

Your F-1 visa determines what you can and cannot do during your period of authorized stay in the U.S. It is critically important that you maintain legal F-1 status so that you may be eligible for the employment opportunities outlined below. SRJC will provide you with the information you need, but it is your responsibility to obey the F-1 regulations during your studies at SRJC.

**Agencies & Staff:** Here are relevant agencies governing F-1 student employment:

- ◆ **Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS):** the database used by schools and government agencies to monitor international students in the U.S.
- ◆ **Designated School Official (DSO):** SRJC employees who are authorized to issue I-20s, update SEVIS, and advise international students on maintaining F-1 status.
- ◆ **U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS):** the government organization that processes and adjudicates Economic Hardship and OPT applications.

**Employment Categories:** Here are four types of employment authorizations for F-1 students:

<p><b><u>On-Campus Employment</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ≤20 hrs/wk, or ≤25 hrs/wk during breaks</li> <li>• No authorization required</li> <li>• Requires SSN</li> <li>• Requires job offer</li> <li>• Job can be in any position</li> <li>• Permitted during first year of F-1 status</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Economic Hardship</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ≤20 hrs/wk, or &gt;20 hrs/wk during breaks</li> <li>• Requires DSO recommendation</li> <li>• Requires USCIS authorization</li> <li>• Requires SSN</li> <li>• No job offer required</li> <li>• Job can be in any position</li> <li>• \$410 application fee</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Curricular Practical Training (CPT)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ≤20 hrs/wk, or &gt;20 hrs/wk during breaks</li> <li>• Requires DSO authorization</li> <li>• Requires SSN if position is paid</li> <li>• Requires enrollment in internship units</li> <li>• Requires job offer</li> <li>• Job must be related to your major</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Optional Practical Training (OPT)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ≥20 hrs/wk</li> <li>• Requires DSO recommendation</li> <li>• Requires USCIS authorization</li> <li>• Requires SSN if position is paid</li> <li>• No job offer required</li> <li>• Job must be related to your major</li> <li>• Occurs after program completion</li> <li>• \$410 application fee</li> </ul>

**How to Apply:** visit our website at <https://international.santarosa.edu/employment>.

*Reminder: Your job is to be a student. Any employment is a benefit of maintaining F-1 visa status. Unauthorized employment will result in the termination of your SEVIS record.*