



WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

# Online STEM OPT Application *Form I-765 Filing Guidebook*

# Important: Please Read Before Beginning

The purpose of this guidebook is to assist students in filing for the Optional Practical Training STEM Extension (c)(3)(C) via an online account with U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). The information contained on our website is provided as a service to the international students, faculty, staff, employees, and administrators of Wichita State University, and does not constitute legal advice on any immigration, tax, or other matter. Our goal is to provide useful information, but we make no claims, promises, or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information contained in or linked to this website or any associated site. As legal advice must be tailored to the specific circumstances of each case, and laws are constantly changing, nothing provided herein should be used as a substitute for the advice of competent counsel. Neither Wichita State University nor the Office of International Education (OIE) is responsible for any errors or omissions contained in this website, or for the results obtained from the use of this information.

# Accessing the USCIS Website

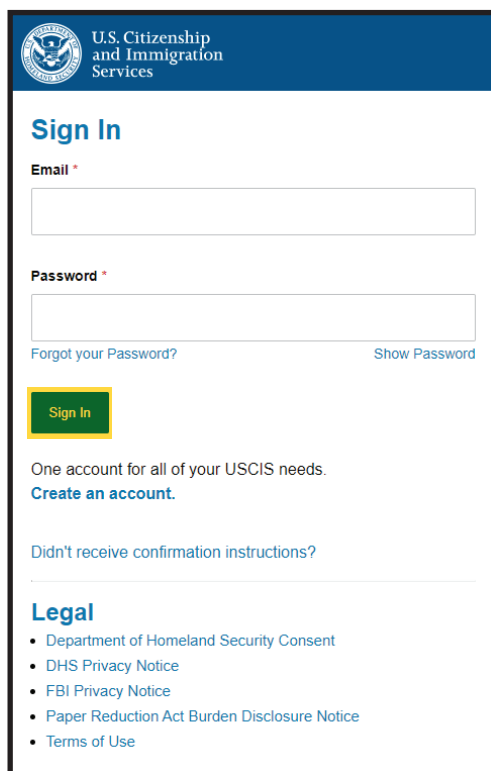
## Online Form I-765: Application for Employment Authorization | USCIS

## Creating Your USCIS Account: How to Create a USCIS Online Account | USCIS

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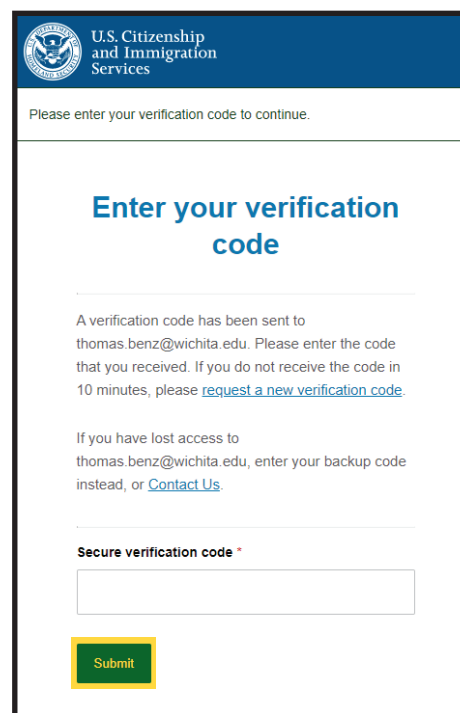
*The rest of this document assumes you have followed the above steps to create a USCIS account. If you created an account to file your post-completion OPT application, you can use the same profile to file the STEM Extension application.*

1. Go to [uscis.gov](https://uscis.gov) and click *Sign In*.



The screenshot shows the USCIS Sign In page. At the top is the USCIS logo and the text "U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services". Below this is the "Sign In" heading. There are two input fields: "Email \*" and "Password \*". Below the password field are links for "Forgot your Password?" and "Show Password". A green "Sign In" button is present. Below the button, it says "One account for all of your USCIS needs. [Create an account.](#)". At the bottom, there is a link "Didn't receive confirmation instructions?". A "Legal" section at the bottom lists links for "Department of Homeland Security Consent", "DHS Privacy Notice", "FBI Privacy Notice", "Paper Reduction Act Burden Disclosure Notice", and "Terms of Use".

