

- ✓ I understand that only majors in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics fields are eligible for the 17-month OPT Extension. I confirm that my major as listed on my I-20 and my diploma from Texas A&M University- Commerce is eligible for the extension.
- ✓ I understand that I must be currently participating in a 12-month period of OPT, working for a U.S. employer in a job directly related to my major field of study as listed on my I-20 and diploma from Texas A&M University- Commerce.
- ✓ I understand that all of my employers during the 17-month extension must be registered with the E-Verify employment verification system.
- ✓ I understand that USCIS must receive my application for the OPT extension before the end date of my current OPT authorization period on the Employment Authorization Document (EAD).
- ✓ I understand that I may not accrue more than an aggregate of 90 days of unemployment during the initial 12-month post completion OPT, and no more than an aggregate of 120 days of unemployment for the total 29-month OPT period. I understand that all employment during the 17-month extension period must be paid employment for at least 20 hours a week. I understand that my failure to abide by these employment rules may jeopardize any future immigration benefits that are dependent upon a valid F-1 visa status.
- ✓ I understand that if I have applied for the 17-month OPT extension in a timely manner and my application has not been adjudicated by USCIS by the end date of my initial OPT work authorization period on my EAD, that I may continue working until USCIS adjudicates my OPT application.
- ✓ I understand that if my 17-month OPT extension is denied or rejected by USCIS that my OPT employment authorization ends immediately after the EAD end date. If my application is denied or rejected after the end date on my EAD, I understand that I must stop employment immediately. See below for grace period.
- ✓ I understand that upon the completion of my 29-month OPT period or upon notification of the rejection or denial of my extension application after the initial 12-month OPT period, I will have 60 days to leave the U.S., apply for a change of status, or apply to a new academic program. I understand that I must apply for, be accepted to, and have my SEVIS record transferred (if applicable) to the new school by the end of the 60 day period.
- ✓ I understand that if I have an H1-B petition filed on my behalf I am required to report this to the ISSO and provide a copy of the Receipt Notice and Approval Notice. It is also recommended that you contact the ISSO to discuss if the H1-B Cap Gap Extension is applicable to your situation.
- ✓ I understand that during my OPT period I am required to report any address change as well as any change in employment within 10 days of occurring to the ISSO. You may report your change of address at our website at <http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/international/forms.asp>. To report a change of address only please use the *Request Form for International Students*. To report your employment information and change of address please use the *OPT Employment Reporting Form*.

If you understand the above information please sign and date below. If you have any questions please contact your international student advisor.

Name

Date