

# Employment in the US for International Students

## Are F-1 international students permitted to work in the US?

YES, F-1 international students are permitted to work in the US with some limitations.



## Types of Employment Permitted

**ON-CAMPUS WORK** - work authorization not required, any field of work

**OFF-CAMPUS WORK** - CPT or OPT work authorization required, must relate to major



## Federal Regulations

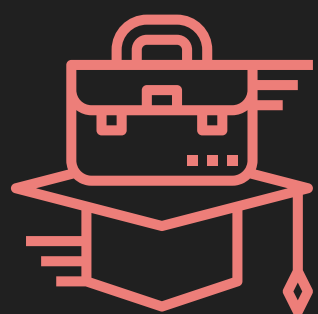
Work cannot exceed 20 HOURS per week while school is in session

A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER is required for paid positions



## Curricular Practical Training

After one year of being enrolled with F-1 status, students can request CPT work authorization from their DSO for off-campus work related to their major. CPT must be used BEFORE graduation.



## Optional Practical Training

Students who are enrolled with F-1 status for at least one year can apply to USCIS for 12 months of OPT work authorization used AFTER graduation. An additional 24 months is granted to STEM majors. Work must relate to major.

## Tips for Job Searching



HANDSHAKE & your CAREER CENTER are a great place to start.

Most applications require at least a RÉSUMÉ and COVER LETTER.

Understand your legal work status (ask your DSO for more info, if needed).

If a question about your status is not mandatory, leave it blank.

## What if I am outside of the US?

Before accepting any position in the US, make sure to confirm whether the position requires US work authorization. To be eligible for US work authorization you must currently hold active F-1 status.

Due to complex tax & labor laws, it is recommended to let potential employers know that you are currently outside of the US before accepting an offer.

