

What is Curricular Practical Training (CPT)?

An F-1 student may be authorized by the university to participate in a work opportunity that is an **integral part of his or her established curriculum**. CPT is defined to be **alternative work/study, internship, cooperative education, or any other type of required internship or practicum at an off-campus worksite**. CPT authorization is necessary whether the work is **paid or unpaid**.

Who is eligible?

F-1 students who are legally maintaining their status; **and**

Who have been **enrolled full-time for at least one academic year in the United States** with their current SEVIS record. Exception: Graduate students who have internship requirements within their first academic year.

Students **must be registered full-time** during the academic year (fall and spring terms) to participate in CPT. If students have an approved Reduced Course Load authorization, their CPT request will be individually considered for eligibility, depending on the circumstances for course load reduction.

In the **summer term**, students must be enrolled in an internship course or course which directly relates to the CPT opportunity **in either the summer, the spring prior to, or the fall after the internship**. Students must be enrolled in the class before authorization is given.

Students must be in **good academic standing**.

F-1 students must have a **job offer on letterhead**. The job must directly relate to their major program of study.

Types of CPT

- A. **Required for the degree program.** Required means that all students in the degree program are required to complete an internship or practicum in order to receive the degree.
- B. **Internship course recommended for hands-on training.** If the internship is not required for the degree, but the student has been recommended by the professor and/or academic advisor to take an internship course within his/her major in order to gain practical experiences in the field.
- C. **Associated with the program's established curriculum.** If the internship is not required for the degree, it must be taken for academic credit and connected to a relevant class that has similar educational objectives. To be