

Completing the Electronic STEM OPT Application



IMPORTANT REMINDER

All eligible F-1 students must receive a STEM *OPT Recommendation I-20* from ISSO **BEFORE** submitting a STEM OPT application to USCIS.

To request the STEM OPT Recommendation I-20, go to Cystart and submit the Optional Practical Training STEM Extension Checklist.

Do not proceed with the online STEM OPT application until you have received the STEM OPT Recommendation I-20.

Create myUSCIS Account

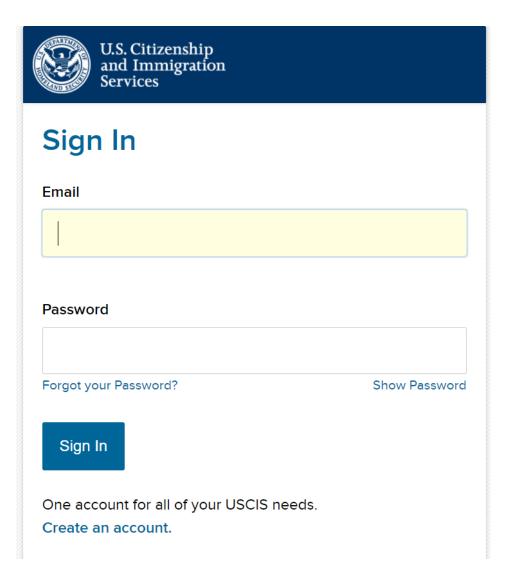






Create your MyUSCIS Account

Create or sign into your MyUSCIS account at myaccount.uscis.gov







Log into MyUSCIS

Select MyUSCIS to get start





Editing your profile includes email, password, phone number, security questions, two-step verification and backup code.

Login to a USCIS Service



Apply for immigration benefits, find tools and resources to assist in preparation for naturalization, and search for doctors in your local community.



Submit, manage and receive Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests.



Confirm your records for employment eligibility, track E-Verify or Self-Check case status, and protect your identity by locking your Social Security Number (SSN).

Not sure what service you need? Start at <u>USCIS.gov</u>





Select Account Type

Select that you are an applicant, petition or requestor



Account Type

Select an account type:

- I am an applicant, petitioner, or requestor.
 - USCIS only offers certain benefit types for online filing. Please refer to uscis.gov for further guidance.
 - You cannot file an H-1B Registration with this account type.
- I am a Legal Representative.
 - I am an attorney eligible to practice law in the United States.
 - I am an accredited representative of a qualified organization that is recognized by the Department of Justice in accordance with 8 CFR part 1292.

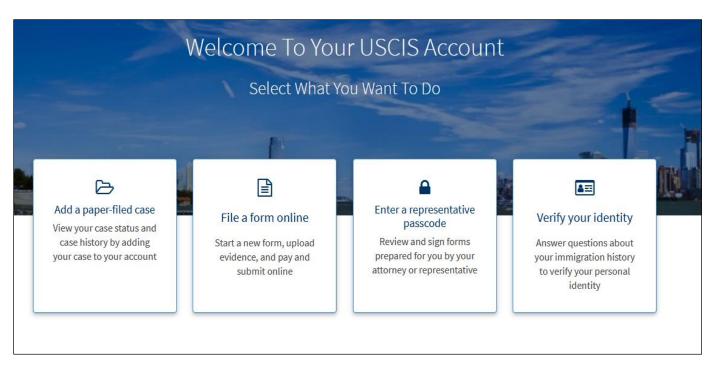
Submit





What do you want to do?

Select File a Form Online









Select a form

Select Application for Employment Authorization.

The electronic I-765 can be submitted by students applying for pre-completion OPT, Post-completion OPT, and STEM OPT

File a Form

Select the form you want to file online. Once you start, we will automatically save your information for 30 days, or from the last time you worked on the form.

Select the form you want to file online.

I-90, Application to Replace Permanent Resident Card

I-130, Petition for Alien Relative

I-539, Application To Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status

I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal

I-765, Application for Employment Authorization

021 Application for Tomporary Drotacted Status (TDC)

Section 1: Getting Started







Select your eligibility category

Select c(3)(C) STEM Extension

What is your eligibility category?



