



Questions to ask yourself before TRAVELING on OPT

Will your travel signature be less than 6 months old when you return?

Yes: Perfect, keep your travel signature updated every 6 months.

No: Visit i-Raider to do your 6 month OPT update.

Will your passport be valid when you return?

Yes: Looks good, make sure your passport will remain valid throughout OPT.

No: Make arrangements to renew your passport through your embassy or outside the U.S.

Will your F-1 visa be valid when you return?

Yes: Fantastic, a valid F-1 visa is required for entry on OPT.

No: Make arrangements to apply for a new F-1 visa at a U.S. embassy during your trip.

You must have a valid EAD Card to apply for a new F-1 visa after the end date of your I-20. Visas CANNOT be renewed inside the U.S.

Do you have a valid EAD card?

Yes: Great! A valid EAD Card is required for entry while on OPT.

No: Contact a UCIE advisor to discuss your options. Travel with your I-797C Notice of Action receipt is permissible, but leaving the U.S. with a pending OPT application has risks. If OPT has been approved, you must carry your EAD card for entry.

Do you have proof of employment, such as a job offer letter?

Yes: Good, this may be requested when you pass through Customs

No: Request a letter from your supervisor or contact a BIO advisor if you are not currently employed.

Documents to carry with you:



If OPT or OPT STEM application is APPROVED

- Valid passport with unexpired F-1 visa stamp
- Most recent OPT or STEM I-20 with valid travel signature
- Unexpired EAD card
- Proof of employment



If OPT or OPT STEM application is PENDING

- Valid passport with unexpired F-1 visa stamp
- Most recent OPT or STEM I-20 with valid travel signature
- I -797C Notice of Action receipt
- Proof of employment (recommended)

STILL HAVE QUESTION??? Contact us at ucieimmigration@wright.edu