

CURRICULAR PRACTICAL TRAINING

Definition

CPT “must be an integral part of an established curriculum.” It allows a lawful F-1 student to engage in “alternate work/study, internship, cooperative education or any other type of **required** internship or practicum which is offered by sponsoring employers through cooperative agreements with the school.” A student may choose to receive wages or academic credit for this experience.

Eligibility Requirements CPT

- ❑ Students must be in lawful F-1 status at the time of the application.
- ❑ Students must complete one academic year as full-time students before they become eligible for CPT unless your academic program **requires** immediate participation for all students.

Application Procedures

1. Original job offer letter on (company letterhead) from the proposed employer that includes the following information:
 - a. Place of employment
 - b. Location
 - c. Job description
 - d. Number of hours per week; and
 - e. Beginning and ending dates of employment
2. Academic advisor’s recommendation certifying that the “alternate work/study, internship, cooperative education” is a **required/strongly recommended experience** of the field of study.

All documents must be submitted to the Office of International Students & Scholars in person and/or by e-mail to: issoff@etal.uri.edu.

Important Information

- You may engage in Curricular Practical Training only **after** you have obtained permission from the office of International Students & Scholars.
- All CPT employment must be completed before graduation.
- You must maintain full course of study or its equivalent while on CPT.
- CPT employment must be performed for the specific employer, location and period listed on the I-20.
- You may engage in CPT part time (20 hrs or less) or full time (over 20 hrs).
- There is no cumulative maximum for CPT, however, if you complete twelve (12) months or more of full time CPT, you will **NOT** be eligible for Optional Practical Training (OPT).
- CPT will only be granted for one semester at a time.
- To be eligible for CPT during the **Final Term**-You must be enrolled. If you are enrolled part-time because you do not need a full course load to complete your remaining degree requirements, you must submit a Reduced Course Load Form (RCL) to the International Center.

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