You can file your request online only for certain eligibility categories

If your eligibility category does not appear on the dropdown list, you must file a paper Form I-765. If you submit online and are not eligible for one of the listed categories, your application may be denied.

c(3)(C) STEM Extension







Select if you would like to have Premium Processing

Choosing to file for Premium Processing is completely optional and not required.

The fee for premium processing is \$1,685.

Would you like to request Premium Processing Service?

Premium Processing Service guarantees that USCIS will take one of several possible actions (issue an approval notice, a denial notice, a notice of intent to deny, or a request for evidence or open an investigation for fraud or misrepresentation) on your Form I-765 within 30 days.

If you request premium processing, you will be asked to complete the Form I-907 after you sign your Form I-765. You will then be able to pay for and submit both forms at the same time.

Back	Next
O No	
Yes	





Degree & Employer Information

Enter information about your degree level and major, such as, Master's in Mathematics

Enter information about your employer's name listed in E-Verify, and their E-Verify number.

If you will be employed at Iowa State during your STEM OPT, Iowa State's Everify number is 1272655

What is	your degree?
What is E-Verify	your employer's name as listed in ?
identifi	your employer's E-Verify company cation number or a valid E-Verify client
compa	ny identification number?





Select Reason for Applying

ISSO recommends selecting Initial permission to accept employment when applying for the STEM extension

Select yes to having previously filed an I-765. You will need to provide evidence of that application, including a previous OPT recommendation I-20 and previous EAD card.

What is your reason for applying?



- Initial permission to accept employment
- Replacement of lost, stolen, or damaged employment authorization document or correction of my employment authorization document NOT DUE to US Citizenship and Immigration Services error
- Renewal of permission to accept employment

Have you previously filed Form I-765?



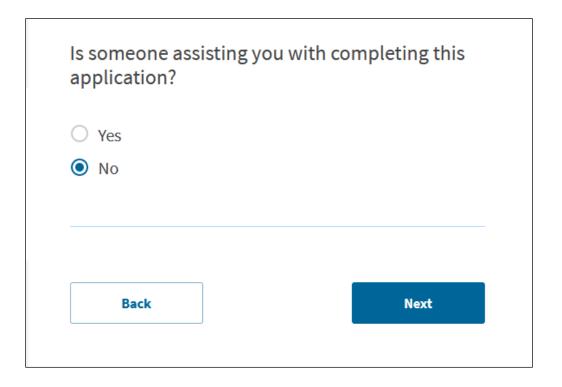






Who is completing the form

Select no if you are the person completing the form.



Section 2: About You







Name

Enter your name in the fields provided.

Your name should be entered as it appears on your immigration documents.

If you have used other names, select yes, and list the other names that you have used.

changed after birth by a legal a not provide any nicknames her	name on your birth certificate, unless it ction such as marriage or court order. Do e.
Given name (first name)	Middle name
Family name (last name)	
Have you used any o	ther names since birth?
Other names used may include	nicknames, aliases and maiden names.
O Yes	
0 103	





Contact Information

Enter your daytime and mobile phone number, and current email address. The email address may be your ISU or personal email address.

Daytime t	elephone number	
Mobile tel	ephone number (if any)	
This is	the same as my daytime telephone number.	
Email add		
Email add	655	

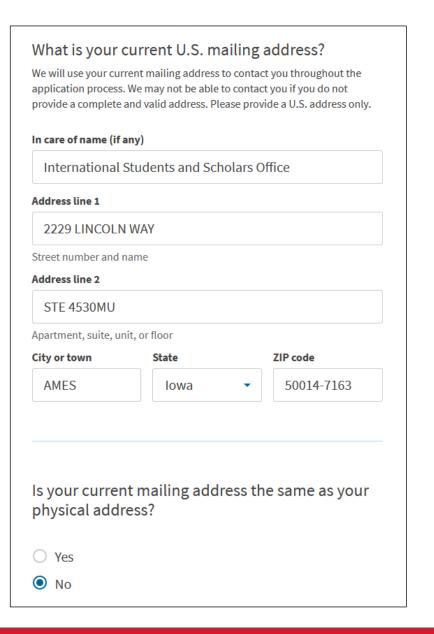


Current Mailing Address

Enter your address where you would like your OPT EAD card to be sent.

