Navigating the U.S. Job Search After Graduation

Fall 2017
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Cultural/Immigration Issues in Job Search

- Common cultural barriers to the job search
- When to reveal your work status?
- Debunking myths about highly-skilled immigration and the global race for talent
- Interview fashion and grooming tips
Bilingual/Global Job Search Resources

- **Bilingual Jobs Search in the U.S.**

- **Going Global**: [http://online.goingglobal.com](http://online.goingglobal.com)
  - The Going Global database contains state, metro and US-wide H1B records gathered directly from the US Department of Labor (DOL).
  - Country Guides contains job search resources, resume/cv guidelines, interviewing and cultural advice.

- **International Job Resources: Search for Employment in Specific Countries and/or Regions of the World**

- **Work Abroad Monster**: [http://www.monster.com/geo/siteselection/](http://www.monster.com/geo/siteselection/)
UM Resources

- **English Language Institute**
  - EAP courses for graduate students, Conversation Circles

- **Sweetland Center for Writing**
  - Writing Workshops and Course, Chat Cafe

- **Career Services Offices**
  - [https://hireblue.umich.edu/career-offices](https://hireblue.umich.edu/career-offices)
Upcoming Workshops

- **H-1B Temporary Worker in Specialty Occupations Basics**: Thursday, November 2 at 4pm
  - Location: Betty Ford Classroom (Room 1110), Ford School of Public Policy

- **Employment-Based U.S. Permanent Residency Information**: Wednesday, November 8 at 4pm
  - Location: Annenberg Auditorium (Room 1120, Weill Hall), Ford School of Public Policy
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 web site 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

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<th>Definition</th>
<th>Work, training, or experience related to a student’s field of study</th>
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<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 18 months cumulative  
                    • May have extra 18 months if complete PhD                        |
| 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)

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<th>Definition</th>
<th>Temporary employment directly related to a student’s field of study</th>
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<td>Timing</td>
<td>Typically for after completion of studies</td>
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| Length     | • Begins at 12 months  
             | • May be eligible for Cap Gap or 24-Month extension                |
| Application Process | 1. Take online OPT course on International Center website  
                     | 2. Gather documentation  
                     | 3. Request OPT I-20 from I-Center (1-2 weeks processing)  
                     | 4. Mail application to U.S. Government (up to 3 months processing) |
| Cost       | Currently $410+ incl. fee to U.S. government, photos, shipping     |
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 Extension of OPT

☐ 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](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:** 2-12 weeks

**Note:**
Credential evaluation, if necessary

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

**Time:** 2-12 weeks

**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

Application for Labor Certification
- Advertisement & recruitment results
- Drafting forms, gathering documents
- U.S. Dept. of Labor (Form ETA 9089)

Time: 12 - 18 months

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

Time: 2 weeks to 10 months

No Labor Certificate Needed For:
- Extraordinary Ability
- Outstanding Professors/Researchers
- National Interest Waiver

Adjustment of Status
- Prepare and file I-485 with USCIS or immigrant visa at U.S Consulate abroad.

Time: 2 months - unknown

Note:
Employment Authorization possible
- United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)
  www.uscis.gov

- Department of State (DOS)
  www.travel.state.gov

- IC H-1B FAQ
  www.internationalcenter.umich.edu/immig/h1bvisa/faq.html