

Name	Yunzhe Li 李昀哲
Current Visa Status	F-1
Visa Sponsorship	OPT
Minimal Sponsorship Requirement	Unpaid employment. More details on Figure 1.
Evidence Needed from Employer	A signed document verifying the hours worked each week. More details on Figure 2.

- **Unpaid employment.** Students on the initial 12-month OPT may work as [volunteers](#) or [unpaid interns](#), where this does not violate any labor laws. The work must be at least 20 hours per week. These students must be able to provide evidence from the employer that the student worked at least 20 hours per week during the period of employment.

Figure 1. Definition of Unpaid Employment. Source:

<https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/students/employment/opt>


When working as an unpaid intern or volunteer on OPT, students should expect to provide evidence from their employer in the form of a letter or signed document verifying the hours worked each week, which should demonstrate a minimum of 20 hours per week dedicated to the unpaid position, and confirming that the work is related to their field of study; this documentation should be kept with the student's immigration records and can be presented if requested by USCIS during any OPT verification process. 

Figure 2. Evidence from employer