

We're very excited to have you join us today to learn about our newest online form, Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization.



During our time together today, we will review who is eligible to submit form I-765 online and how to create a USCIS online account. I will walk you through the sections of the online form to give you a sense of how the form is organized and things to pay attention to. I will explain the kinds of evidence you will need to upload to support your case. And lastly, I will explain certain formatting requirements, and why you should consider applying online instead of mailing your application.



You will begin the process of submitting your form online at our website, uscis.gov. There are several places on this webpage where you can find the links to create an USCIS online account if you don't have one, or sign in if you do have one.

The easiest way to access the online account from this webpage, is to click "sign in" in the upper right corner. If you click on the "sign in" link, you will have the option of creating an account or signing in.



Before I go any further, I want to point out that we have a number of helpful resources on our online filing webpage that address common questions about the account and online filing.

I encourage you to check out our videos. They provide a succinct overview of how to create an account and why you should consider submitting your form online. This site also has materials geared for attorneys and representatives.



This slide shows what the account sign in interface looks like. We will not go through all the steps of how to create an account here, it is pretty straightforward. If you have shopped or banked online, the setup is similar, and we have two-step authentication to ensure your account is secure.

One thing to keep in mind is that each account must have a unique email address. This means you cannot share your account with anyone else. For example, a husband and wife applying for naturalization together must each have their own account and their own email address.

Once you enter your email address and password, the system will send you a one-time verification code. When you create your account, you can choose how you want to receive this code. You can receive it as a text message, email, or both. Getting the code by text message is very convenient.

You will need to go through these verification steps every time you login to your account. The two-factor verification is designed to protect your information and privacy.

When you enter your verification code, you'll be taken to the USCIS online account onboarding page.



At the onboarding page, you'll see four activity tiles showing the things you can do in our online account. You can add a paper case, file a form online, enter a representative pass code, or verify your identity. In this instance, we're going to select "File a form online."



Next, you will come to the list of all the forms that we accept online through the account. Form I-765 is towards the bottom of the list.

You will note that only certain F1 students are eligible to submit Form I-765 online now. Click on the button to select Form I-765, and then select "start form."



The next page you'll come to is the form overview page. This is a comprehensive rundown of everything you will need to complete the form online. It reviews the eligibility criteria, fee, evidence you may need to submit, providing your fingerprints and photograph, how to track your case after you file, how to respond to a request for evidence if we send you one, and getting a decision.

This page also includes our Privacy Act notice and disclaimers. And there is a reminder that you need to work on the form at least once every 30 days or the draft will be deleted. This is to protect your personal information and privacy.



A few things to note before you start filling out your form: All of our online forms are equivalent to the paper version of the form.

So even though the online form is organized a little differently than the paper form, online and paper forms gather the same information and questions.

Also, our online forms have conditional logic, which means that your answers to some questions determine the questions that are asked later. For this reason, it is important to start at the beginning.

Please answer as many questions as you can. And remember, we automatically save your answers so you can work at your own pace. If you need time to find a document, you can sign out and resume working on your form anytime. Draft forms are saved for 30 days from the last time you worked on your form.

There is an idle time limit built into this form. If you are inactive for 15 minutes, you will need to log out and sign in again.

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(USCIS owns the images)
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Now, we will talk briefly about how you will navigate our online forms. The form navigation is a vertical list along the left side of the screen. We used to have horizontal tabs and sub tabs, but we recently switched to this format.

There are five sections to the I-765 form: getting started, about you, evidence, additional information, and review and submit.

The section headers expand and collapse as you move through them, and the form automatically saves your work every time you move from one section to another.



The first question in the online Form I-765 asks about the basis for you to file online. We need to confirm that you are in one of the three student categories that are eligible to apply online.

The three student categories that may apply online are:

Pre completion OPT, which is the C-3A category Post completion OPT, which is the C-3B eligibility category And the 24-month extension for STEM students, which is the C-3C category

And again, the form's logic bases future questions on the answers you provide here.

The option to file Form I-765 online is only available to F-1 students filing Form I-765 for OPT. All other applicants must continue to file the paper Form I-765. USCIS is committed to using innovation and technology to meet the needs of all applicants and petitioners. As we continue our transition to paperless operations, USCIS will work to expand online filing of Form I-765 to additional categories.

