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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 (-)

[Return to Student Information](#)

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 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	sein654684189	797690
	POST-COMPLETION OPT	FULL TIME	APPROVED	Potomac Yards College	11/01/2016	10/31/2017	11/01/2016	10/30/2017	MASTER'S	sera1568497168	797590
	CPT	PART TIME	CANCELLED	Potomac Yards College	01/20/2016	05/31/2016	01/20/2016	05/31/2016	MASTER'S		

- 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

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[Return to Student Information](#)

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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](#)

Icon Guide

See the [SEVIS Help Icons](#) on the SEVIS Help Hub for a quick-reference of the icons used in this job aid.

Document Revision History

Date	Revision Summary
October 24, 2018	Initial Release