



WHAT IS CPT?

Curricular Practical Training (CPT) is a temporary employment authorization benefit extended to F-1 students in degree-granting programs to gain practical experience that is directly related to their field of study. CPT is defined in 8 CFR 214.2(f) (10)(i) as an "alternative work/study, internship, cooperative education, or any other type of required internship or practicum that is offered by sponsoring employers through cooperative agreements with the school" and may be authorized for training that is an "integral part of an established curriculum."

DIFFERENT WAYS TO USE CPT

You may pursue either one of the following options for CPT to be considered an integral part of your curriculum:

» Required Internship or Practicum.

Participating in an internship or practicum is a requirement of your program that is necessary for graduation.

» Academically Recommended Internship.

If your program does not have a required internship or practicum, you may be eligible for CPT if participating in practical training would be academically recommended to enhance and supplement your in-class learning. Academically recommended internships are approved through UCF Experiential Learning (EL). If you are admitted to the Experiential Learning program, EL will register you for a 1 credit hour course which will appear on your transcript. You must complete all work required of the course and receive a grade of "Satisfactory". Failure to complete the Experiential Learning course with a grade of "Satisfactory" will disqualify you from future participation in the Experiential Learning program. EL determines if a student is eligible to participate in the Experiential Learning program.

CPT can be done either part-time or full-time during each of the fall, spring, and summer semesters.

Table with 2 columns: PART-TIME and FULL-TIME. Part-time includes 20 hours per week or less, time accrued does not affect OPT, and students may choose to continue working on-campus up to 20 hours per week. Full-time includes 21-40 hours maximum per week, students who receive 365 days or more of full-time CPT are ineligible for OPT, and students may not work on-campus while on full-time CPT.

ENROLLMENT WHILE ON CPT

All students pursuing CPT must be enrolled in an internship, practicum, or Experiential Learning course. Additionally, students pursuing CPT in the fall or spring semesters must maintain full-time enrollment\* while on CPT. Students pursuing CPT over the summer semester who are not graduating in that summer semester are only required to enroll in the internship, practicum, or Experiential Learning course. However, students pursuing CPT over the summer who plan to graduate that same summer semester are required to maintain full-time enrollment\*.

\*Students in their final semester who have filed an "Intent to Graduate" may submit a Reduced Course Load request if they have less than a full course load of classes left to meet graduation requirements.



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- » Must be in valid F-1 status to apply for CPT.
» Must have been enrolled full-time for at least one academic year in a degree-granting program immediately preceding the CPT.
» Semesters of enrollment with an approved Reduced Course Load count toward the academic year requirement.
» Continuous enrollment in another visa status or in another program may also count toward this requirement upon review by a UCF Global Immigration Advisor.
» Students must be in a degree-granting program. English Language Institute and Global Achievement Academy programs are not eligible.
» CPT employment must be off-campus and not considered on-campus employment.
» Employment must be an integral part of the student's curriculum and directly related to the student's primary field of study.

CPT DATES

Since CPT is curricular in nature and tied to enrollment in an internship, practicum, or Experiential Learning course, CPT is authorized on a semester-by-semester basis. Students are encouraged to apply early! Refer to the table for application timeframes. You cannot begin employment until the CPT start date listed on your I-20 that will be issued by a UCF Global Immigration Advisor.

Table with 7 columns: SEMESTER, FIRST DAY TO APPLY, FIRST DAY TO BEGIN, LAST DAY TO APPLY (Required Internship), LAST DAY TO APPLY & LAST DAY TO BEGIN CPT (Recommended Internship), LAST DAY TO END CPT (Continuing Students), LAST DAY TO END (Graduating Students). Rows for Fall & Spring and Summer.

\*Any registration after the Add Deadline may incur fees.



**HOW TO APPLY**

**Step 1: Review**

Review this application packet thoroughly. If you have specific questions about CPT after reading this packet, contact UCF Global to schedule an appointment with an immigration advisor.

**Step 2: Job Offer**

CPT authorization is employer and date specific so you must have a job offer to apply. You must have a letter from the employer on letterhead that contains the following information.

A sample letter is available at <https://www.international.ucf.edu/formsandfiles/8444/> or page 9 of this packet.