If someone submits Form I-765 online and they *are not* in one of these categories, we will deny the case, and we do not issue refunds. If you are not in one of these eligible student categories, you *must* submit a paper form.

 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 1-765? Yes No 	 Why are you applying? Did you submit Form I-765 previously?
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The next question asks "What is your reason for applying?"

Is this your initial application? Are you trying to get a replacement EAD? Or is this a renewal?

illing Out th	e Form—Abo	out You	U.S. Citi and Imm Services
Biographical questions	I-765, Application for Employment Authorization Getting Started About You Your name Your contact information Describe yourself When and where you were born Your immigration information Other information	What is your current legal name is the na changed after birth by a legal act not provide any nicknames here Given name (first name) Antony Family name (last name) Smith	egal name? ame on your birth certificate, unless it tion such as marriage or court order. Do Middle name

Moving along to the About You section. This section asks for biographic details like your name, date of birth, country of nationality.



The section called "Your Immigration Information" asks for information from a variety of official government documents. It's a good idea to gather everything together so you have it all ready when you start filling out your form.

The form will ask for:

- Your country of citizenship/nationality;
- Your Form I-94 Arrival-Departure Record number;
- The date you last entered the U.S., the port of entry, and your status at that time;
- Your most current passport or travel document number, expiration date, and the country that issued it;
- Your current immigration status;
- Your SEVIS number;
- Your A-Number if you have one; and
- Your USCIS Online Account Number. You will only have an online account number if you
 previously submitted a form online or you submitted a paper form that has a receipt
 number that begins with the letters IOE. If you are just setting up an account, or do not have a
 previously issued online account number, you can select the option that says "I do not have or know
 my USCIS Online Account Number," and continue.

(Image obtained from CBP website https://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/assets/documents/2021-Feb/i-94_automation_fact-sheet.pdf)



The last part of the About You section will ask if you ever had a Social Security card and whether you want a Social Security card to be issued to you now. If you answer YES, you want a Social Security card now, it will prompt additional questions. You will need to give us authorization to submit your request to the Social Security Administration. You will also need to provide your father's first and last name and your mother's first and last name.



Now we are getting into the part of the form where it is helpful to be methodical and organized. You will need to upload evidence to support your application. All F-1 applicants will need to submit the following:

- One passport-style photo, in either jpeg or png format; your passport photo must meet the Department of State's passport photo specifications.
- Both sides of your paper I-94 card or travel document, or a copy of your electronic I-94 record;
- Both sides of your most recent EAD;
- Proof of enrollment at a SEVP-certified school; and

Other evidence you need to submit depends on the category you are applying under. We have a comprehensive evidence checklist on our I-765 form page that may be helpful as you collect your documents: www.uscis.gov/forms/filing-guidance/checklist-of-required-initialevidence-for-form-i-765-for-informational-purposes-only

Evidence Specific to Student Category



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration

Pre-completion OPT (c)(3)(A)

- Proof of enrollment at SEVP-certified school
- All prior SEVIS numbers and proof of previously authorized CPT / OPT and corresponding academic level-include under Additional Information
- · Form I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status, endorsed by DSO before filing I-765

Post-completion OPT (c)(3)(B)

 All prior SEVIS numbers and proof of previously authorized CPT / OPT and corresponding academic level-include under Additional Information



 DSO must enter OPT recommendation in SEVIS within 30 days before you submit I-765, if not, we will deny OPT request 17

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Pre-completion OPT (c)(3)(A)

Proof of enrollment at SEVP-certified school

All prior SEVIS numbers and proof of previously authorized CPT / OPT and corresponding academic level—include under Additional Information

Form I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status, endorsed by the designated school official (DSO) before filing your Form I-765

Post-completion OPT (c)(3)(B)

All prior SEVIS numbers and proof of previously authorized CPT / OPT and corresponding academic level—include under Additional Information

DSO must enter OPT recommendation in SEVIS within 30 days before you submit I-765. If not, we will deny OPT request.



