How to Hire Non-U.S. Students

More than 6.9% of MSU undergraduate and 66% of MSU graduate engineering students come from outside the United States. These students bring skills and perspectives to their education that make them particularly valuable in the global business environment.

Summer Internships Are Easy
Most non-U.S. engineering students with F-1 student visas at Michigan State University are eligible to participate in a government approved educational program called Curricular Practical Training (CPT). CPT authorizes non-U.S. students to work in the United States during the summer between their two full years of study. MSU and the U.S. Office of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) provide the work authorization prior to the student starting work. On the first day of employment the authorized student will have all the necessary documentation to complete the I-9 form legally and begin working for your company. This work authorization requires no pre- or postwork administration on the part of the employer—no paperwork, no prequalification, and no fees.

Full-Time Employment
An H-1B visa from ICE allows foreign nationals who want to live and work in a specialty occupation in the United States to do so for three years, and may be extended for another three years.

Employer and employee petition together for the visa; the process is relatively inexpensive.

A Hiring Policy Is Important
It is important that all members of your recruiting team understand your hiring policy, either for your organization or for a particular business unit, if they are different.

Let the Center for Spartan Engineering know what your work authorization requirements are so we can help make certain that students have accurate information.

Call the Center for Spartan Engineering at 517-355-5163 to learn more about hiring non-U.S. students and how we can help facilitate this process for you.