You can use your personal address if you will have safe and secure access to receive mail there for next 3-4 months. If your address is unreliable or if you will move, we recommend using ISSO's address.

If you enter an address that is not the address where you live, select no, and enter your personal address.







Personal Information

Select your gender and marital status

What is your gender?
○ Male ○ Female
What is your marital status?
○ Single
O Married
O Divorced
O Widowed





Birth Information

Enter information about your birth as applicable

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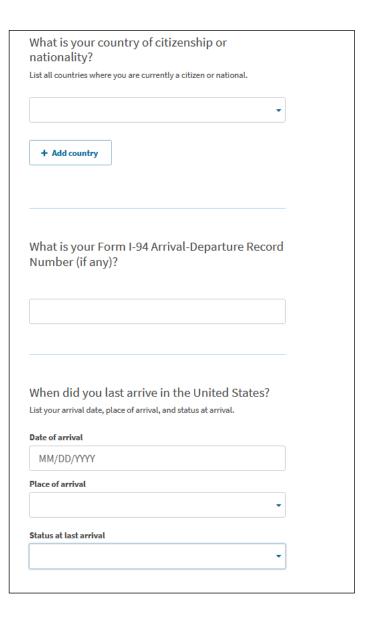


Entry Information

If you are a citizen of more than one country be sure to add that information

Retrieve your I-94 at i94.cbp.dhs.gov.

Your place of arrival is where you went through U.S. Customs.







Passport Information

Enter information related to your passport

recently issu	ed passport?
What is your	travel document number (if any)?
	. ,,
	expiration date of your passport or nent?
	nent?
travel docum	nent?
travel docum	nent?

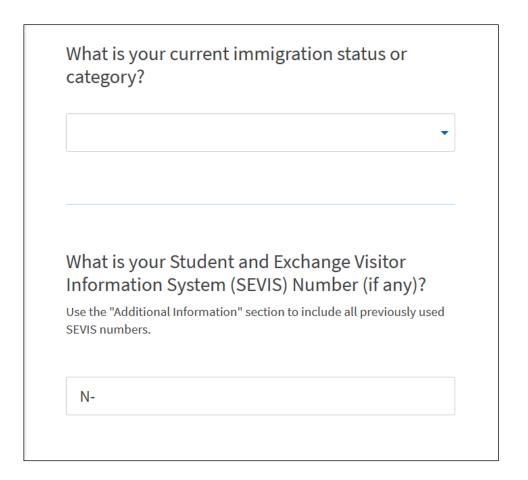




Immigration Status

Confirm your immigration status and SEVIS ID number.

Your SEVIS ID number can be found on the top left of your Form I-20.







USCIS Numbers

Enter your A-Number or Online Account number, if applicable

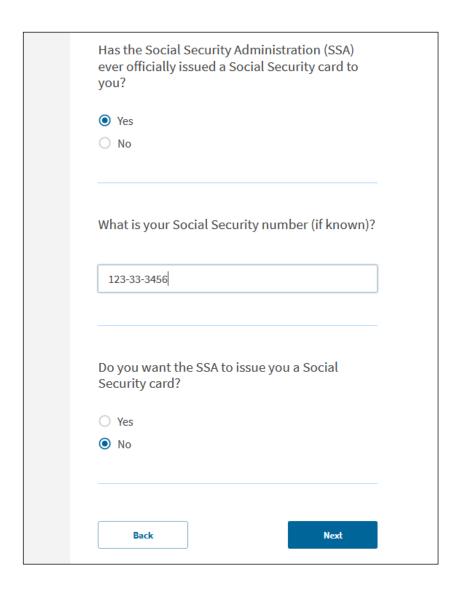
What is yo	our A-Number?
I do not h	ave or know my A-Number.
A-	
-	our USCIS Online Account Number?
Providing your manage your a filed <u>certain p</u> mail. You can f	our USCIS Online Account Number? r unique USCIS Online Account Number (OAN) helps us account. You may already have an OAN if you previously aper forms and received an Account Access Notice in the find the OAN at the top of the notice; it is not the same as
Providing your amanage your a filed certain p mail. You can f an A-Number.	r unique USCIS Online Account Number (OAN) helps us account. You may already have an OAN if you previously aper forms and received an Account Access Notice in the





Social Security Number

Add your Social Security Number, as applicable



Section 3: Evidence







Passport Photo

Upload a passport photo, and make sure that it meets the requirements listed on the site.

