

FACT SHEET

F-1 International Students and Employment

There are three types of employment available to international students on F-1 status. They are on-campus employment, off-campus employment through practical training, and off-campus employment for severe economic hardship.

1. On-Campus Employment

- Any international student may work on campus for a maximum of 20 hours per week during the school year. Students can work full-time during vacation or summer periods.
- Students are responsible for securing employment through the various offices on campus
- You must apply for a Social Security number once your employment has been secured
- You must open a bank account to be able to receive direct deposit paychecks.

OFF-CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT IS NOT PERMITTED FOR F-1 STUDENTS, BUT MAY ENGAGE IN THE FOLLOWING OFF-CAMPUS OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Off-Campus Employment through Practical Training

- There are two (2) types of Practical training: Curricular and Optional

A. Curricular

1. Any type of required (paid or unpaid) internship, clinical, or cooperative education
2. You must be in F-1 status for at least one academic year before CPT
3. You must complete the CPT Request (available through your DSO)
4. Your DSO must approve the request
5. You must complete YCP's internship, coop or clinical application process
6. You must get academic credit for the coop, clinical or internship.

B. Optional

1. Can be used during annual vacation periods, part-time (not to exceed 20 hours) while school is in session, and after completion of studies.
2. Employment Authorization Document (EAD) must be obtained through the Department of Homeland Security for this type of training. Your DSO must approve the request.
3. Because Homeland Security does not process applications promptly, you should apply 3-4 months in advance.

- Students are eligible for a total of 12 months of Optional Practical Training. Students engaged in more than one year of curricular practical training are not eligible for Optional Practical Training.

2. **Off- Campus Employment for Severe Economic Hardship**

- Key word is **SEVERE**.
- Must demonstrate and document that the employment sought is necessary to avoid severe economic hardship due to unforeseen circumstances beyond his/her control. Circumstances which qualify as unforeseen may include loss of on-campus employment, substantial fluctuations in the value of currency or exchange rate, unexpected changes in the financial condition of the student's source of support.
- If the student is working on-campus, he/she must prove that on-campus employment is not enough to meet severe economic hardship.
- **CAUTION: There is a very real possibility that a student applying for employment based on severe economic hardship; the student has admitted to Homeland Security that he/she no longer meets one of the qualifications for the F-1 status. Homeland Security, as it has done in the past, could require the applicant to depart the U.S. at the time of denial for failure to maintain student status.**
- This type of employment requires the Employment Authorization Document (EAD) issued by Homeland Security.

For more information contact:

Inés Ramírez, PDSO
Office of Admissions
Miller Building, room 128
717-815-1786