

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

Berkeley International Office
2150 Shattuck Avenue, Suite 500
Berkeley, California 94704

TEL: (510) 642-2818
FAX: (510) 643-7289

internationaloffice.berkeley.edu

MEMO

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RE: CIP Code for UC Berkeley Master of Design (MDes) degree program – 14.9999, Engineering, Other

Dear USCIS Adjudicator:

At UC Berkeley, the Master of Design (MDes) degree program, jointly offered by our College of Engineering and College of Environmental Design, is designated and coded with the CIP code 14.9999, Engineering, Other. 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. The CIP code 14.9999, Engineering, Other, 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 clearly shows the STEM CIP and major coding, as do the student's OPT and STEM OPT I-20s. UC Berkeley has determined that the Master of Design degree program best aligns with 14.9999, Engineering, Other, the description of which, according to the U.S. Department of Education (National Center for Education Statistics, 2020 CIP), is as follows: "Any instructional program in engineering not listed above."

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,

Berkeley International Office
University of California at Berkeley