Navigating the U.S. Job Search

Winter 2020
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<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>PRESENTER</th>
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<td>Introduction &amp; Overview</td>
<td>Kate Zheng (International Center)</td>
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<td>Putting Together An Effective Strategy</td>
<td>Mariella Mecozzi (University Career Center)</td>
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| Legal/Immigration Issues | John Prescott (International Center)  
Beth Hoffman-Lopez (International Center) |
| Evaluation & Closing     | Kate Zheng                     |
Cultural & Immigration Issues in Job Search

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

- **Going Global**
  - 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.

- **Work Abroad Monster**
U-M Resources

- **English Language Institute**
  - Academic English courses, Counseling and Advising, and Conversation Circles

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

- **Career Services Offices**

- **University Career Center**
  - International Students Resources
  - U.S. Employer's Guide to Hiring International Students
Other Workshop Presentations

- H-1B Temporary Worker in Specialty Occupations Basics
- Employment-Based U.S. Permanent Residency Information
- Entering Canada to Visit, Work, Study, or Live
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

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Definition</strong></th>
<th>Work, training, or experience related to a student’s field of study</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Timing</strong></td>
<td>Before or after completion of studies</td>
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</table>
| **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)

<table>
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<tr>
<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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</table>
| 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 (4-ish months processing)    |
| Cost                              | Currently $410+ incl. fee to U.S. government, photos, shipping      |
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

- 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: 2-13 weeks

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

Time: 2 weeks to 10 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

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

Time: 8 - 18 months

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

Time: 2 weeks to 9 months

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

Time: 6 months - unknown

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

Note:
Employment Authorization possible