I’m graduating from Oxy...Now what?

Visa’s after graduation!
Options after graduation:

- Return home
- Go to graduate school
- Post-completion optional practical training ~ paid work for a year in the US
1. Return home

- 60 day “grace period” to pack up
- Must leave the US by the 60\textsuperscript{th} day
- If you leave the US before that 60 day grace period, and wish to return to the US, you need to return on another kind of visa (i.e., visitors visa)
2. **Go to graduate school**

- Grad school **OUTSIDE** the US, leave within 60 days.
- Grad school **INSIDE** the US, transfer SEVIS record to new school (program must begin within 5 months)
  
  ▶ E-mail IPO a scan of the acceptance letter to new school and start date of classes.
  
  ▶ IPO transfers your SEVIS record to new school after finals
  
  ▶ New school makes a new I-20 for you
  
  ▶ If you travel home during the summer, you must re-enter the US on new schools I-20
3. One year of paid work anywhere in the US!

Post completion optional practical training:

- 12 months of paid work in the US
- Not job dependent - but work must be in field of study
- Application process through USCIS ~ I-765
- Takes up to 90 days to process and get EAD card
- Apply no earlier than 90 days before end date (graduation)
- Still in F1 status with OXY - reporting requirements
- Available after each increased level of education - a year after BA, another after MA, another after Ph.D!
Eligibility

- Maintained lawful status
- Been at Oxy for minimum of one full year - all of Senior year.
- Have not used 12 months of full time Curricular Practical Training.
Preparing to apply

- **READ** OPT Information
- **DOWNLOAD** OPT Packet
- **REQUEST** a new I-20 with OPT recommendation
- **SUBMIT** to IPO completed **STUDENT INFORMATION FORM**
Application

- **Online through USCIS**
- Upload required documents - I-20’s authorizing CPT, new I-20, I-94, passport ID page, F1 visa affixed to your passport
- Pay application fee (currently $410 - credit or debit card from US bank)
- Submit no earlier than 90 days before end date of your program
- Submit no later than 30 days after new I-20 issued
While on OPT

While on OPT, you must report to IPO & SEVIS system:

- Address where you live
- Employer name, address, start date, position, and how work relates to your major

- No more than 90 days of unemployment
- Work must be in your field of study
- Cannot start working until the start date AND your card is in hand!
Travel while on OPT

- If you travel while the application is in process, please use the address of a trusted friend or IPO who you authorize to open any mail from USCIS.

- You may travel outside US - must have EAD card, letter from employer, valid F visa stamp and valid passport to re-enter.

- RFE’s, actual EAD card
Next steps.....

- IPO Website - International Students

- OPT Packet - gather components, make an appointment with IPO

- REMEMBER: Can’t apply more than 90 days **before** the end date on your I-20 AND no **later** than 30 days after new I-20 issued AND no **later** than 60 days after the end date on your I-20!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tr>
<td>90 Days Before I-20 end date</td>
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<td>30 Days After New I-20 Issued</td>
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<td>60 Days After I-20 end date</td>
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QUESTIONS?