- Name of employer and physical address where you will work
- Supervisor name, title, direct phone number, and email address
- Start and end dates of employment (MM/DD/YYYY). The start date cannot be before the semester start date.
- Job title and description of job duties
- Number of hours to be worked per week
- Hourly rate of pay (if applicable)
- Statement that the employer will be cooperating with the school in achieving the curricular purposes of the Curricular Practical Training by completing an evaluation if required by the student’s internship course

**Step 3: Complete the Student CPT Application**

Ensure that you have completed all fields of the Student CPT Application including the statement of intent and academic learning outcomes.

**Step 4: Meet with your academic advisor, internship coordinator, or academic program coordinator.**

Review your job offer and completed CPT application with your academic advisor, internship coordinator, or academic program coordinator. They should indicate on the CPT form their recommendation of the academic appropriateness of your proposed CPT participation by completing Part I of the Academic Recommendation Form.

WHO SHOULD SIGN PART 1 OF MY ACADEMIC RECOMMENDATION FOR CPT	
Undergraduate and Graduate students with required internship	Internship Coordinator
Undergraduate students with academically recommended internship	Academic Program Coordinator
Graduate students with academically recommended internship	Academic Advisor



**STEP 5: Meet with Experiential Learning (for students pursuing an academically recommended internship only)**

Prior to meeting with EL, be sure there are no holds on your student account which prevent registration. Bring your job offer and completed CPT application. Your EL advisor will determine your eligibility for participation in the Experiential Learning course. If approved, they will sign Part II of your Academic Recommendation for CPT form and register you in the Experiential Learning (IDS 3947/IDS 5947) course.

**STEP 6: Schedule a CPT Processing Appointment with a UCF Global Immigration Advisor and bring all items on the CPT Checklist with you to your appointment. (Walk-ins for CPT Processing are not accepted.)**

Your UCF Global Immigration Advisor will review your job offer letter, CPT Application Form, verify your enrollment in the internship, practicum, or Experiential Learning course, and will determine your eligibility for CPT. If approved, you will be issued an I-20 with your CPT authorization listed on page two.

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**CPT CHECKLIST**

Bring all of the following to your appointment with a UCF Global Immigration Advisor. Your appointment will be rescheduled if your documents are incomplete.

- Job Offer letter containing all of the information listed in STEP 2.
- Completed CPT Student Application
- Completed Academic Recommendation for CPT Form
- Students seeking to meet the academic year requirement for CPT eligibility through continuous enrollment in another visa status or in another program at a school other than UCF must also submit a copy of their transcripts showing continuous enrollment.



CPT STUDENT APPLICATION

All fields required. Please type.

UCF ID: SEVIS Number: NO:

Last Name: First Name:

Telephone Number: E-mail Address:

I am currently working on campus: Yes No

If yes, list your on-campus employer:

Select one: Graduate Assistantship Graduate Fellowship On-Campus Job

I am applying for:

Part-Time CPT (20 hours or less per week)

Full-Time CPT (21-40 hours per week)

Requested Start Date (MM/DD/YYYY): Requested End Date (MM/DD/YYYY):

Employer Name:

Employer Address (where you will be working):

City: State: Zip Code:

Your Job Title:

Briefly describe your job duties (2-3 sentences):

Supervisor Full Name:

Supervisor Phone: Supervisor Email:

STATEMENT OF INTENT

In 4-5 sentences, describe how this job directly relates to your field of study and how you plan to apply the knowledge and skills developed through your coursework to this job.

ACADEMIC LEARNING OBJECTIVES

List 2 things you hope to learn through participating in Curricular Practical Training.

1.

2.



PREVIOUS CPT PARTICIPATION

List any previous CPT participation at your current degree level. Attach an additional sheet, if necessary.

Please note that using 365 days or more of full-time CPT causes you to be ineligible for Optional Practical Training (OPT).

Table with 4 columns: From, To, Full Time, Part Time. It contains four rows of blank lines for entering CPT participation data.

STUDENT CERTIFICATION

Please read and initial each statement.

I understand that while on Curricular Practical Training (CPT), I am required to abide by all immigration regulations governing F-1 visa status. I also understand, agree, and accept the following specific terms:

Initial

I have read and understand the UCF Global CPT Handout for F-1 Students

I will work only within the dates authorized on my I-20 and only for the employer listed on my I-20.

I will show my original I-20 with CPT authorization to my employer prior to beginning employment.