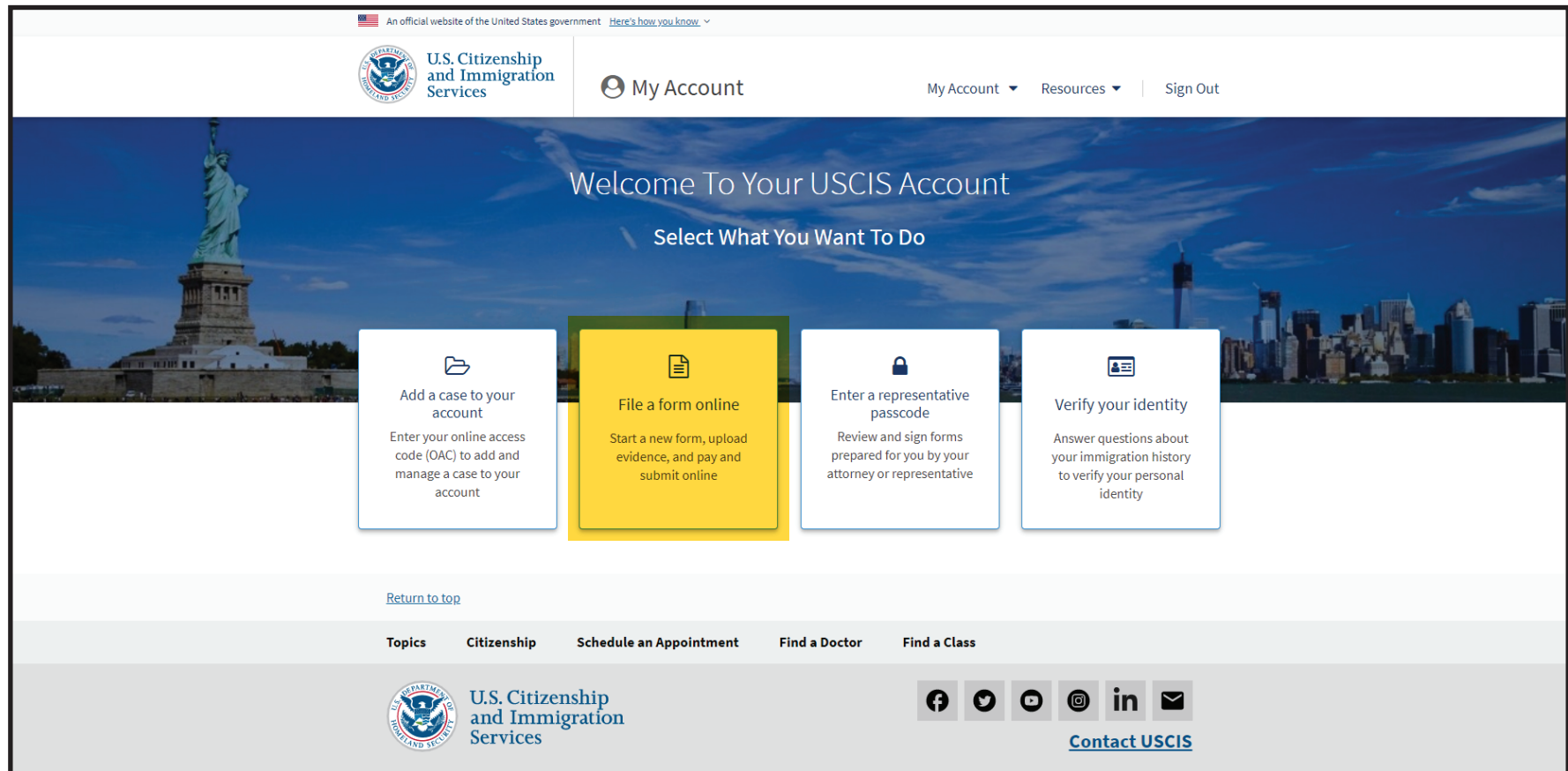
2. Enter your verification code (sent to the method you chose when creating your account) to authenticate your login.



The screenshot shows the USCIS "Enter your verification code" page. At the top is the USCIS logo and the text "U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services". Below this is the heading "Enter your verification code". A message states: "A verification code has been sent to [thomas.benz@wichita.edu](mailto:thomas.benz@wichita.edu). Please enter the code that you received. If you do not receive the code in 10 minutes, please [request a new verification code](#)." Below this, it says: "If you have lost access to [thomas.benz@wichita.edu](mailto:thomas.benz@wichita.edu), enter your backup code instead, or [Contact Us](#)." At the bottom, there is a "Secure verification code \*" input field and a green "Submit" button.

# Starting Your Application

3. Select the *File a form online* option highlighted below.





# Selecting the Correct Form

## 4. Select the highlighted option below:

*I-765, Application for Employment Authorization*

### File a Form

Select the form you want to file online. Once you start, we will automatically save your information for 30 days, or from the last time you worked on the form.

**Fee waiver:** If you are requesting a fee waiver, you cannot file online. You must file a paper version of both the Form I-912, Request for Fee Waiver and the form for the specific benefit you are requesting. You can review the fee waiver guidance at [www.uscis.gov/feewaiver](https://www.uscis.gov/feewaiver).

Select the form you want to file online.

I-130, Petition for Alien Relative

I-131, Application for Travel Document

I-134A, Online Request to be a Supporter and Declaration of Financial Support

I-539, Application To Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status

I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal

**I-765, Application for Employment Authorization**

I-821, Application for Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

## 5. Click *Start form* to continue.

Select the form you want to file online.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Use this form to request employment authorization and an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) if your immigration status allows you to work in the United States.

**Note:** You may apply online if your eligibility category is:

- (a)(12) - Temporary Protected Status (You are submitting an initial Form I-821 or you have an approved Form I-821);
- (c)(3)(A) - F-1 student, pre-completion OPT;
- (c)(3)(B) - F-1 student, post-completion OPT;
- (c)(3)(C) - F-1 student, 24-month extension for STEM students (students holding a degree in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics);
- (c)(8) - Applicants for Asylum under the ABC Settlement Agreement;
- (c)(8) - Application for Employment Authorization Based on Pending Form I-589, Application for Asylum or for Withholding of Removal;
- (c)(11) - Parole;
- (c)(19) - Temporary Protected Status (You have a pending Form I-821); or
- (c)(33) - Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) (You must have a pending or approved Form I-821D in order to file Form I-765).

All other applicants must submit a paper [Form I-765](#).

**Concurrent filing available**  
You can file Form I-907, Request for Premium Processing Service, if you are filing under one of the eligible categories.

If you request premium processing, we will present Form I-907 for you to complete after you sign Form I-765. This will allow you to pay for and submit both forms at the same time.

Start form

# Getting Started

6. This page contains a large amount of useful information about the I-765 application. For more information about your application category, please read the highlighted (c)(3)(C) section. After reviewing this page, click *Next* to continue.

## I-765, Application For Employment Authorization

Certain foreign nationals who are in the United States may file Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, to request employment authorization and an Employment Authorization Document (EAD). Other foreign nationals whose immigration status authorizes them to work in the United States without restrictions may also use Form I-765 to apply to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for an EAD that shows such authorization.

Foreign nationals may also apply for a Social Security number and card on Form I-765.

If you are a lawful permanent resident, a conditional permanent resident, or a nonimmigrant only authorized for employment with a specific employer under 8 CFR 274a.12(b), do **not** use Form I-765.

Learn more about [employment authorization](#).

### F1 Students Seeking Optional Practical Training (OPT)

(c)(3)(A) eligibility category: Submit Form I-765 up to 90 days before being enrolled as an F-1 foreign student for one full academic year at an educational institution approved by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP). Your period of employment will not start before you have completed one full academic year. If you completed the one-year requirement while in another valid nonimmigrant status and you are now in valid F-1 status, you are still eligible to apply for OPT.

