

Broadcast Message: Policy Guidance on Practical Training—Determining a Direct Relationship Between Employment and a Student’s Major Area of Study

To: All SEVIS Users

Date: Sept. 30, 2019

Re: Policy Guidance on Practical Training—Determining a Direct Relationship Between Employment and a Student’s Major Area of Study

Number: 1909-04

General Information

On Sept. 30, 2019, the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) published a Policy Guidance document entitled, “Practical Training—Determining a Direct Relationship Between Employment and a Student’s Major Area of Study.”

The Government Accountability Office recommended in its February 2014 report, “Student and Exchange Visitor Program: DHS Needs to Assess Risks and Strengthen Oversight of Foreign Students with Employment Authorization,” that SEVP distribute guidance to designated school officials (DSOs) on how to determine whether an Optional Practical Training (OPT) job is related to a student’s major area of study. To satisfy this recommendation, this guidance explains how DSOs and students should establish the direct relationship between an OPT opportunity and a student’s major area of study.

You may review and download the new Policy Guidance entitled, “Practical Training—Determining a Direct Relationship Between Employment and a Student’s Major Area of Study,” on [ICE.gov](https://ice.dhs.gov).

If you have questions about this guidance, please contact the SEVP Response Center at 703-603-3400 or 800 892 4829, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET, except federal holidays.

Comments

To comment on this Broadcast Message, please email SEVP@ice.dhs.gov with “Broadcast Message 1909-04 Comment” entered in the subject line.

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