



# Request for ISSO recommendation for STEM OPT based on a Prior Degree (F-1 Students)

International Students & Scholars Office ♦ 888 Commonwealth Avenue, Second Floor ♦ Boston, Massachusetts ♦ 02215  
Telephone: 617/353-3565 ♦ isso@bu.edu ♦ www.bu.edu/isso ♦ Facsimile: 617/358-1170

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security permits schools to recommend an extension of Optional Practical Training (OPT) for students in certain Science, Technology, and Engineering or Math (STEM) major fields. While OPT must always be for the most recent degree earned, a STEM OPT extension can be recommended on the basis of a prior STEM-major degree earned from an accredited and SEVP-certified institution of higher education earned in the U.S. within the past 10 years.

This form will be used by Boston University students to request a STEM OPT recommendation based on a prior degree, and to outline the evaluation process which the ISSO will use to determine whether your prior degree meets the criteria for a STEM OPT recommendation. Final adjudication of a complete STEM OPT application (including an I-765 application for employment authorization, with application fee and supporting documents) will be made by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

Please submit this form along with *sufficient* supporting documentation to support your request. Documentation may vary, depending on your case. Suggestions of appropriate documentation can be found on the back of this form.

### Student Information

Family Name:	First Name:	BU ID Number: <b>U</b>
Phone Number:	Email Address:	

### Was your degree STEM Eligible?

What was your official graduation date? (mm/dd/yyyy):	Level of education <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> Master's <input type="checkbox"/> Doctoral <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		
What was your Major Field(s) of Study and Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code? (not minor)	Major 1:	CIP Code for Major 1:	<i>ISSO Use Only:</i> STEM eligible? <input type="checkbox"/> Major 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Major 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Major 3
	Major 2:	CIP Code for Major 2:	
	Additional Major:	CIP Code for Additional Major:	
Did you receive any OPT during your past degree?	Post-Completion OPT? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Dates of OPT:	
	STEM OPT? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Dates of OPT:	

### Did you earn your degree at a college/university that meets STEM OPT requirements?

Was your college/university in the U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<i>ISSO Use Only:</i> Accreditation Agency: <input type="checkbox"/> Verified on DOE list _____ SEVP Code: _____
Name of College/University:	
City/State:	

### Student Certification

I am requesting an ISSO recommendation for STEM OPT based on a prior degree. I believe my prior degree qualifies for STEM OPT consideration:

- ✓ My prior degree is in a STEM major field, with a qualifying CIP code.
- ✓ The college/university at which my prior degree was conferred is a U.S. institution of higher education that is accredited and SEVP-certified.
- ✓ I earned my degree within the past 10 years.
- ✓ I may have used OPT at the prior degree level, but did not apply for a STEM OPT extension based on the *same* prior degree.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of BU Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*For ISSO only:*  Documentation is sufficient to demonstrate eligibility for STEM OPT recommendation.  
Eligibility concerns?  STEM Major  CIP Code  10-year  Accreditation  SEVP Certification  Other

ISSO Initials \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Suggestions on Supporting Documentation

Please submit this form along with *sufficient* supporting documentation to support your request. Documentation may vary, depending on your case. Suggestions of appropriate documentation can be found on the back of this form. Suggestions of appropriate documentation can be found below. Eligibility criteria listed on the left may be demonstrated based on documentation types to the right.

	Official Transcript	Copy of Diploma	Letter from Prior School Registrar	Most Recent SEVIS I-20 from Prior School	OPT Employment Authorization Document (EAD)
Graduation Date – within past 10 years	X	X			
Major Name	X	X		X	
Major Field CIP Code			X	X	
Prior School in U.S.	X	X		X	
Prior School Accredited	ISSO Will Verify				
Prior School is SEVP Certified			X	X	
Prior OPT Granted					X