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STEM Extension for Economics and Accounting Major at UCSB (STEM CIP CODE 45.0603)

UCSB students pursuing employment after completing a degree in Economics and Accounting qualify for the STEM extension as their program is coded for this opportunity.

Before the first OPT period ends, applications are submitted to the USCIS for the extension. The application may be sent up to 90 days before the first work authorization end date. In order to apply, employers must be in the E-Verify system and have completed a training plan to guide and assess the student through a source of continual learning in connection with the major and how it relates to the job.

This training plan is recorded at the employing institution and at UCSB's Office of International Students and Scholars for record keeping and any future audits by the Department of Homeland Security. The training plan is not submitted to the USCIS for the extension.

Once all the necessary paperwork has been submitted to the USCIS, the student may continue to work past the OPT end date, up to 180 days, as long as a Notice of Receipt has been obtained. Once the request has been processed, students receive a second work authorization card for the additional two-year period.

In total, Economics and Accounting students at UCSB are eligible for three years of work authorization upon successful completion at UCSB.

If you have any questions or concerns with this major at UCSB in connection with the STEM Extension, please call the Office of International Students and Scholars at (805) 893-2929 or email us at OISS@sa.ucsb.edu.