Navigating the U.S. Job Search (for International Students)

Tuesday, October 25
2:30 - 4:00 PM
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>PRESENTER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction &amp; Overview</td>
<td>Jake Koelzer&lt;br&gt;International Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Putting Together An Effective Strategy</td>
<td>Joelle Fundaro Randall (She/hers)&lt;br&gt;University Career Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legal/Immigration Issues</td>
<td>John Prescott&lt;br&gt;International Center&lt;br&gt;Ugo Buzzi&lt;br&gt;International Center</td>
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Cultural & Immigration Issues in Job Search

- Common cultural barriers to the job search
- How, why, and when to share your immigration status on job interviews
- Interview fashion and grooming tips
- Career-boosting strategies for international students
Resources

- **English Language Institute**
  - Academic English courses, Counseling and Advising, and events/programs

- **Sweetland Center for Writing**
  - Writing workshops and courses

- **H-1B Temporary Worker in Specialty Occupations Basics**
  - Date TBD

- **Employment-Based U.S. Permanent Residency Information**
  - Date TBD
Employment Options for F-1/J-1 Students Before Graduation

- 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 website at:
http://www.internationalcenter.umich.edu
Employment Options for F-1/J-1 Students After Graduation

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

*Review International Center (IC) website first!*
# J-1 Employment Before & After Graduation - Academic Training

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Work, training, or experience related to a student's field of study</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Timing</td>
<td>Before or after completion of studies</td>
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| Length           | • May not exceed the amount of time spent in the full course of study  
                   • Usual length is up to 18 months cumulative 
                   • May have extra 18 months if complete PhD or have STEM degree |
| Application Process | • 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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Temporary employment directly related to a student's field of study</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Timing</td>
<td>Typically for after completion of studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>• Begins at 12 months</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• May be eligible for Cap Gap or 24-Month extension</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application Process</td>
<td>1. Take online OPT training on International Center website</td>
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<td>2. Gather documentation</td>
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<td>3. Request OPT I-20 from I-Center (2-ish weeks processing)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4. File application with U.S. Government (3-ish months processing time)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>Application fee to U.S. government</td>
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Post-Completion OPT Timing

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

1) Check if your current or recent program/major is on the list
   - Find CIP code on page 1 of your I-20

2) Ask your employer if they are enrolled in E-Verify. If yes, then review the Form I-983.
**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 with the Department of Labor

*Time: ~2 weeks*

**H-1B Petition**
- Employer files I-129 with USCIS - California Service Center

*Time: 2 weeks to 5 months*

**Note:**
Credential evaluation, if relevant degree was earned at an institution outside of the U.S.

**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 Rule 212(e) Foreign Residence Requirement

***Flowsheet for UM Cap Exempt H-1B’s, will differ for private sector cap-based H-1B’s***
Permanent Residency ("Green Card")
Basic Procedure Flow Sheet

**Application for Labor Certification (PERM)**
- Advertisement & recruitment results
- Prevailing Wage Determination filed (8 months)
- Drafting forms, gathering documents
- U.S. Dept. of Labor (Form ETA 9089) (9 months)

*Time: 17 - 21 months*

**Immigration Petition for Alien Worker**
- Preparation of additional forms/documents
- File Form I-140 with USCIS

*Time: 2 weeks to 12 months*

**Adjustment of Status (AOS)**
- Prepare and file Form I-485 with USCIS or immigrant visa at U.S Consulate abroad, dependent on Priority Date*

*Time: 1 year to unknown*

**No Labor Certification Needed For:**
- Extraordinary Ability (EB-1A)
- Outstanding Professors/Researchers (EB-1B, requires employer sponsor.)
- National Interest Waiver (EB-2)

**Note:**
Employment Authorization possible for H-4 dependent prior to filing AOS

*Priority Date must be current on Visa Bulletin to apply for AOS or immigrant visa*
Q & A