(c)(3)(B) eligibility category: Submit Form I-765 up to 90 days before, but no later than 60 days after your program end date. You must submit your application within 30 days of the date that your designated school official (DSO) enters the recommendation for OPT into your Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) record. If you fail to do so, we will deny your OPT request.

### Receive your decision

The decision on Form I-765 involves a determination of whether you have established eligibility for the immigration benefit you are seeking. USCIS will notify you of the decision in writing. If your application is approved, we will either mail your EAD to you or we may require you to visit your local USCIS office to pick it up. If USCIS cannot approve your application, you will receive a written notice explaining the basis of your denial.

Next

7. Further details about the I-765 application. Click the *Start* button to begin filling out your form.

## Completing Your Form Online

### Filing online

Submitting your application online is the same as mailing in a completed paper form. They both gather the same information.

### Complete the Getting Started section first

You should answer all questions in the Getting Started section first so we can best customize the rest of your online form experience.

### Provide as many responses as you can

You should provide as many responses as you can. Incomplete fields or sections and missing information can slow down the process after you submit your form.

### We will automatically save your responses

We will automatically save your information when you select next to go to a new page or navigate to another section of the form. We will save your information for 30 days from today, or from the last time you worked on the form.

### How to continue filling out your form

After you start your form, you can sign in to your account to continue where you left off.

## DHS Privacy Notice

**AUTHORITIES:** The information requested on this application, and the associated evidence, is collected under the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. section 1324a, and 8 CFR 274a.13.

**PURPOSE:** The primary purpose for providing the requested information on this application is to determine eligibility for certain aliens who are temporarily in the United States requesting an Employment Authorization Document. DHS uses the information you provide to grant or deny the benefit you are seeking.

**DISCLOSURE:** The information you provide is voluntary. However, failure to provide the requested information, including your Social Security number, and any requested evidence may delay a final decision or result in a rejection or denial of your application.

**ROUTINE USES:** DHS may, where allowable under relevant confidentiality provisions, share the information you provide on this application and any additional requested evidence with other Federal, state, local, and foreign government agencies and authorized organizations. DHS follows approved routine uses, as described in the associated published system of records notices (DHS/USCIS-001 - Alien File, Index, and National File Tracking System; DHS/USCIS-007 - Benefit Information System; DHS/USCIS-010 - Asylum Information and Pre-Screening; and DHS/USCIS-017 Refugee Case Processing and Security Screening Information System) and the published privacy impact assessments (DHS/USCIS/PIA-016(a) Computer Linked Application Information Management System and Associated Systems; DHS/USCIS/PIA-027 Asylum Division; DHS/USCIS/PIA-056 USCIS Electronic Immigration System; and DHS/USCIS/PIA-068 Refugee Case Processing and Security Vetting), which you can find at [www.dhs.gov/privacy](http://www.dhs.gov/privacy). DHS may also share this information as appropriate for law enforcement purposes or in the interest of national security.

## Paperwork Reduction Act

An agency may not conduct or sponsor an information collection, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information, unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated at 4 hours and 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering the required documentation and information, completing the application, preparing statements, attaching necessary documentation, and submitting the application. The collection of biometrics is estimated to require 1 hour and 10 minutes. The public reporting burden for the collection of information for Form I-765SWS is estimated at 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering the required documentation and information, completing the application, preparing statements, attaching necessary documentation, and submitting the application. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to:

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Office of Policy and Strategy, Regulatory Coordination Division  
5900 Capital Gateway Drive, Mail Stop #2140  
Camp Springs, MD 20588-0009

Do not mail your completed I-765 application to this address.

OMB No. 1615-0040  
Expires: 10/31/2025

### Security Reminder

If you do not work on your application for more than 30 days, we will delete your data in order to prevent storing personal information indefinitely.

