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MEMO

RE: CIP Code for UC Berkeley Applied Science & Technology MS and PhD degree programs – 14.0101, Engineering, General.

Dear USCIS Adjudicator:

The UC Berkeley Applied Science & Technology MS and PhD degree programs are assigned the CIP code 14.0101, Engineering, General. CIP code determinations are made at the University level (not by the DSO) and have final approval from the University of California Office of the President, after review and approvals by the University Registrar, Office of Planning and Analysis, and the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education (for undergraduate programs) or the Graduate Division (for graduate programs). CIP code information is also reported to WASC Senior College and University Commission by the Accreditation Liaison Officer.

The CIP code 14.0101, Engineering, General, is found on the DHS STEM Designated Degree Program List: https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/stem-opt-hub/additional-resources/eligible-cip-codes-for-the-stem-opt-extension. The student's SEVIS record and I-20 reflect the STEM-eligible CIP code. F-1 regulations at 8 CFR 214.2(f)(10)(ii)(C)(2)(iii) state: "At the time the DSO recommends a 24-month OPT extension under this paragraph (f)(10)(ii)(C) in SEVIS, the degree that is the basis for the application for the OPT extension must be contained within a category on the STEM Designated Degree Program List."

The university determined that the Applied Science & Technology MS and PhD programs best align with CIP code 14.0101, Engineering, General, the description of which, according to the U.S. Department of Education (National Center for Education Statistics, 2020 CIP), is as follows: "A program that generally prepares individuals to apply mathematical and scientific principles to solve a wide variety of practical problems in industry, social organization, public works, and commerce. Includes instruction in undifferentiated and individualized programs in engineering.

Berkeley International Office understands that there may be some confusion when a CIP code does not directly mirror the name of the degree program as listed on the diploma or transcript. USCIS should be aware that it is common for a particular degree program name to differ from the title of the CIP code assigned to it.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact a DSO at Berkeley International Office at internationaloffice@berkeley.edu or 510-642-2818.

Sincerely,

Berkeley International Office University of California at Berkeley