



QUAKER VOLUNTARY SERVICE

QVS can only accept applications from individuals who will obtain an OPT (Optional Practical Training) extension from an F-1 educational visa after completing higher education in the United States of America. Generally, obtaining a visa is designed to be complicated and inaccessible from a bureaucratic standpoint; QVS does not have the resources or skills to support an applicant with a visa option other than OPT.

If you are applying as an international Fellow, the Director of Equity and Empowerment will set up a meeting with you upon receiving your application to make sure you have a plan in place to apply for OPT. Your college's international office will likely offer resources. If you have questions about your eligibility, reach out to zenaida@quakervoluntaryservice.org.

If you are currently a student on the F1 visa you are eligible to apply for OPT. We suggest using [this resource from Earlham College](#) where you can find additional information. You can apply for your visa 3 months before you graduate and until 2 months after. We aim to send out offer letters by the beginning of May. If you know that you want to do QVS you should apply for OPT by April 15th (before getting your offer letter) at the latest. The QVS program goes from late August until mid-June. You need to be able to stay for the full program on OPT. If you know that you would not be able to stay for the full 9 ½ months, unfortunately you will not be able to do QVS.

F1 Visas with the OPT extension to stay in the US is currently the only visa that will allow you to serve with Quaker Voluntary Service. We cannot accept any other visa type at this time.