

Virtual Town Hall:

Impact of Coronavirus/COVID-19

Focus on Employment Issues

Wednesday, March 25, 2020 • 11:00 am Eastern



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Panelists

Jane Gatewood

Vice Provost, Global Engagement

Ravi Shankar

Assistant Vice Provost & Director, ISO

Stephanie Krause

Associate Director, ISO Student Services

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Today's Agenda

Updates on ISO Operations

Employment & F-1 Work Authorizations

- On-campus permissions
- Current CPT/OPT/STEM
- OPT Applications
- Monitoring job market

Please submit questions to the [Q&A tool!](#)

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ISO Business Operations

- Accessing ISO Staff & Services
 - Inquiries via email: questions@iso.rochester.edu
 - Temporary Phone Number: +1 (585) 371-8736
 - Advising appointments available via Zoom
- Additional Services coming soon ...
 - Student Walk-In Hours via Zoom (M, T, Th, F)
 - Revised practices for document distribution
 - Secure document submission via *URcompass*

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**Will ISO still be able to
approve/recommend
F-1 work authorizations?**

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Work Permissions

- ISO continues to support CPT & OPT
 - Existing eligibility rules and processing reqs.
 - Academic approval; Contact your department
 - UR review of liability & travel considerations
- Coordinate with ISO remotely!
 - Submit documents online; Email approvals
 - Advising & application review via Zoom
 - Option to receive scanned doc marked "COPY"

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Can I still work
on-campus during
UR office closures?

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On-Campus Employment

- F-1 & J-1 work permissions are unchanged
 - 20 hours per week during academic term
 - Otherwise maintaining status (i.e. FT enrolled)
- Contact UR office to determine work options
 - Social distancing, non-essential functions limited
 - *Form*: Continuation of Campus Work (SEO)
 - Remote work may be limited outside of NY state

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Can I work remotely
during my CPT/OPT?
What about STEM?

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F-1 Practical Training

- Arrangements to engage in work remotely
 - SEVP: “flexible with temporary adaptations”
 - Document work plans; Training objectives met
 - Focus on assessment of student’s work/training
- Report significant modifications to ISO
 - *Remote Work*: Remark in SEVIS, no new I-20
 - *End Work*: Shorten CPT (via email w/ dept.); Reporting OPT (via web form or SEVP Portal)

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Other Considerations

- “Alternative ways to maintain employment”
 - OPT: 20+ hours per week in field of study
 - Unemployment Limits – Be creative!
 - Problematic? Reduced hours, Furlough, Layoff
 - Seek guidance on employment relationship
- STEM & I-983 Training Plan
 - Update details, as needed; Copy on file in ISO
 - Special attention to supervision & evaluation

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What should I do
to apply for OPT?

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Applying for OPT

- Apply while maintaining status in the US
 - Departure after application is filed & received
 - Guidance possible on applying from abroad?
- USCIS will accept copies of original docs
 - I-20 w/ OPT recommendation; Scan as "Copy"
 - Print, Sign, & Copy; Obtain original via mail
- Apply early; Processing times may increase

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Will my employer still
be able to hire me?

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US & Global Job Markets

- Uncertain, variable, & evolving situation!
 - Social Distancing: Interviews, Hiring, Interns?
 - Stay connected with your intended employer
 - Remote work abroad: CPT/OPT may be viable
- Monitoring trends and opportunities
 - Review & consult with UR career resources
- Join us for another Town Hall in April!

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Resources on Coronavirus

- UR's Coronavirus Update website
 - www.rochester.edu/coronavirus-update/
 - Updates on policy, operations, guidance, etc.
- Stay Connected!
 - Verify connectivity & test your technologies
 - Take advantage of academic advising resources
 - Community support, even during distancing
 - ISO here to help; We appreciate your patience!

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Virtual Town Hall: Coronavirus Impact & Updates

Q & A

Submit questions via the Q&A tool!

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Thank You!

If your question was not addressed, please
email questions@iso.rochester.edu

Look for additional Town Halls!

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