

Employment Options for International Students (F1)

OPTION	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS	MAXIMUM LENGTH	DISADVANTAGES	DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED	FEE
On-Campus Employment	Maintenance of lawful F-1 status for a minimum of 30 days	Unlimited Full-time work permitted ONLY during annual vacation and semester break		Offer letter of employment & address of your local Social Security Office. Present ALL completed documents to the International Student Advisor for review.	None
Economic Hardship	One academic year in lawful F-1 status Must have made a “good faith” effort to find employment on-campus. <i>Must be renewed each year.</i>	Unlimited Full-time work permitted ONLY during annual vacation and semester break		Form I-765 (www.uscis.gov) SEVIS I-20, Copy of Passport Copy of your I-94, statement of why you are applying & other documentation (new Affidavit of Support). Present ALL completed documents to the International Advisor for review.	\$340
Curricular Practical Training (CPT)	One academic year in lawful F-1 status Must either be necessary to complete graduation requirements, internship, or work study program, or be an integral part of the student’s program of study. Part or full-time while school is in session. <i>Must occur before graduation</i>	Part-time CPT use is unlimited	Full-time employment for 12 months or more disqualifies the student from optional practical training (this includes training after graduation)	CPT form (www.udc.edu), copy of I-94, letter from employer & CPT form (www.udc.edu) signed by your academic advisor. Present ALL completed documents to the International Advisor for review.	None
Optional Practical Training (OPT)	One academic year in lawful F-1 status. OPT from one school to another is not transferable. When transferring to a new program or school, students must have been enrolled in a SEVIS approved school for at least one academic year before starting OPT/CPT; requires DHS approval. Part or full-time while school is in session. <i>*Graduating students MUST apply 90-days prior to graduation.</i>	Twelve months Student should confirm employment within 90-days of receiving their EAD card or work approval from USCIS.	Time subtracted from training after graduation. For example: 3 months of full-time optional practical training during the summer would leave only 9 months of optional training after graduation	Form I-765 (www.uscis.gov), OPT form (www.udc.edu), two color photos, copies of all previous I-20’s, letter addressed to USCIS explaining how you plan to use your OPT Copy of Form I-94, copy of your passport photo page. Present ALL completed documents (with the exception of the check and photos) to the International Advisor for review.	\$340

IMPORTANT * ALL F1 STUDENTS MUST ATTEND AT LEAST ONE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MEETING PRIOR TO APPLYING FOR WORK AUTHORIZATION OR A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.**