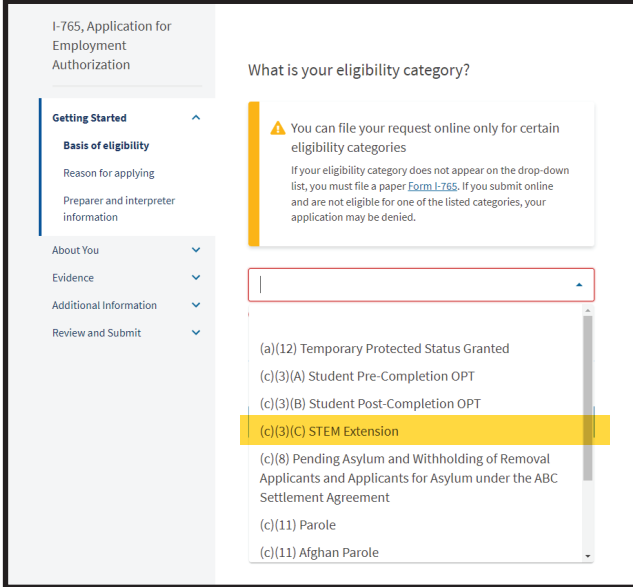
Back

Start

# Basis of Eligibility

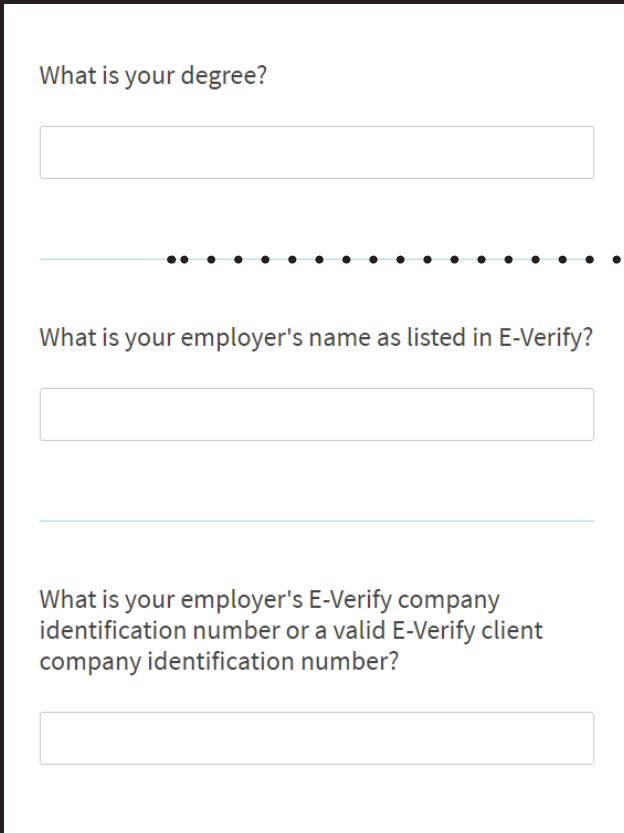
8. Choose the (c)(3)(C) category from the drop-down menu. This is the category that all F-1 students who are applying for the STEM Extension will use.

.....



9. Type the name of your degree as it is listed on your diploma.

.....



10. Consult with your employer to ensure you have the accurate E-Verify company name and E-Verify identification number. **Note:** The E-Verify number is **NOT** the same as the EIN number that is listed on your I-983.

11. After choosing your category, you will be asked if you would like to apply for premium processing. It is your choice what to choose at this step. Please note that there is an additional fee of \$1685 if you select Yes. After making your choice, click *Next* to move to the next page.

*Be aware that if you choose to continue with premium processing, you will be required to fill out an additional form (I-907).*

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Review and Submit" with a dropdown arrow. The main heading is "Would you like to request Premium Processing Service?". Below this, a paragraph explains that Premium Processing Service guarantees USCIS will take one of several possible actions (approval, denial, intent to deny, or request for evidence) on Form I-765 within 30 days. Another paragraph states the fee is \$1,685. A third paragraph explains that if premium processing is requested, the user will be asked to complete Form I-907 after signing Form I-765, and both forms can be submitted together. There are two radio button options: "Yes" and "No". At the bottom, there are two buttons: a "Back" button and a "Next" button, which is highlighted with a yellow border.

Review and Submit ▼

### Would you like to request Premium Processing Service?

Premium Processing Service guarantees that USCIS will take one of several possible actions (issue an approval notice, a denial notice, a notice of intent to deny, or a request for evidence or open an investigation for fraud or misrepresentation) on your Form I-765 within 30 days.

The fee for Premium Processing Service for Form I-765 is \$1,685.

If you request premium processing, you will be asked to complete the Form I-907 after you sign your Form I-765. You will then be able to pay for and submit both forms at the same time.

☐ Yes

☐ No

[Back](#) [Next](#)



# Reason for Applying / Preparer Information

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

**Getting Started** ^

Basis of eligibility

**Reason for applying**

Preparer and interpreter information

About You v

Evidence v

Additional Information v

Review and Submit v

What is your reason for applying?

☒ Initial permission to accept employment

☐ Replacement of lost, stolen, or damaged employment authorization document or correction of my employment authorization document NOT DUE to US Citizenship and Immigration Services error

☐ Renewal of permission to accept employment

Have you previously filed Form I-765?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Back Next

## 12. Select *Initial permission to accept employment*.

For standard post-completion OPT the eligibility category is (c)(3)(B) and for the STEM OPT Extension the category is (c)(3)(C). Because these are different categories, the "initial permission to accept employment" box is the appropriate box to check when filing for the STEM OPT Extension. You aren't renewing your standard post-completion OPT, you are applying for a new type of work authorization, STEM OPT.

## 13. Because you previously filed a Form I-765 when filing for post-completion OPT, answer YES. Once you have answered, click NEXT.

## 14. If you have a legal representative assisting you with this application, answer *Yes*. Otherwise, answer *No*. Once you have answered, click *Next*.

Is someone assisting you with completing this application?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Back Next

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You

Your name

Your contact information

Describe yourself

When and where you were born

Your immigration information

Other information

Evidence

Additional Information

Review and Submit

What is your current legal name?

Your current legal name is the name on your birth certificate, unless it changed after birth by a legal action such as marriage or court order. Do not provide any nicknames here.

Given name (first name)

Middle name

Family name (last name)

Have you used any other names since birth?

Other names used may include nicknames, aliases and maiden names.

Yes

No

Back

Next

15. Provide your name exactly as it appears in your passport. If you have one name, you may be required to place it in the family/last name field. If you do not have a middle name, leave it blank.

16. If you have never had your name legally changed, answer *No*. If you answer *Yes*, a new section will display for you to add other used names. Once you have answered, click *Next*.

9

WSU

# Your Contact Information

17. Enter your phone number and email address. The email address can be your student email or personal email. Please note that WSU will still only use your student email to communicate with you.

The screenshot shows the 'I-765, Application for Employment Authorization' form. On the left is a navigation menu with options: 'Getting Started', 'About You' (selected), 'Evidence', 'Additional Information', and 'Review and Submit'. The 'About You' section includes 'Your name', 'Your contact information' (selected), 'Describe yourself', 'When and where you were born', 'Your immigration information', and 'Other information'. The 'Your contact information' section asks 'How may we contact you?' and includes three input fields: 'Daytime telephone number', 'Mobile telephone number (if any)' (with a checkbox 'This is the same as my daytime telephone number.'), and 'Email address'. Below the email field is an example: 'Example: user@domain.com'.

18. For current U.S. mailing address, you have the option of entering the OIE mailing address as shown, or if you would prefer, you can use your own mailing address. If you prefer to use your own address, be sure you will remain at that address for at least the next 3 months to ensure that your documents will reach you.

