

90 days BEFORE last day of classes

Last Day of Classes

60 days AFTER last day
of classes

YOU SHOULD APPLY FOR OPT DURING THIS TIME

It may take USCIS up to or more than 90 days to approve an issue an EAD card. Even if you choose a late OPT start date, you should still apply as early as possible so that you have your EAD card in hand by your start date and can begin working.

All OPT start dates MUST be within this time

You can still apply for OPT up to 60 days after but we don't recommend it. You may lose OPT time by applying this late because it may still take USCIS 90 days to process and approve. Just because you delay your OPT application, DOES NOT MEAN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DELAY YOUR START DATE.

Fall: Mid-September

Spring: Mid-February

Fall: Mid-December

Spring: Mid-May

Fall: Mid-February

Spring: Mid-July

PLEASE NOTE: Your "90 Days of Allowed Unemployment" clock will NOT start until the START DATE on your EAD card.