



Office of International Programs
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA AIKEN

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OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING: Confirmation
I understand the following:

___ Completion of studies is the date when I graduate, finish all coursework, or the end of the semester in which I defend my thesis.

___ OPT is limited to 12 months total authorization per degree level.

___ I can apply for OPT only if I have been in F-1 status for at least 1 academic year on my current I-20.

___ OPT is for employment in my field of study.

___ I have to work while on OPT (only 90 days permitted unemployed).

___ OPT can be cancelled, but I may lose time while USCIS is reviewing my request.

___ If I cancel my OPT application USCIS will not refund my payment.

___ I cannot begin paid employment until I have the EAD and the employment start date is current.

___ I must use the OPT Update Form anytime I move addresses or change employment.

___ OPT is a benefit under the F-1 visa status.

___ I may travel outside of the U.S. while on OPT, but I need to verify that my I-20 is signed for travel AND that my F-1 visa has not expired. (I may renew the F-1 visa at a U.S. embassy if needed.)

Please contact International Programs with any questions about your status while on OPT.

I have attended an OPT Workshop, and I am ready to apply for OPT!

Name: _____

Singature: _____

Date: _____