*If your OPT card is lost in the mail, you will have to submit a new application and filing fee to USCIS to request a replacement.*

The screenshot shows the 'EXAMPLE' section of the form. It asks 'What is your current U.S. mailing address?' and provides instructions: 'We will use your current mailing address to contact you throughout the application process. We may not be able to contact you if you do not provide a complete and valid address. Please provide a U.S. address only.' The form includes several input fields: 'In care of name (if any)' (filled with 'Wichita State University'), 'Address line 1' (filled with '1845 FAIRMOUNT ST'), 'Address line 2' (filled with 'STE 122'), 'City or town' (filled with 'WICHITA'), 'State' (filled with 'Kansas'), and 'ZIP code' (filled with '67260-9700'). Below the ZIP code field is a note: 'Provide a 5 or 9-digit ZIP code.'

19. Answer *Yes* if you used your own address in step 15. If you used another address, answer *No* and you will be prompted to enter your own address. Click *Next* to continue.

The screenshot shows a question: 'Is your current mailing address the same as your physical address?'. There are two radio button options: 'Yes' and 'No'. Below the options is a horizontal line for a response. At the bottom are two buttons: 'Back' and 'Next'.

# Describe Yourself / When & Where You Were Born

20. Provide accurate information in each of these sections. In both sections click *Next* when you are ready to continue.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started ▾

About You ▲

Your name

Your contact information

**Describe yourself**

When and where you were born

Your immigration information

Other information

Evidence ▾

Additional Information ▾

Review and Submit ▾

What is your gender?

☐ Male

☐ Female

What is your marital status?

☐ Single

☐ Married

☐ Divorced

☐ Widowed

[Back](#) [Next](#)

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started ▾

About You ▲

Your name

Your contact information

Describe yourself

**When and where you were born**

Your immigration information

Other information

Evidence ▾

Additional Information ▾

Review and Submit ▾

What is your city, town, or village of birth?

What is your state or province of birth?

What is your country of birth?

What is your date of birth?

MM/DD/YYYY

[Back](#) [Next](#)

*If the name of the city, town, or village in which you were born has changed its name since your birth, please use the old name.*

# Your Immigration Information

21. Select your country of citizenship in this field.

What is your country of citizenship or nationality?  
List all countries where you are currently a citizen or national.

  
[+ Add country](#)

22. Download your most recent I-94 arrival record from [i94.cbp.dhs.gov](https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov). Use the color-coded fields to correctly fill out your form. The Place of arrival is the port of entry at which you were processed through Customs and Border Protection, not your final destination. If you do not remember the port of entry, use the “Get Travel History” tool on the CBP website.

**EXAMPLE**

Most Recent I-94

Admission (I-94) Record Number : 12345678910  
Most Recent Date of Entry: 2023 December 15  
Class of Admission : F1  
Admit Until Date : D/S  
Details provided on the I-94 Information form:

Last/Surname : First  
First (Given) Name : Last  
Birth Date : 1995 January 25  
Document Number : Passport Number  
Country of Citizenship : Country

[Get Travel History](#)

What is your Form I-94 Arrival-Departure Record Number (if any)?

  
Provide an 11 character I-94 Number.

When did you last arrive in the United States?  
List your arrival date, place of arrival, and status at arrival.

Date of arrival (on or about)  
MM/DD/YYYY

Place of arrival

  
Status at last arrival



23. Enter your current passport details in these fields. If you have renewed your passport since you last entered the US, your most recently issued passport may have a different number from your most recent I-94 record. That is fine. Provide the number of your valid and most recently issued passport on this page.

Only enter a number in the travel document field if you have traveled using a document other than your passport and visa. Most F-1 students do not have another travel document. It is fine to leave this field blank.

What is the passport number of your most recently issued passport?

What is your travel document number (if any)?

What is the expiration date of your passport or travel document?

MM/DD/YYYY

What country issued your passport or travel document?

# Your Immigration Information *cont.*

24. Enter your current status. Only F-1 visa holders are eligible for OPT.

25. Enter your SEVIS number. You can find this number in the upper left corner of your current I-20. The number will begin with N00. Click *Next* to continue.

What is your current immigration status or category?

F1 - Student, Academic Or Language Program.

What is your Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) Number (if any)?

Use the "Additional Information" section to include all previously used SEVIS numbers.

N-

Provide a 10, 11, or 12-digit SEVIS number.

Back

Next

# Other Information

26. Your A-Number is the USCIS# number found on your current OPT EAD. There should be a sequence of 9 numbers (eg. 123-456-789).

27. Your USCIS Online Account Number can be found on the piece of mail issued to you by USCIS during your first OPT application. The number is shown at the top of the Online Account Access Notice.

*If you are not sure what your Account Number is, it is okay. You can check the "I do not have..." box and continue.*

What is your A-Number?

☐ I do not have or know my A-Number.

A-

Provide a 7, 8, or 9-digit number. If your A-Number is fewer than 9 digits, the system will automatically add zero(s) after the "A" and before the first digit so there is a total of 9 digits, for example: A-001234567.

What is your USCIS Online Account Number?

Providing your unique USCIS Online Account Number (OAN) helps us manage your account. You may already have an OAN if you previously filed [certain paper forms](#) and received an Account Access Notice in the mail. You can find the OAN at the top of the notice; it is not the same as an A-Number.

☐ I do not have or know my USCIS Online Account Number.

Provide a 12-digit Online Account Number.

## Other Information *cont.*

28. If you have a Social Security Number, select *Yes* and enter your SSN in the box. If you have a number already, select *No* to the second question.

.....

Has the Social Security Administration (SSA) ever officially issued a Social Security card to you?

☐ Yes  
☒ No

Do you want the SSA to issue you a Social Security card?

☒ Yes  
☐ No

**⚠** You must agree to the Consent for Disclosure  
If you answer "Yes", you must also answer "Yes" to the Consent for Disclosure.

Consent for Disclosure: I authorize disclosure of information from this application to the SSA as required for the purpose of assigning me an SSN and issuing me a Social Security card.

☒ Yes  
☐ No

What is your father's birth name?

Given name (first name)      Family name (last name)

What is your mother's birth name?

Given name (first name)      Family name (last name)

[Back](#) [Next](#)

Has the Social Security Administration (SSA) ever officially issued a Social Security card to you?

☒ Yes  
☐ No

What is your Social Security number (if known)?

