MONITORING YOUR OPT APPLICATION

After submitting your OPT application, you should monitor the progress of the application and keep OISP informed of any developments.

Tracking Your Application

In order to best track the progress of your OPT application, it is recommended that you submit the G-1145 form with the application and use a mail service that allows you to track delivery of the application. You will receive an I-797C receipt notice showing your receipt number and the Service Center processing your application. You can check your case status online using the receipt number.

If there are any changes after submitting your application, such as your mailing address or delays in graduation, you should update USCIS and OISP.

Updating your mailing address is particularly important in case USCIS requests additional information, called a Request for Evidence or RFE, while adjudicating (deciding) your application. Contact OISP promptly if you receive an RFE for guidance on submitting the requested information.

Escalating Processing Delays

Federal regulations require USCIS to process I-765 applications within 90 days. If your OPT is pending 75 or more days, you may contact the National Customer Service Center to request that the case be elevated. After it has been pending 90 or more days, you may submit an e-Request Case Inquiry and should contact OISP for additional monitoring.

Obtaining Your EAD Card

When you obtain your EAD card, verify that your name and date of birth are accurate on the card, and make a copy of the card for your records. Check the start and end dates on your EAD card as they may differ from the dates requested. If there are any issues, contact OISP.

Submit a copy of the EAD card to OISP to update your file. Your employer will need to see a copy of your card in the hiring process.

Helpful Resources

- USCIS form filing tips: https://www.uscis.gov/forms-filing-tips
- USCIS National Customer Service Center (NCS) phone: 1-800-375-5283
- Tracking USCIS case status: https://egov.uscis.gov/casestatus/landing.do
- Escalating USCIS delays: https://egov.uscis.gov/e-Request/Intro.do
- Updating address with USCIS: https://www.uscis.gov/ar-11