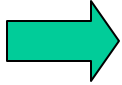
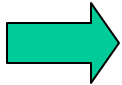


OPT - *Post-Completion* Optional Practical Training



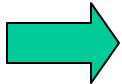
Are you leaving the U.S.?

- Apply a minimum of three months prior to departure. The INS may require 3 to 5 months to process your request for OPT.



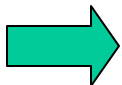
What is your date of completion of studies (NOT graduation)?

- Must apply no later than 60 days *after completing degree requirements* (unless I-20 expires prior to this date).
- May apply up to 120 days before this date.



When does your I-20 expire?

- *Before course completion:* You must apply for extension of program (with a new I-20).
- *After or not before course completion:* Practical training will be covered on the current I-20.



When do you expect to begin work?

- Before finishing coursework
- After finishing coursework.
- Remember to apply 3-5 months before you need the employment authorization - EAD card.