2 X 2 Photo Of You

Upload a recent color photograph of yourself that measures 2 inches by 2 inches, with your face measuring 1 inch to 1 3/8 inch from your chin to the top of your head. Your eyes should be between 1 1/8 inch and 1 3/8 inch from the bottom of the photo.

Make sure your whole face is visible, you are facing the camera directly, and the background is white or off-white. Your head must be bare, unless contrary to your religious beliefs.

If you need help understanding the photo requirements or want to resize, rotate, or crop your photo, you can use to the Department of State's <u>photo composition</u> <u>tools</u>. Please note that we cannot approve your application without your photos.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- · Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, or PNG
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file





I-94 or Passport

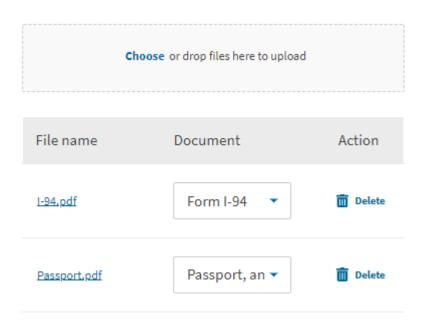
Upload your most recent I-94, most recently issued passport, and passport used to enter the United States (if different)

Retrieve your I-94 at i94.cbp.dhs.gov.

Form I-94, Arrival And Departure Record Or Passport

Upload a copy of one of the following:

- Your Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Record (front and back);
- · A printout of your electronic Form I-94; or
- · Your passport or other travel document.







Government ID

Upload a copy of visa used to enter the United States.

Upload a copy of the front and back of your Employment Authorization Document (EAD).

Employment Authorization Document Or Government ID

Upload a copy of your last Employment Authorization document (EAD) (front and back). If you were not previously issued an EAD, you must upload a copy of a government-issued identity document (such as a passport) showing your picture, name, and date of birth; a birth certificate with photo ID; a visa issued by a foreign consulate; or a national ID document with photo and/or fingerprint. The identity document photocopy must clearly show your facial features and contain your biographical information.

File requirements

- · Clear and readable
- Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF or TIFF
- No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Upload no more than five documents at a time
- Accepted file name characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 12MB per file

File name	Document	Action
<u>Vise.pdf</u>	Employment authorization or Government issue ID	m Delete
EAD.pdf	Employment authorization or Government issue ID	m Delete





STEM OPT I-20

Upload a copy your STEM OPT Recommendation I-20

Make sure you have signed and dated the I-20 in blue ink pen

I-20, Certificate Of Eligibility For Nonimmigrant Student Status

Upload a copy of the Form I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status endorsed by the Designated School Official (DSO). For the (c)(3)(B) eligibility category, your DSO must have entered the recommendation for OPT into your SEVIS record within 30 days of you submitting Form I-765. If you fail to do so, we will deny your OPT request. For the (c)(3)(C) elgibility category, the Form I-20 must have been endorsed by the DSO within 60 days of submitting Form I-765.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- · Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- · No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

File name	Document	Action
STEM OPT I-20.pdf	Form I-20	m Delete



STEM Eligible Degree

Upload your transcripts and/or diploma showing that you have earned a STEM eligible degree

Graduate students who haven't given their oral defense yet should speak with an International Student Advisor about documentation to upload

College Degree

Upload evidence the degree that is the basis for the STEM OPT extension is in one of the degree programs currently listed on the <u>STEM Designated Degree Program List</u> or a copy of your prior STEM degree.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- · Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- · No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- · Maximum size: 6MB per file

File name	Document	Action
<u>Diploma.pdf</u>	College degree	Delete
<u>Transcripts.pdf</u>	College degree	Delete



Previous OPT Authorization

Upload your I-20s showing previous OPT recommendations

If applying for STEM OPT based on a previously earned STEM degree, upload proof of accreditation and SEVIS certification for the university where you earned the degree.

