

OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING (OPT)

Eligibility requirements:

- Enrolled at Troy University for at least one full year
- Be in status
- Making normal progress towards a degree

1. *There are only 12 total months available and that training done before the degree is completed will count against the 12-month total and reduce time available after the degree is awarded.*
2. *Each time you apply for OPT you will pay the application fee again*

OPT before completion of course of study

1. A student that has coursework remaining to complete his/her degree is limited to 20 hours per week
2. A student is able to apply for full-time authorization during annual vacation
3. Degree candidates who have completed all course requirements for degree, but thesis can apply for full-time OPT to be used while they continue to make normal progress towards completing the thesis requirement

OPT after completion of the course of study

1. Will only be granted for full-time use
2. Student must apply before completion date on their course of study (International Student Advisor must receive your application and all required documents no later than the Friday before graduation day)
3. 12 months of OPT must be used within 14 months of completion of course of study

SUBMIT THE APPLICATION to the International Student Advisor

1. \$380.00 personal check or money order made payable to Department of Homeland Security
2. Two recent EAD photos – within past 30 days (see below)
3. Copy of all prior I-20 forms, both pages
4. Form I-765 – typed is preferred, but legible printing is acceptable
5. Photocopy of both sides of I-94
6. Photocopy of picture, expiration date and visa page from passport, photocopy of previous EAD card

NEW EAD PHOTO REQUIREMENTS

Two photos must be submitted with all EAD applications. The photos must be the type known as **“passport” photos**. Lightly print and sign your name on the back of the photos with pencil. These photos can be taken by UPS Store located on Brundidge St. across from the US Post Office.

The photos must meet the following requirements:

1. Frame subject with full face, front view, eyes open
2. photo must present full head from top of hair to bottom of chin and measure 1” to 1-3/8”
3. Center head within frame
4. against a plain white or off-white background
5. have a natural expression
6. no distracting shadows on face or background