

What's OPT?

OPT is a temporary work authorization for students who have completed their degree program. It allows students to gain practical work experience in their field of study. OPT is available for students who are currently enrolled in a degree program and have completed their program of study.

How long can a student work on OPT?

Students are allowed to work on OPT for a maximum of 12 months. The duration of OPT is determined by the student's degree program. For example, students who complete a 4-year undergraduate program are eligible for 12 months of OPT, while students who complete a 2-year program are eligible for 6 months of OPT.

What happens after OPT ends for a student?

After OPT ends, a student's work authorization expires. If the student does not find a job during their OPT period, they will need to return to their home country or apply for a new visa to remain in the United States. Students who find a job during their OPT period may be able to transition to a permanent employment visa, such as an H-1B visa.