24-month STEM OPT (c)(3)(C)

Evidence of degree that is basis for STEM OPT and is listed on STEM Designated Degree Program List

Form I-20, endorsed by DSO within 60 days before filing Form I-765

If you seek a STEM OPT extension based on a previously earned STEM degree, provide evidence that your school is currently accredited by U.S. Department of Education and certified by SEVP

(Image obtained from Bing using the filter "Free to modify, share and use commercially")



Now we will review technical and formatting requirements for the evidence that you upload. If you are careful and you follow these guidelines, you will avoid some of the most common mistakes we see.

- For photos, we accept jpeg or PNG files.
- Documents that are not photographs must be jpeg, PDF or TIFF files.
- We do not accept Word documents or BMP files.
- All foreign language documents must have an English translation, and the maximum file size per upload is 6 megabytes.



Along the same lines, one area where we see people make inadvertent mistakes is including special characters in the name of the documents they upload.

The only characters we allow in the file names of the documents you upload are English letters, numbers, spaces, periods, hyphens, underscore, and parentheses. Foreign letters and special characters are not allowed. If special characters or foreign letters are included in the file name, an error will occur when uploading the file, and the file will not upload.

If you look at the examples shown on the slide, the first document, "Proof of enrollment @ Purdue" was not accepted because the "at" symbol is not allowed.

Here are some other examples of common errors: brackets and the hashtag symbol, which are not allowed. Word documents or bmp files are also not allowed.



Now we're going to cover the last section of the form. This is where you review, pay, and submit your application.

When you get to this point, the form will calculate your fee and see if there is anything missing on your form.

If there is an error or a required data field is empty, you will see one of these red alerts. You will not be able to submit the form until you correct the error.

Sometimes our online forms show a yellow alert. This marks something that needs attention and should be reviewed before submitting your form.

In this example, I originally had a red alert, I went back and corrected it, and now the form shows a green alert, which means the form is corrected and not missing anything. So, I can proceed.

illing Out the Forn	n—Review & S	ubmit 🛞 U.S. Cit
Application For Employment Arthorization USCIS Department of Houring Foreity and in articles U.S. Constanty and Impurity Streets	Review the I-765 form information	
Image: State Street S	Here is a summary of all the information you Make sure you have provided responses for application. You can edit your responses by navigation.	ou provided in your application. Ir everything that applies to you before you submit your y going to each application section using the site
Name of elimiting priors, appeals (RL) antidad VCCD Online Annuar Pramere or any • SUGD TERES. Type or Priors Bink Dah Aba new di pensinse filts and newerith: If a quantum dam set apple rayse (filter and the pensinse dam set apple rayse)). Part 1. Reason for Applying Other Annue (filter and the rayse rayse dam set apple). Other Annue (filter and the rayse rayse rayse dam set apple). Tax applying for (trayser and the rayse dam set apple). Other Annue (filter and the rayse rayse dam set apple). Other Annue (filter and the rayse dam set apple).	We also prepared a draft case snapshot wit	th your responses, which you can download below.
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Fortunants for for the construction of the line o	What is your eligibility category?	c(3)(A) Student Pre-Completion OPT
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This slide shows a feature in the account that is really useful. The form summary page will provide a long vertical review of everything you entered. You can print this out if you want.

You also have the option of seeing a snapshot of your draft form. By clicking on the link for "View draft snapshot," it will produce a PDF of your completed form. You can save this file to your computer, and it will always be in your online account. The snapshot shows what your online I-765 form looks like in the standard PDF format. There is a watermark to show that this pdf was generated by the electronic form.

You should always review your work and you can save and come back to it as many times as you want. The only requirement is you must work on your form and make at least one edit or change every 30 days.



We are just about done. In this section you need to attest to the fact that you understand English and that you understood all the questions and instructions in the online form. And you will also need to electronically sign a declaration that all of your answers are truthful.

(Image obtained from Bing using the filter "Free to modify, use and share commercially")



After you agree to the applicant statement and electronically sign your form, you will leave my.uscis.gov and be taken to pay.gov. Pay.gov is a secure government portal run by the Treasury Department. Here you can pay your fee by Automated Clearing House (ACH) withdrawal, or with a debit or credit card.



You will enter your payment information and your address.

You can see the form type and agency tracking number at the top. Click on the box to authorize payment. When you click on "Continue," your form will be submitted, and you will not be able to make any changes.



