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Office of International Student Services 7502 Fondren Road, Houston, TX 77074 Fax: (281)-3292 Email: goglobal@hc.edu www.hc.edu/international

General Information and Checklist for F-1 Students



Office of International Student Services

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Submit I-983 training plan to employer and then completed plan to OISS

OISS reviews Form I-983 and approves. Issues new I-20 with STEM extension.

Gather all the documents required (list found on Application Checklist, page 2) ELECTRONICALLY

Sign & submit the attached Statement of Understanding & STEM Extension Request Form (page 3)

Make an appointment to have your application & documents reviewed by OISS

Apply by e-filing no earlier than 90 days before the expiration of your current OPT and no later than 30 days before OPT expiration.

Application Checklist:

Review the General Information Sheet for OPT STEM Extension provided Assemble the following documents electronically:

Register for a USCISAccount here: https://www.uscis.gov/i-765

I-94 form www.cbp.gov/i94 (PDF)

Passport information & photo page with expiration date, valid for at least 6 months

Previous (current) EAD Card front and back

OPT I-20 with new recommendation from International Office make sure you sign page 1

Credit card or bank account information

Digital Passport Style photo: Test it to ensure it will be accepted here: <u>https://tsg.phototool.state.gov/photo</u> **Verification of graduation from HCU** (transcript or copy of your HCU Diploma)

ONLY IF your STEM OPT extension is based on a degree earned prior to HCU, provide proof of accreditation, e.g. screenshot from school or accreditor's website.

Sign the Statement of Understanding & STEM Extension Request Form

Make an appointment with OISS (bring this checklist and application packet with you!)

USCIS Registration:

- 1. Go to: https://www.uscis.gov/i-765
- 2. Scroll Down and Click "File Online" in the Blue Box.
- 3. This will take you to a sign in page. Click on "create an account" if you don't have an online USCIS account.
- 4. Sign up by typing your email twice. Personal email is good to use.
- 5. It will send a confirmation email to you. Go to your email inbox, check your email, and click the confirmation link.
- 6. Read the terms of use, scroll down, and click "I agree."
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To file an I-765 online:

- 1. From the main USCIS account page, click on "my USCIS."
- 2. For account type, click "I am an applicant, petitioner or requestor."
- 3. Click on "File a form online."
- 4. Select the form you want to file online: Select Form I-765. Click " start form."
- 5. Read the instructions and click "next."
- 6. Read through the next page and click "Start."
- 7. What is your eligibility category? Click the appropriate status and answer the other questions on the page. (For