



OPT (Optional Practical Training) 2020 Fact Sheet

Support HR3564 to END OPT!

HR3564 - The Fairness for High Skilled Americans Act

OPT has grown 400% - now bigger than H1B

- ★ OPT is a jobs program that allows foreign F-1 visa holders to get tax-free jobs
- ★ OPT was NOT authorized by Congress
- ★ OPT is NOT merit based: any/every F-1 visa holder can get OPT
- ★ OPT is NOT limited in number: there are NO caps
- ★ OPT is NOT limited in scope: any job/multiple jobs can be taken. STEM extensions are broadly-construed and unenforced
- ★ Neither the employer nor the F-1 worker pay the 16.5% payroll taxes (Medicare, Social Security & Federal Unemployment Insurance). They each pocket savings of 8.25% of payroll.
- ★ OPT costs American taxpayers **\$3 billion** each year
- ★ OPT allows foreigners to maintain their F-1 visa status and work in the U.S. indefinitely (12 months initial OPT period for any F-1 visa holder; 24-month extensions for each STEM degree earned.)
- ★ Less than 50% of U.S. STEM grads are landing jobs in STEM
- ★ Every U.S. company has a 16.5% financial incentive to hire OPTs

OPT is replacing U.S. citizen college graduates with foreign graduates



Fighting the sellout of American STEM jobs

www.amworkco.com

amworkco@gmail.com | [@amworkco](https://twitter.com/amworkco)

FACT SHEET SOURCES

<https://bloustein.rutgers.edu/new-analysis-finds-no-shortage-of-stem-workers-in-the-united-states/>

<https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/02-25-16%20Salzman%20Testimony.pdf>

<https://cis.org/sites/default/files/2019-11/Proposed%20Amicus%20Brief%20Stamped.pdf>