Institution Accreditation

Upload evidence that the institution that granted your STEM degree is currently accredited by the U.S. Department of Education and certified by the Student Exchange and Visitor Program (SEVP), if this STEM OPT extension is based on a previously earned STEM degree.

File requirements

- Clear and readable
- · Accepted file formats: JPG, JPEG, PDF, TIF, or TIFF
- · No encrypted or password-protected files
- If your documents are in a foreign language, upload a full English translation and the translator's certification with each original document.
- Accepted characters: English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscores, and parentheses
- Maximum size: 6MB per file

File name	Document	Action
Previous OPT I0.pdf	Institution accreditation	Delete

Section 4: Additional Information



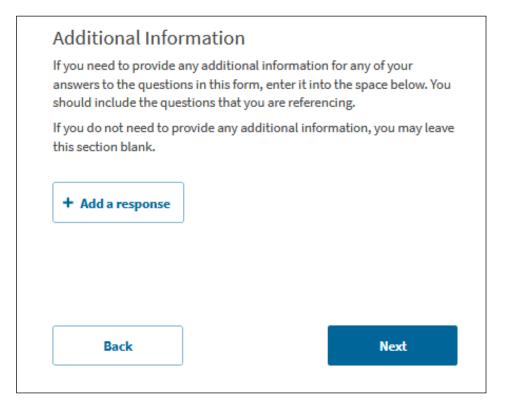




Additional Information

Additional information will be needed in the following situations.

- Previously used OPT
- Previous SEVIS ID number
- Your current visa is in a previous passport or you entered U.S. on old passport



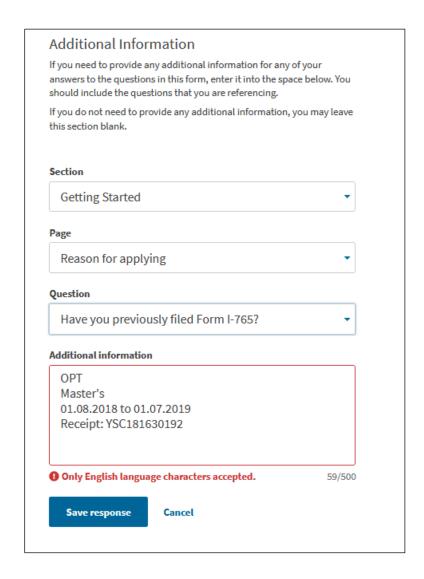




Previous OPT

If you have previously used OPT enter information about it including:

- Degree level
- Dates
- Receipt number

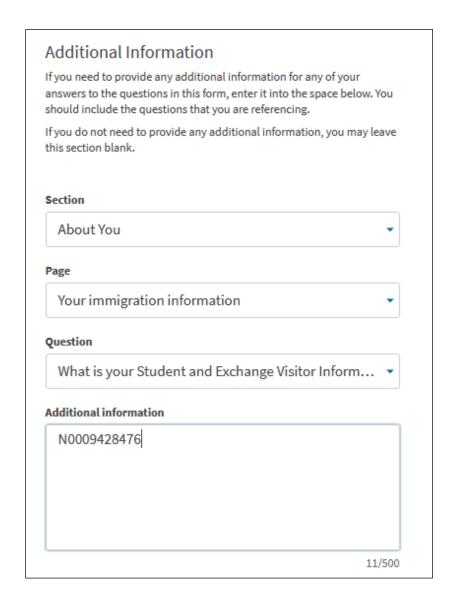






Previous SEVIS ID Number

If you had a previous SEVIS ID number, add information about the previous number.



