



NATIONAL AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

Application Process for Severe Economic Hardship Employment Authorization

Students who have an unforeseen economic hardship may be eligible for Severe Economic Hardship. The student must show that the economic hardship was unforeseen at the time the student applied to the school and all other potential employment opportunities have been reviewed. Examples of economic hardship may include loss of financial aid or on-campus employment, loss of financial sponsor, or unexpected changes in sponsor's financial condition, or fluctuations in the value of currency or exchange rate.

Students must have been in F-1 status for one full academic year. Employment is limited to 20 hours per week while school is in session. Students cannot begin employment until immigration services approves the application.

The following information must be forwarded to the system director for international admission.

- ❑ Form I-765, completed by student, marked with the code “(c) (3) (iii)” in item 16. Form I-765 can be downloaded from the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov.
- ❑ Copy of I-94, front and back.
- ❑ A letter from the student explaining the circumstances of the economic hardship.
- ❑ Copies of passport and visa pages. Or, for applications for renewal or work authorization, a photocopy of the previously issued EAD.

The system director will then return all documentation needed for the reinstatement application. The student will be required to send the entire application to the USCIS Service Center. The application should include:

- Completed Form I-765.
- Form I-765 processing fee of \$175 made payable to the USCIS.
- Two photos to specifications on the I-765.
- Copy of the student's Form I-20 with DSO endorsement for Severe Economic Hardship.
- Copy of I-94, front and back.
- A letter from the student explaining the circumstances of the economic hardship.
- Copies of passport and visa pages. Or, for applications for renewal or work authorization, a photocopy of the previously issued EAD.
- Optional letter of support or explanation from the P/DSO.

The student will mail the application packet to the USCIS Service Center with jurisdiction over the student's place of residence.
