

Division of Student Affairs Office of International Student Services

Curricular Practical Training

Completed Request for Practical Training Form?

□ Taken care of registration holds?

□ Have letter from employer?

Registered for the credit (if applicable)?

F-1 students whose program of study includes a cooperative education experience, an internship, or other outside work component can apply for Curricular Practical Training (CPT). Although permission for CPT is relatively simple and quick to obtain, students must meet certain requirements for the training and must receive written permission for the training from the Office of International Student Services before beginning work.

Eligibility

- Student must have been lawfully enrolled on a full-time basis for one full year before being eligible for CPT. An exception exists for graduate students whose programs require immediate curricular practical training.
- CPT is available only while a student is in F-1 status, before program completion.
- Students in English language training programs are ineligible for CPT.

Requirements

- The employment must be an integral part of an established curriculum, i.e., required for program completion or credit-bearing. Some examples of qualifying employment include practicums, alternate work/study, internships, and cooperative education.
- The employment must be directly related to the student's field of study and commensurate with his/her educational level.

Duration

- CPT may be granted in one-year increments. However, there is no limit on either the number of times a student may engage in either part or full-time CPT.
- Part-time training has no effect on Optional Practical Training (OPT); however, receiving 12 months of fulltime CPT constitutes a forfeiture of OPT after graduation.

Application Procedures

- Make certain the employment meets the criteria above.
- Make certain all holds have been removed from your account.
- Obtain a job offer and request a letter indicating job title, dates of employment, number of hours, and location of employment.
- Complete <u>Request for Practical Training Form</u>.
- Register for the credit (if applicable).
- Bring completed form and copy of job offer letter to the International Office. A new I-20 will be generated with the notation for CPT on page 3.

Limitations

- There is no limit to how much CPT you can receive-as long as it meets requirements. Training may be full or part-time.
- Part-time training has no effect on Optional Practical Training (OPT); however, receiving 12 months of fulltime CPT constitutes a forfeiture of OPT after graduation. (Full-time CPT is any number exceeding 20 hours.)
- The earliest you may begin employment is the date on which your completed application (i.e. all forms submitted and holds removed) is received in the office.
- CPT terminates when you fail to comply with F-1 regulations or when you transfer and register for courses at another institution.
- If you change internship employers or you will need to extend for an additional semester, the entire application process must be repeated.
- If, for whatever reason, you end your internship earlier than expected, you should notify the Office of International Student Services by having an official letter sent from the company. This is especially important if your CPT is full-time.