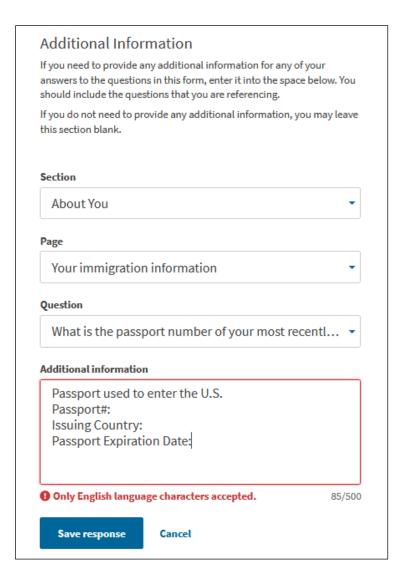




Previous Passport

If your visa is in a previous passport, you will want to include information about the passport that your visa is in.

If you entered the U.S. on a different passport, you will want to include the information about the passport that you used for entry to the U.S.







Filing Fee and Alerts

Confirm filing fee and check for alerts or warnings

Check your application before you submit

Please review your application and check it for accuracy and completeness before you submit it.

We encourage you to provide as many responses as you can throughout the application. Missing or incomplete information may slow down the review process after you submit your application.

You can return to this page to review your application as many times as you want before you submit it.

Your fee



1 Your form filing fee is: \$470

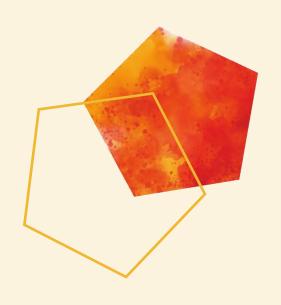
Refund Policy: USCIS does not refund fees, regardless of any action we take on your application, petition or request, or how long USCIS takes to reach a decision. By continuing this transaction, you acknowledge that you must submit fees in the exact amount and that you are paying the fees for a government service.

Alerts and warnings



We found no alerts or warnings in your application.

Application Review







Application Review

Request a review of your application from ISSO before you submit your application to USCIS by paying the \$470 fee.

To have ISSO review your application, do the following:

- 1. Download the View Draft Snapshot of your application.
- Upload all OPT application materials in Cystart using the OPT Application Review form found in Optional Practical Training Checklist.

Review the I-765 form information

Here is a summary of all the information you provided in your application.

Make sure you have provided responses for everything that applies to you before you submit your application. You can edit your responses by going to each application section using the site navigation.

We also prepared a draft case snapshot with your responses, which you can download below.

🛚 View draft snapshot 🔒 Print

Getting Started

Basis of eligibility

What is your eligibility category?

(c)(3)(C) STEM Extension



Do NOT submit your application to USCIS until after it has been reviewed by ISSO.

Submitting Application After Review

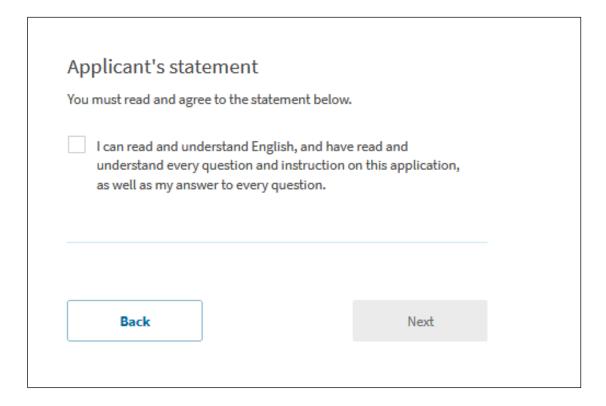






Applicant's Statement

After having your application reviewed, confirm that you read and understood the application.







Applicant's Declaration & Certification

Submit the application to USCIS by certifying the application and paying the application fee.

Applicant's Declaration and Certification

You must read and agree to the certification below. If you knowingly and willfully falsify or conceal a material fact or submit a false document with your application, we can deny your application and may deny any other immigration benefit. You may also face criminal prosecution and penalties provided by the law.







Tracking Your Application

Upon submitting your application, your receipt notice will be generated. A hard copy receipt notice will also be mailed to the mailing address you provided.

