



EMAIL BULLETIN

NEW F-1 STUDENT REGULATIONS PERMIT MULTIPLE ONE-YEAR PERIODS OF POST-COMPLETION OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING (OPT); OPT NOW PERMITTED UPON COMPLETION OF BACHELORS, MASTERS, AND DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

28 April 2003

F-1 student regulations have been amended to permit multiple periods of post-completion Optional Practical Training. Prior regulations limited F-1 students to one period of Optional Practical Training. If the student utilized the Optional Practical Training after completing his or her Bachelors degree program, he or she was not eligible for practical training upon completion of additional degree programs, such as Masters and Doctoral.

With the amendment to the regulations governing post-completion Optional Practical Training, it is now possible for F-1 students to apply for one-year periods of practical training employment authorization upon completion of a Masters and/or Doctoral program, even if the student had already completed one year of practical training after his or her Bachelors degree program.