Provide a 9-digit Social Security number.

Do you want the SSA to issue you a Social Security card?

☐ Yes  
☒ No

.....

29. If you do not have a Social Security Number, you have the option of applying for your SSN with this application along with your OPT. If you want to apply for your SSN, select the highlighted options to the left and you will be asked to enter your parents' names. The names need to be your parents names at **birth**, even if this is different than what is currently on their passports.

When you have finished this section, click *Next* to continue.

# 2x2 Photo of You

30. Upload the required 2x2 passport style photo of yourself. If you need photos, they can be purchased at the WSU Post Office located in Morrison Hall.

Click *Next* to continue.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You

Evidence

Additional Information

Review and Submit

2 x 2 photo of you

Form I-94 or passport

Employment Authorization Document

Previously authorized CPT or OPT

Form I-20

2 X 2 Photo Of You

Upload a recent color photograph of yourself that measures 2 inches by 2 inches, with your face measuring 1 inch to 1 3/8 inch from your chin to the top of your head. Your eyes should be between 1 1/8 inch and 1 3/8 inch from the bottom of the photo.

Make sure your whole face is visible, you are facing the camera directly, and the background is white or off-white. Your head must be bare, unless contrary to your religious beliefs.

If you need help understanding the photo requirements or want to resize, rotate, or crop your photo, you can use the Department of State's [photo composition tools](#). Please note that we cannot approve your application without your photo.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, or PNG
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Upload no more than one document at a time
- Accepted file name characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 12MB per file

Choose or drop files here to upload

BackNext



# Form I-94 or Passport

31. Upload the I-94 downloaded for step 19 earlier in this application. You may also upload a copy of your passport identification page(s) in this section as an additional document.

Click *Next* to continue.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You

Evidence

2 x 2 photo of you

Form I-94 or passport

Employment Authorization Document

Previously authorized CPT or OPT

Form I-20

Additional Information

Review and Submit

Form I-94, Arrival And Departure Record Or Passport

Upload a copy of one of the following:

- Your Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Record (front and back);
- A printout of your electronic Form I-94 ; or
- Your passport or other travel document.

If you were admitted to the United States by CBP at an airport or seaport after April 30, 2013, CBP may have issued you an electronic Form I-94 instead of a paper Form I-94. You may visit the [CBP website](#) to obtain a paper version of an electronic Form I-94. CBP does not charge a fee for this service. Some travelers admitted to the United States at a land border, airport, or seaport, after April 30, 2013, with a passport or travel document, who were issued a paper Form I-94 by CBP, may also be able to obtain a replacement Form I-94 from the CBP website without charge.

If your Form I-94 cannot be obtained from the CBP website, it may be obtained by filing [Form I-102, Application for Replacement/Initial Nonimmigrant Arrival-Departure Record](#), with USCIS. USCIS does charge a fee for this service.

If you do not have and cannot get a required document, you must demonstrate this and provide secondary evidence. If secondary evidence does not exist or is unavailable, you must demonstrate both the unavailability of the required document and the relevant secondary evidence and submit two or more sworn affidavits by people not named on this application who have direct knowledge of the event and circumstances.

[Learn more about Primary and Secondary evidences.](#)

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Upload no more than five documents at a time
- Accepted file name characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 12MB per file

Choose or drop files here to upload

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# Employment Authorization Document

32. Upload a copy of your post-completion OPT EAD on this page.

Click *Next* to continue.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You

**Evidence**

2 x 2 photo of you

Form I-94 or passport

**Employment Authorization Document**

Previously authorized CPT or OPT

Form I-20

Additional Information

Review and Submit

Employment Authorization Document Or Government ID

Upload a copy of your last Employment Authorization document (EAD) (front and back). If you were not previously issued an EAD, you must upload a copy of a government-issued identity document (such as a passport) showing your picture, name, and date of birth; a birth certificate with photo ID; a visa issued by a foreign consulate; or a national ID document with photo and/or fingerprint. The identity document photocopy must clearly show your facial features and contain your biographical information.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Upload no more than five documents at a time
- Accepted file name characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 12MB per file

Choose or drop files here to upload

Back

Next

33. Upload the STEM OPT Recommendation I-20 that was issued to you by the OIE. Make sure that you have signed and dated **in ink** on page 1 of the I-20 before submitting.

Click *Next* to continue.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You

**Evidence**

2 x 2 photo of you

Form I-94 or passport

Employment Authorization Document

Previously authorized CPT or OPT

**Form I-20**

Additional Information

Review and Submit

I-20, Certificate Of Eligibility For Nonimmigrant Student Status

⚠ Important information regarding your Form I-20

Do **NOT** submit this form until you receive a Form I-20 recommendation from your DSO. We will deny your application if you do not include your Form I-20 recommendation when you submit Form I-765. If you need to provide Form I-765 to your DSO, print or download this draft before you submit.

Upload a copy of the Form I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status endorsed by the Designated School Official (DSO). For the (c)(3)(B) eligibility category, your DSO must have entered the recommendation for OPT into your SEVIS record within 30 days of you submitting Form I-765. If you fail to do so, we will deny your OPT request. For the (c)(3)(C) eligibility category, the Form I-20 must have been endorsed by the DSO within 60 days of submitting Form I-765.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Upload no more than five documents at a time
- Accepted file name characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 12MB per file

Choose or drop files here to upload

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Next

34. USCIS has stated that transcripts or copies of diplomas indicating the level of the degree and field of study are acceptable as proof of your degree.

Upload one or both of these documents on this page.

**Thesis/Dissertation/Project Graduate Students:** Upload the Graduate's School's Degree Status Letter here if you are applying for the STEM extension based on coursework completion (see STEM OPT Tutorial for additional details). If your degree has been awarded, submitting a degree status letter in addition to providing a transcript or copy of your diploma is not required.