I understand that CPT is approved on a semester-by-semester basis. If I wish to continue working beyond the expiration date of my CPT employment authorization, I will reapply for CPT prior to the expiration date. If I do not reapply, I will stop working on the date my CPT employment authorization expires.

I will maintain a full course of study during the fall and spring semesters.

I will maintain my enrollment in the internship, practicum, or Experiential Learning course.

I understand that I cannot change my CPT after it has been authorized.

If I was accepted into the Experiential Learning program, I understand that I must satisfactorily complete the course and submit all required work for the course by the deadlines established by the course instructor. I understand that failure to satisfactorily complete the course will cause me to be ineligible for future participation in the Experiential Learning program and Optional Practical Training may be the only option available to me.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



ACADEMIC RECOMMENDATION FOR CPT

UCF ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Degree level: [ ] Bachelor's [ ] Master's [ ] Doctoral

Student Major: \_\_\_\_\_

PART I:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE ACADEMIC ADVISOR, INTERNSHIP COORDINATOR, OR ACADEMIC PROGRAM COORDINATOR

I have met with \_\_\_\_\_ (Student's Name) to review their job offer letter, statement of intent, and academic learning objectives and have found the proposed practical training opportunity, as presented to me, to be directly related to the student's major/program listed above.

Choose one:

[ ] This employment will be counted toward meeting a required internship or practicum component of the student's degree program. The student will be enrolled in the following internship or practicum:

Course Name, Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Semester: \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] This employment is academically recommended to enhance and supplement the student's in-class learning. The student will be referred to Experiential Learning for enrollment in the Experiential Learning Program.

Additional Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I am the student's:

[ ] Academic Advisor [ ] Internship Coordinator [ ] Academic Program Coordinator [ ] Department Chair or Dean

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you. Please return this form to the student.



PART II:

TO BE COMPLETED BY EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING (FOR ACADEMICALLY RECOMMENDED INTERNSHIPS ONLY)

I confirm I have reviewed the student's job offer letter, Student CPT Application, and Part I of the Academic Recommendation for CPT form. The student has been accepted into the Experiential Learning Program and will be enrolled in the following course during the semester listed below:

Course Name, Number: [ ] IDS 3947 [ ] IDS 5947

Semester: \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] A Late Add Form will be submitted to the Registrar after the 5th Friday of the semester. Registration in the above mentioned course will appear shortly thereafter.

Additionally, I confirm that the company is an employer recognized by Experiential Learning.

Additional Comments:

Four horizontal lines for additional comments.

EL Advisor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you. Please return this form to the student.

UCF GLOBAL USE ONLY

Academic Year Met: [ ] Yes [ ] No

Directly Related to Major/Program: [ ] Yes [ ] No

Enrollment in Internship, Practicum, or Experiential Learning Course: [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Late Add

Outcome: [ ] Approved [ ] Denied

Immigration Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

Two horizontal lines for notes.

[ ] Sevis [ ] PS [ ] Scanning





**A NOTE TO EMPLOYERS**

International students in F-1 status may be eligible to apply for Curricular Practical Training which is a type of practical training/employment authorization that is directly related to their field of study. As part of the application for this authorization, students need to submit a letter from the employer that provides some key details regarding the employment offer, as outlined in the sample letter below. Additionally, students are required to enroll in an internship course offered through their academic department or UCF Experiential Learning. These courses often require the student to submit an evaluation from their supervisor to complete the learning objectives of the course.

Thank you for in advance for your assistance in completing these steps. If you have any questions, you are welcome to contact UCF Global - International Student & Scholar Services at 407-823-2337.

[Official letterhead]

[Date]

[Student Name]  
[Student Address]

Dear [Student Name],

[Company/Organization Name] is pleased to offer you a position as [Title of Position]. Below is the confirmation of the specifics regarding your position with our company.

- Employer Name:
- Physical Address where you will work:
- Position Title:
- Description of Duties/Job Description:
- Number of Work Hours Per Week:
- Hourly rate of pay (if applicable):
- Start date of employment: (MM/DD/YYYY)
- End date of employment: (MM/DD/YYYY)
- Supervisor name, title, direct phone number, and email address

I confirm that we will be cooperating with the University of Central Florida to achieve the curricular purpose of this work experience by providing you with the opportunity to gain practical experience in your field of study and by completing an evaluation if needed for your internship course. If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

[Signature]  
[Name]  
[Title]