#) or drop files here to upload

[Back](#)

[Next](#)

Additional Information

If you need to provide any additional information for any of your answers to the questions in this form, enter it into the space below. You should include the questions that you are referencing.

If you do not need to provide any additional information, you may leave this section blank.

[+ Add a response](#)

[Back](#)

[Next](#)

STEP 4: File Form I-765 Online Con't

Evidence

I-94, Arrival and Departure Record

- Your most recent I-94! It looks like the image below. You do not need to upload your travel history.



U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Securing America's Borders

SAMPLE

Most Recent I-94

Admission (I-94) Record Number : 12345678910
Most Recent Date of Entry: 2018 March 19
Class of Admission : F1
Admit Until Date : D/S
Details provided on the I-94 Information form:

Last/Surname : SMITH
First (Given) Name : JOHN
Birth Date : 1992 February 18
Passport Number : E12345678
Country of Issuance : Singapore

[Get Travel History](#)

STEP 4: File Form I-765 Online Con't

Pay for and submit your application

The final step to submit your Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, is to pay the required fee.

Your application fee is: **\$410**.

Refund Policy: By continuing this transaction, you agree that you are paying for a government service and that the filing fee, biometric services fee and all related financial transactions are final and not refundable, regardless of any action USCIS takes on an application, petition or request, or how long USCIS takes to reach a decision. You must submit all fees in the exact amounts.

We will send you to Pay.gov — our safe and secure payment website — to pay your fees and submit your form online.

Here are the steps in the payment and submission process:

1. Provide your billing information on Pay.gov
2. Provide your credit card or U.S. bank account information
3. Submit your payment

When you have paid your fee, your form will be submitted.

Pay.gov will redirect you to a uscis.gov confirmation screen, which will include your receipt number. Please keep a copy of your receipt number for your records. You can track the status of your application through your USCIS online account.

[Pay and submit](#)

Review and Submit

Thoroughly review the information reflected on your I-765 and make sure you have included the OPT I-20 signed by you and OIA. You will need to make payment of the [current filing fee](#) online prior to submitting your application. Payments can be submitted via credit/debit card or bank account information.

Note: standard OPT and STEM OPT applicants are **not** required to pay a biometrics fee.



STEP 4: File Form I-765 Online Con't

OPT Filing Fee Update:

Effective April 1, 2024: The standard OPT filing fee will increase to \$470. Any application submitted **on or after April 1st**, must pay the new fee.

STEP 4: File Form I-765 Online Con't

USCIS Premium Processing Update:

Premium processing means for an additional (substantial) fee, USCIS will provide expedited review/adjudication of an application. In this case, for an additional \$1,500, you will receive a decision on your application within 30-calendar days.

Effective Feb 26, 2024: New Premium Processing filing fee is \$1,685

USCIS PREMIUM PROCESSING, CONT'D

As of April 3, USCIS began accepting Form I-907 premium processing requests from F-1 students. **The Form I-907 can be filed concurrently with the I-765 or separately** (if you want to add it to a pending OPT/STEM OPT application later)

What Happens After You Apply?

- ❑ **Receipt Number:** After your application is successfully submitted online, you will receive a receipt number immediately.

- ❑ **OPT Processing Time:** Currently, USCIS processing timeline is about 3-4 months. Once your application is approved, you will receive your EAD at the address listed on your I-765.

- ❑ **Contact OIA if you:**
 - Have questions regarding your OPT dates
 - Don't graduate as planned
 - Are unable to submit your OPT application within 30 days of your OPT recommendation
 - Receive an RFE (Request for Evidence) or rejection