Click *Next* to continue.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You

**Evidence**

2 x 2 photo of you

Form I-94 or passport

Employment Authorization Document

Form I-20

**College degree**

Institution accreditation

Additional Information

Review and Submit

College Degree

Upload evidence the degree that is the basis for the STEM OPT extension is in one of the degree programs currently listed on the [STEM Designated Degree Program List](#) or a copy of your prior STEM degree.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Upload no more than five documents at a time
- Accepted file name characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 12MB per file

Choose or drop files here to upload

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Next

# Institution Accreditation

35. If you are applying based on your most recently earned degree, you are not required to upload any evidence in this section. You must provide evidence of institution accreditation when applying for the extension based on a “previously earned STEM degree.”

Click *Next* to continue.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You

**Evidence**

2 x 2 photo of you

Form I-94 or passport

Employment Authorization Document

Form I-20

College degree

**Institution accreditation**

Additional Information

Review and Submit

**Institution Accreditation**

Upload evidence that the institution that granted your STEM degree is currently accredited by the U.S. Department of Education and certified by the Student Exchange and Visitor Program (SEVP), if this STEM OPT extension is based on a previously earned STEM degree.

**File requirements**

- Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Upload no more than five documents at a time
- Accepted file name characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 12MB per file

Choose or drop files here to upload

Back

Next



# Additional Information

36. In this section, report any previously used SEVIS ID numbers or denied or withdrawn Forms I-765 (reference Receipt Number).

Click *Next* to continue.

The screenshot shows the 'I-765, Application for Employment Authorization' form. On the left is a sidebar with a list of sections: 'Getting Started', 'About You', 'Evidence', 'Additional Information' (which is highlighted with a blue bar and an upward arrow), and 'Review and Submit'. The main content area is titled 'Additional Information' and contains two paragraphs of instructions. Below the instructions is a button labeled '+ Add a response'. At the bottom of the form are two buttons: 'Back' and 'Next'. The 'Next' button is green with a yellow border, while the 'Back' button is white with a blue border.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started ✓

About You ✓

Evidence ✓

**Additional Information** ^

Additional information

Review and Submit ✓

### Additional Information

If you need to provide any additional information for any of your answers to the questions in this form, enter it into the space below. You should include the questions that you are referencing.

If you do not need to provide any additional information, you may leave this section blank.

+ Add a response

Back

Next

# Review Your Application

30. Check your application and fix all errors that are mentioned. You can click *Edit my responses* to quickly move to pages with errors. Once you have fixed all errors, the green checked box will display.

Make sure the correct OPT filing fee of \$470 is displayed.

Once there are no alerts remaining, click *Next* to continue.

Alerts and warnings

✓ We found no alerts or warnings in your application.

Back Next

Authorization

Getting Started

About You

Evidence

Additional Information

**Review and Submit**

Review your application

**Check your application before you submit**

We will review your application to check for accuracy and completeness before you submit it.

We encourage you to provide as many responses as you can throughout the application, to the best of your knowledge. Missing information can slow down the review process after you submit your application.

You can return to this page to review your application as many times as you want before you submit it.

Your fee

**!** Your form filing fee is: \$470

**Refund Policy:** USCIS does not refund fees, regardless of any action we take on your application, petition or request, or how long USCIS takes to reach a decision. By continuing this transaction, you acknowledge that you must submit fees in the exact amount and that you are paying the fees for a government service.

**Alerts and warnings**

You have one or more alerts and warnings based on the information you provided in your application.

A red alert means you have incomplete responses or inconsistent data. You cannot submit your application with any alerts.

**!** There are errors in Getting Started: Reason for applying

**Edit my responses**

# Your Application Summary

38. This page includes a summary of your entire application. You are able to review this page to confirm all your answers are accurate. If you would like an advisor from the OIE to review your I-765 for completion, click on *View draft snapshot* to download your I-765. Send this file to [iss@wichita.edu](mailto:iss@wichita.edu) and an advisor will check if any information is missing.

Click *Next* to continue.

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

Getting Started

About You

Evidence

Additional Information

**Review and Submit**

Review your application

**Your application summary**


Your statement


Review the I-765 form information

Here is a summary of all the information you provided in your application.

Make sure you have provided responses for everything that applies to you before you submit your application. You can edit your responses by going to each application section using the site navigation.

We also prepared a draft case snapshot with your responses, which you can download below.

 [View draft snapshot](#)

 [Print](#)

Getting Started

Basis of eligibility

What is your eligibility category?

(c)(3)(B) Student Post-Completion OPT

# Your Statement / Your Signature

The screenshot shows the 'Applicant's statement' step in the USCIS I-765 application process. On the left, a sidebar lists the steps: Getting Started, About You, Evidence, Additional Information, Review and Submit (expanded), and Your statement. The 'Review and Submit' section is active, showing 'Review your application', 'Your application summary', 'Your statement', and 'Your signature'. The 'Your statement' step is highlighted. The main content area shows the 'Applicant's statement' heading and a checkbox that is checked, indicating the applicant's agreement to the statement. Below the checkbox is a 'Next' button.

39. Check the box to accept the Applicant's Statement.

Click *Next* to continue

40. Check the box to accept the statement again and type your full legal name into the field that appears.

Click *Next* to continue.

The screenshot shows the 'Applicant's Declaration and Certification' step in the USCIS I-765 application process. On the left, a sidebar lists the steps: Getting Started, About You, Evidence, Additional Information, Review and Submit (expanded), and Your signature. The 'Review and Submit' section is active, showing 'Review your application', 'Your application summary', 'Your statement', and 'Your signature'. The 'Your signature' step is highlighted. The main content area shows the 'Applicant's Declaration and Certification' heading and a checkbox that is checked, indicating the applicant's agreement to the statement. Below the checkbox is a field for the applicant's full legal name. At the bottom, there are 'Back' and 'Next' buttons.

# Pay and Submit

41. You will be able to pay by ACH withdrawal from your savings/checking account or by credit/debit card.

Click *Pay and submit* to continue with the payment.

