

Navigating the U.S. Job Search

November 4, 2021

2:00 - 3:30 PM

AGENDA

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TOPIC	PRESENTER
Introduction & Overview	Jake Koelzer <i>International Center</i>
Putting Together An Effective Strategy	Mariella Mecozzi <i>University Career Center</i>
Legal/Immigration Issues	John Prescott <i>International Center</i> Beth Hoffman-Lopez <i>International Center</i>

Cultural & Immigration Issues in Job Search

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- Common cultural barriers to the job search
- **When to reveal your work status?**
- Interview fashion and grooming tips
- Career-boosting strategies for international students



Resources

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- ❖ **English Language Institute**
 - Academic English courses, Counseling and Advising, and Conversation Circles
- ❖ **Sweetland Center for Writing**
 - Writing workshops and courses
- ❖ **H-1B Temporary Worker in Specialty Occupations Basics**
 - Tuesday, November 30 @ 3 PM
- ❖ **Employment-Based U.S. Permanent Residency Information**
 - Tuesday, December 7 @ 3 PM

Employment Options for F-1/J-1 Students Before Graduation

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- ❑ On Campus Employment
 - ❑ Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
 - ❑ Optional Practical Training (OPT)
 - ❑ Academic Training (AT)
- ❑ *For detailed descriptions of on-campus employment, CPT, OPT and AT, please visit our web site at:*
- <http://www.internationalcenter.umich.edu>**

Employment Options for F-1/J-1 Students After Graduation

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- **Optional Practical Training (OPT)**
- **Academic Training (AT)**

Review International Center (IC) website first!

J-1 Employment Before & After Graduation - Academic Training

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Definition	Work, training, or experience related to a student's field of study
Timing	Before or after completion of studies
Length	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May not exceed the amount of time spent in the full course of study• Usual length is 18 months cumulative• May have extra 18 months if complete PhD
Application Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• See International Center website• Final authorization is issued in International Center• Apply before graduation
Cost	None

F-1 Employment after Graduation: Optional Practical Training (OPT)

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Definition	Temporary employment directly related to a student's field of study
Timing	Typically for after completion of studies
Length	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Begins at 12 months• May be eligible for Cap Gap or 24-Month extension
Application Process	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Take online OPT course on International Center website2. Gather documentation3. Request OPT I-20 from I-Center (2-ish weeks processing)4. File application with U.S. Government (3 to 4-ish months processing)
Cost	Application fee to U.S. government, new passport photos

Post-Completion OPT Timing

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- 1) When will you file your OPT application with USCIS?
*Up to 90 days **before** I-20 completion date, or up to 60 days* **after** I-20 completion date*
- 2) What requested OPT start date will you use?
As early as 1 day after the I-20 completion date, or as late as 59 days after the I-20 completion date

24-Month STEM Extension of OPT

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- Check if your current or recent program/major is on the list
 - Find CIP code on your I-20
 - Look up the code at <http://www.ice.gov/sevis/stemlist.htm>
- Ask your (potential!) employer if they participate in the e-Verify system. If yes, then also find out if they have experience with the Form I-983.
 - Sometimes the recruiter, hiring manager, or boss will not know; they may need to check with Human Resources.

H-1B – Temporary Worker in Specialty Occupations Basic Procedure Flowsheet

Information/Evidence Gathering

- Department and employee fill out forms
- Gather supporting documents/letters

Time: 1-2 weeks



Wage Determination

- Employer obtains prevailing and actual wage
- Employer files LCA is the Department of Labor

Time: 2-16 weeks



H-1B Petition

- Employer files I-129 with USCIS - California Service Center

Time: 2 weeks to 6 months

Note:

Credential evaluation, if necessary

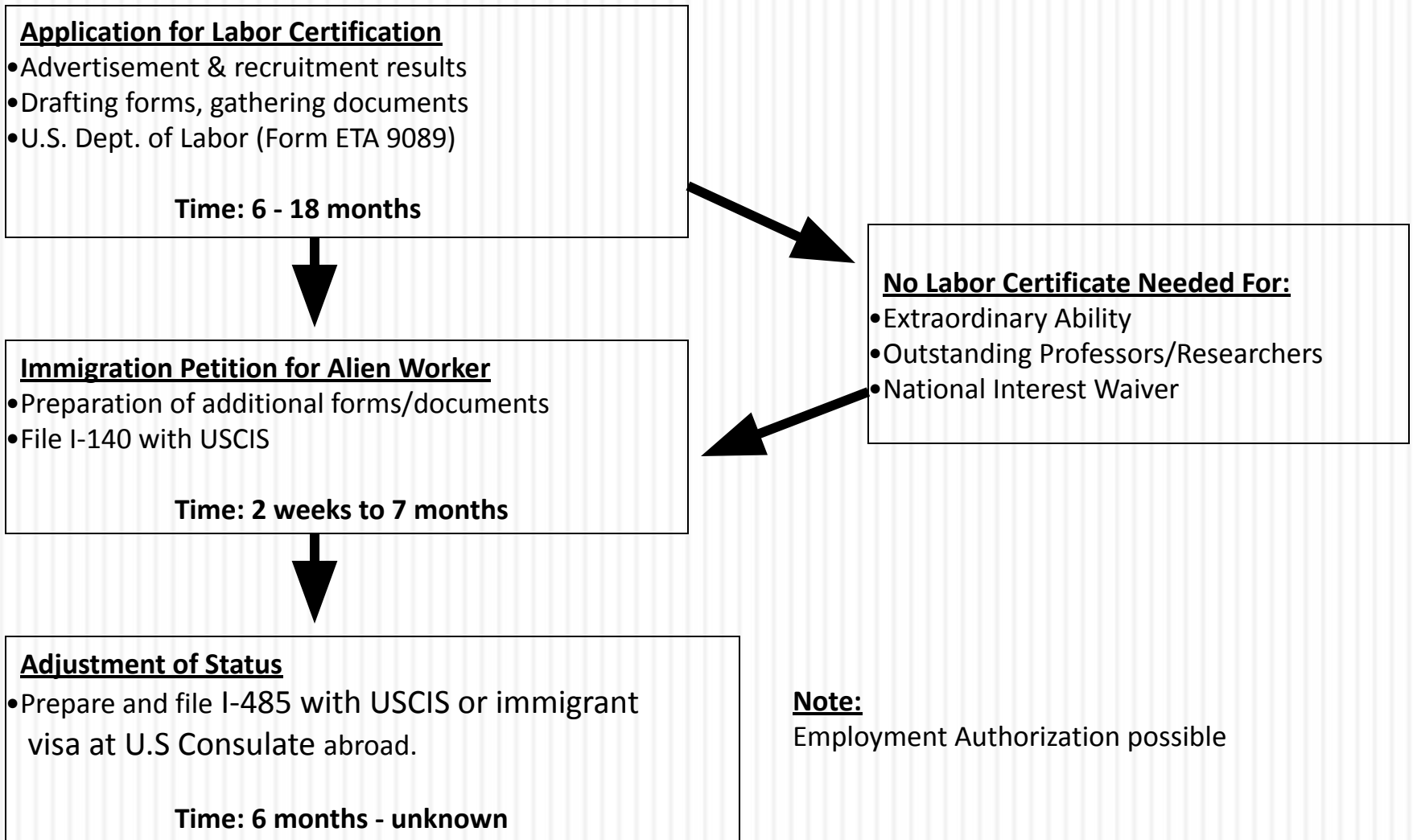
Note:

Wage offered to the alien must be 100 % of the prevailing wage or actual wage (whichever is higher)

Note:

J-1 exchange visitors may need US State Department Recommendation of waiver of Foreign Residence Requirement.

Permanent Residency (“Green Card”) Basic Procedure Flow Sheet



Thank you!

Q & A