



MEMO

September 2019

RE: CIP Code for UC Berkeley Master of Business Administration (MBA) 52.1301 - Management Science, General

Dear USCIS Adjudicator:

At UC Berkeley, the Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree is designated and coded with the CIP code 52.1301 - Management Science, 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 (for graduate students) the Graduate Division. 52.1301 - Management Science, General is found in the STEM eligible CIP code list:

<https://www.ice.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Document/2016/stem-list.pdf>

The student's SEVIS record shows the STEM CIP and major coding, as do the student's OPT and STEM I-20s. In September 2019, all MBA major CIP codes retroactive to Fall 2018 (for students enrolled in the MBA 8/15/2018 or later) were updated at the institutional level prior to recommendation for the STEM extension. 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 MBA best aligns with CIP 52.1301 - Management Science, General, the description of which, according to the U.S. Department of Education (National Center for Education Statistics, 2010 CIP), is as follows: "A general program that focuses on the application of statistical modeling, data warehousing, data mining, programming, forecasting and operations research techniques to the analysis of problems of business organization and performance. Includes instruction in optimization theory and mathematical techniques, data mining, data warehousing, stochastic and dynamic modeling, operations analysis, and the design and testing of prototype systems and evaluation models."

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

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,
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