The screenshot shows the USCIS online application process. On the left is a navigation menu with the following items: 'Getting Started', 'About You', 'Evidence', 'Additional Information', 'Review and Submit' (which is expanded to show 'Review your application', 'Your application summary', 'Your statement', 'Your signature', and 'Pay and submit'), and 'Pay and submit' (which is highlighted in green). The main content area is titled 'Pay for and submit your application'. It contains the following text: 'The final step to submit your Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, is to pay the required fee.'; 'Your application fee is: **\$410**.'; and a 'Refund Policy' section stating that fees are final and non-refundable. Below this is a light blue box with the USCIS seal and instructions to go to Pay.gov. It lists three steps: 1. Provide your billing information on Pay.gov, 2. Provide your credit card or U.S. bank account information, and 3. Submit your payment. At the bottom of this box is a green button labeled 'Pay and submit'. Below the box, it states that the form will be submitted upon payment and that users will be redirected to a confirmation screen on uscis.gov.

**Pay for and submit your application**

The final step to submit your Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, is to pay the required fee.

Your application fee is: **\$410**.

**Refund Policy:** By continuing this transaction, you agree that you are paying for a government service and that the filing fee, biometric services fee and all related financial transactions are final and not refundable, regardless of any action USCIS takes on an application, petition or request, or how long USCIS takes to reach a decision. You must submit all fees in the exact amounts.

We will send you to Pay.gov — our safe and secure payment website — to pay your fees and submit your form online.

Here are the steps in the payment and submission process:

1. Provide your billing information on Pay.gov
2. Provide your credit card or U.S. bank account information
3. Submit your payment

When you have paid your fee, your form will be submitted.

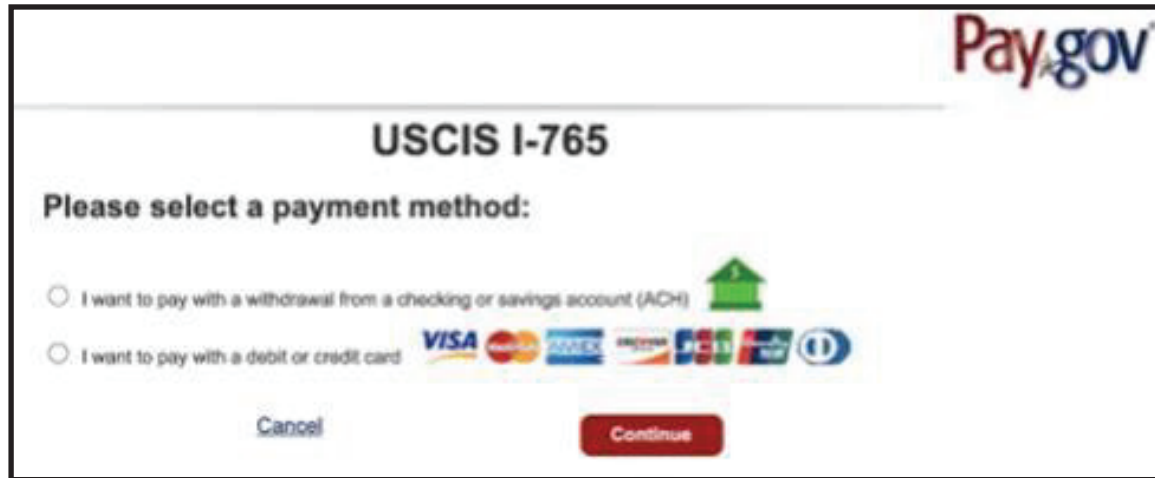
Pay.gov will redirect you to a uscis.gov confirmation screen, which will include your receipt number. Please keep a copy of your receipt number for your records. You can track the status of your application through your USCIS online account.

**Pay and submit**



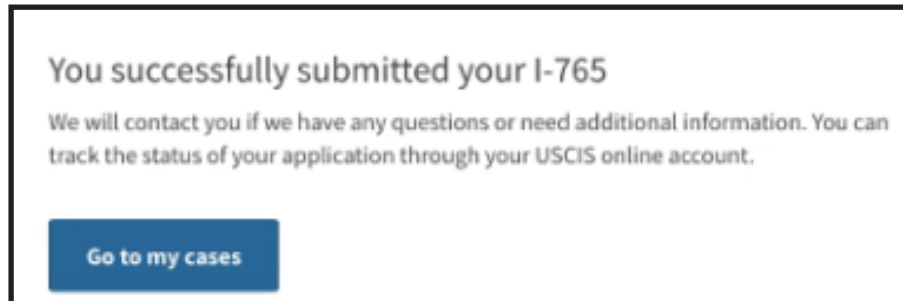
## Pay and Submit *cont.*

42. Choose your payment method and enter your payment details.



The screenshot shows the Pay.gov interface for USCIS I-765. At the top right is the Pay.gov logo. Below it, the text "USCIS I-765" is centered. Underneath, it says "Please select a payment method:". There are two radio button options: "I want to pay with a withdrawal from a checking or savings account (ACH)" with a green house icon, and "I want to pay with a debit or credit card" with a row of logos including VISA, Mastercard, American Express, Discover, and others. At the bottom, there are "Cancel" and "Continue" buttons.

- .....
43. Once you have completed your payment with pay.gov, you should see a screen with the confirmation message shown below, and you should receive an email from pay.gov confirming your payment has been received.



The screenshot shows a confirmation message from Pay.gov. It says "You successfully submitted your I-765". Below this, it states "We will contact you if we have any questions or need additional information. You can track the status of your application through your USCIS online account." At the bottom, there is a blue button that says "Go to my cases".

*It is recommended to securely store the emailed confirmation notice for your records.*

# OPT Application Completed

You have submitted your STEM OPT application! You may track the progress of your application by viewing *Your Cases* in your USCIS account and clicking on *Case Status*, *Case History*, or *Documents* for application history/receipt.

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If you have any questions that were not answered by this guidebook, please send an email to [iss@wichita.edu](mailto:iss@wichita.edu). You may also contact the Office of International Education (OIE) during walk-in advising hours, which are usually Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1pm - 4pm, by coming in-person to our office or calling 316-978-3232.