

## Post-Completion Optional Practical Training (OPT): Maintaining F-1 Status

### Maintaining OPT Status:

*Please Initial After Each Statement to Indicate Agreement:*

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that OIA is here to advise and assist me, but ultimately the completeness, accuracy and timeliness of my OPT I-765 application is my own responsibility.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will submit in person, mail or fax a copy of the front and back of my EAD (OPT card) to OIA (oia@pratt.edu) within 10 days of receiving it.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will register for the SEVP Portal when I receive the email from SEVP.

\_\_\_\_\_ I can check my Case Status by Googling USCIS case status after I get my receipt number

\_\_\_\_\_ If my name, address, citizenship or employment changes, I have 10 days to report the changes to the SEVP portal.

\_\_\_\_\_ Although health insurance is not required, I should obtain some type of health insurance while on OPT.

\_\_\_\_\_ I must work a minimum of 20 hours per week in my field of study.

\_\_\_\_\_ I can volunteer, freelance and can do unpaid/paid internships but it must be in my field of study and I must work a minimum of 20 hours per week.

\_\_\_\_\_ I cannot do any type of work, paid or unpaid, before the start date on my EAD card.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have a maximum of 90 days total for which I can be unemployed during the entire period of my OPT authorization, after which I must depart the U.S.

\_\_\_\_\_ Once my OPT ends, I have a 60 day grace period for which I can remain in the U.S., enrol in a new program of study at Pratt, transfer to another school or change to another nonimmigrant status.

TURN OVER

## Travel on OPT:

*Please Initial After Each Statement to Indicate Agreement:*

\_\_\_\_\_ I must obtain a travel signature on my OPT I-20 in order to re-enter the U.S. in valid F-1 status. Travel signatures are only valid for six months while on OPT.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I should have my EAD card when re-entering the US after travelling abroad.

\_\_\_\_\_ My passport must be valid six months into the future if I need to travel abroad as well as at all times when in the U.S.

\_\_\_\_\_ My F-1 visa must be valid in order to re-enter the US; otherwise, I must apply for a new F-1 visa while outside of the U.S.

\_\_\_\_\_ After I have re-entered the U.S., I must check my I-94 record to ensure that I have been correctly admitted in F-1 status <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/>

## Employment Update in SEVIS:

*Please Initial After Each Statement to Indicate Agreement:*

\_\_\_\_\_ I must update the SEVIS portal with the name and address of my employer.

\_\_\_\_\_ I must report my local address in the USA with zip code to the SEVIS Portal.

## STEM OPT Extensions:

*(ONLY STEM STUDENTS) Please Initial After Each Statement to Indicate Agreement:*

\_\_\_\_\_ I will apply for STEM OPT within 90 days of completing my OPT.

\_\_\_\_\_ I must submit a new I-983 of my new employer to OIA if I change jobs on STEM Extension OPT.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that any job (even if multiple) taken during the STEM OPT extension must be for at least 20 hours per week.

*By signing below, you agree: "I have read the information above about maintaining my legal status while on OPT in the United States. I understand that I must comply fully with these regulations in order to remain in legal F-1 status."*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree Level: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Pratt ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_