After you pay your fee, you will receive confirmation that your form was submitted. You can click on the blue button labeled "Go to my cases" to see your case card and receipt notice.

Fracking Your Case		ase	U.S. Citizer and Immi Services	
/our Cases I-765 Application for Employi selemented on April 13, 2017 Receipt er 1020 View PDP *	ment Authorization		All notices are posted to you account • Receipt notice	
USCIS Notices			 Biometrics notice 	
Prile Bronist Nation still	April 13, 2021	Action) N/A	 Request for Evidence (RFE) 	
Your uploads You may upload additional evidence that yo requested. USCIS will consider the timeline	ou may assist USCIS in adjudicating your ap as and relevance of unrequested evidence when m	pplication, even If the evidence was not specifically aking a decision about your case.	 PDF of completed form 	
File	Document	Date added	 Decision letter 	
Unsolicited evidence				
Unsoncided evidence is any additional infor from you, USCIS will consider the timelines	mation or evidence that we did not request from ye s and relevance of this information when making a	ou. It you uptoad evidence that we did not request decision about your case.	* Notices are also mailed to the mailing	

When you submit your Form I-765 online, you will get a receipt notice and receipt number immediately. After that, you will be able to see other notices in the documents tab, like your biometrics appointment notice (if required), any RFE, or a decision letter. We also will mail hard copy notices to you, and to your attorney if you have one.

In your account profile, you can sign up to receive automatic case updates via email or text message, so you will know when we have added a document to your account.

Having the convenience and assurance that your notices are all in the account is one of the best benefits of applying online.



We are working hard and investing heavily in our digital platform. That is the only way we can meet the demand for service, and that is where customers get the best experience.

- In most situations, customers get the same information from our online tools as they would from calling our Contact Center. The systems we use to publish case status and processing times on our website are the same systems our Customer Contact Center uses to look up the information when someone calls. Save yourself some time by looking it up yourself on our website: <u>uscis.gov/tools</u>
- Submitting a form online can be more convenient than paper filing because:
 - The pandemic and severe weather have disrupted normal logistics and transportation options. Choosing to submit your form online is more reliable.
 - It is immediate and transparent and delivery is up to YOU, as the applicant.
 - You no longer need to mail your form and track the delivery. When you apply online, you get a receipt notice immediately.
 - Case rejections are greatly reduced because our online forms ensure you sign your submission electronically and pay the correct fee.
 - You can see all notices in your account; so, if a paper notice gets lost in the mail, you can look in your account to see it.
 - You can update your address and contact information.
 - You can sign up for automatic case alerts via email or text message.
 - You can pay your fee via Automated Clearing House (ACH) or with a credit or debit card.
 - You can respond to a request for evidence quickly by uploading it directly to your online case.
 - You can send us secure messages about your case.

• And for certain form types, you can see personalized processing times, which provide more precise estimates of how long your case will take.

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If someone submits a paper form, we will mail the applicant a receipt notice. If that case has a receipt number that begins with the letters IOE, we will also mail the customer an Account Access Notice. This second notice has an Online Access Code that applicants use to link their paper case to the online account. The code is valid for 90 days. Once the applicant adds that paper-filed case to their account, they will be able to track case status, see notices and correspondence from us, respond to RFEs, upload evidence, update their address, and send us secure messages.

	Services and Immig
•	Form I-765: uscis.gov/i-765
•	I-765 evidence checklist: <u>www.uscis.gov/forms/filing-guidance/checklist-of-</u> required-initial-evidence-for-form-i-765-for-informational-purposes-only
•	Create online account: myaccount.uscis.gov
•	File online: uscis.gov/file-online
•	For online account technical support : <u>my.uscis.gov/account/needhelp</u>
	To share feedback: Public.Engagement@uscis.dhs.gov

Here are some helpful resources and links.

Visit uscis.gov/i-765 for more information on the Form I-765 and evidence checklist.

To create a USCIS online account, visit uscis.gov.

If you need to review the steps on how to create a USCIS online account, you can visit uscis.gov/file-online, to watch helpful videos.

For technical support and password resets visit the myUSCIS account help page.

To share feedback on our outreach materials and engagements, please contact our USCIS Public Engagement Division.

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