POST-COMPLETION OPT APPLICATION TIMELINE

Before applying for post-completion Optional Practical Training (OPT) work authorization, you should verify the deadlines for qualifying and applying for post-completion OPT.

Important Milestones

- **Registration start date:** Registration usually opens several weeks before the term begins. Contact your Academic Advisor to discuss any questions or concerns you have about completing your requirements in your final term.

- **Start of term:** Whether your classes start the first week of the term or not, it is important to be aware of when the term starts to meet registration, payment, and application deadlines. Remember, tuition is due at the start of the term, and failure to pay in full can prevent you from participating in graduation.

- **Graduation application deadline:** Students must apply for graduation. The graduation application deadline is generally shortly after the start of the term. Applications can be submitted online at [http://my.franklin.edu](http://my.franklin.edu).

- **First day to apply for OPT:** F-1 students can submit an application to USCIS for post-completion OPT 90 days prior to your program end date, which is your graduation date. Applications received by USCIS more than 90 days before the program end date will be denied.

- **Graduation date:** Congratulations! This important milestone in your life is, also, an important milestone in your status as an F-1 student, as it is considered your program end date. You are allowed to remain in the country in F-1 status for 60 days after your program end date, which is called your “grace period.” During your grace period, you can still apply for OPT, transfer to another program or school, apply for a change of status, or depart the country.

- **Last day to apply for OPT:** Applications for post-completion OPT received by USCIS more than 60 days after the program end date will be denied.

Helpful Resources

- **Registration Dates:** Contact your Academic Advisor to learn when registration begins.
- **Start of Term:** [http://www.franklin.edu/student-services/registrar/academic-calendar](http://www.franklin.edu/student-services/registrar/academic-calendar)
- **Graduation Application Deadline:** Contact your Academic Advisor or registrar@franklin.edu for deadline.
- **Graduation Dates:** [http://www.franklin.edu/student-services/graduation-information](http://www.franklin.edu/student-services/graduation-information)
- **Calculate OPT Dates:** [http://www.timeanddate.com/date/dateadd.html](http://www.timeanddate.com/date/dateadd.html)
- **USCIS Processing Times:** [https://egov.uscis.gov/cris/processTimesDisplayInit.do](https://egov.uscis.gov/cris/processTimesDisplayInit.do)