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[Unemployment Counter](#)

# UNEMPLOYMENT COUNTER

Last updated 5-NOV-2018

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## General Information

Federal law limits how long F-1 students on post-completion optional practical training (OPT) or science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) OPT can be unemployed. The limits are:

- Post-completion OPT: 90 days.
- STEM OPT: 150 days, which includes any days accrued while on post-completion OPT.



[8 CFR 214.2\(f\)\(10\)\(ii\)\(E\) – Periods of unemployment during post-completion](#)

SEVIS counts the unemployment days for these students by using employer data to:

- Look back to the Actual OPT Start Date for that period of OPT.
- Count each day without employer information.

## SEVIS Unemployment Counter

To view the number of days of unemployment for a student on OPT:

1. Go to the [Student Information](#) page.

2. Select [Employment Information](#) link under the View list on the left side of page. The *Employment Information* page opens.

Employment Information

Plus icon indicates that the field can be expanded to display additional data (+)  
Minus icon indicates that the field can be collapsed to display condensed data (-)

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F-1 Student **Mallow, Marsha** Potomac Yards College - Potomac Yards College Status: **ACTIVE**  
Start Date: 10/10/2011 End Date: 10/31/2016 SEVIS ID: **N0005144540**

All Employment Filter What does this table show me?

Active	Employment Type	FT/PT	Status	School	DSO Recommended		Actual		Level	Receipt	Employment ID
					Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date			
+	STEM OPT	FULL TIME	APPROVED	Potomac Yards College	11/01/2017	10/31/2019	11/01/2017	10/31/2019	MASTER'S	sera05408418	797690
+	POST-COMPLETION OPT	FULL TIME	APPROVED	Potomac Yards College	11/01/2016	10/31/2017	11/01/2016	10/30/2017	MASTER'S	sera15684971	797590
+	CPT	PART TIME	CANCELLED	Potomac Yards College	01/20/2016	05/31/2016	01/20/2016	05/31/2016	MASTER'S		

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3. Click the green icon to expand the period of OPT and view the unemployment counter. The *Accrued Days of Unemployment* field for that period of OPT displays on the right.

Employment Information

Plus icon indicates that the field can be expanded to display additional data (+)  
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Differences in counting and viewing days of unemployment include:

- STEM OPT: For students on STEM OPT, add the counters for Post-Completion OPT and for STEM OPT at the same education level to get their total days of unemployment.



How you enter employer data affects the counter. Use the following order:

- Add a new employer.

- Shorten/remove existing employer.
- SEVIS Auto-Terminate functionality for exceeding the unemployment limit is currently disabled.



For additional related information, see SEVIS Help Hub articles:

- [F-1 Add, Edit, Delete Optional Practical Training \(OPT\) Employer](#)
- [SEVIS and the SEVP Portal](#)
- [View Employment Information](#)

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