



## Immigration Overview: Optional Practical Training

### 1. What is Optional Practical Training (OPT)?

OPT is permission from the U.S. government (immigration) to accept off campus employment related to your major area of study.

### 2. When can I apply for OPT?

Students at Clark College can apply for OPT up to 90 days before they graduate. It is good to apply early.

### 3. What kind of job can I do if I am approved for OPT?

If approved, you must apply for jobs that are related to your major. For example, a student who majors in Business at Clark College must find a job related to Business. A student who majors in Art would need to find a job related to Art.

### 4. How long does it take to be approved for OPT?

It takes time for you to prepare your OPT application and get a new I-20 from International Programs. After you submit your OPT application, the U.S. government generally takes 3-6 months to approve OPT.

### 5. How long can I work if I am approved for OPT?

You can apply to work for up to 1 year (12 months) after you receive your Associate degree. You can also apply for another year of OPT after your Bachelor's degree, another year after your Master's degree and so on.

### 6. How can I get more information about how to apply for OPT?

Meet with an International Programs advisor in Gaiser Hall, room 215.

***International student employment policies are subject to change. Please check with International Programs (GHL 215) for the most current information.***

3.8.17 -OPT Employment

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