



Curricular Practical Training (CPT)

CPT is considered short term employment that is an integral part of an established curriculum and directly related to the student's major field of study. It allows students to gain practical experience while in school and is authorized by the International Office.

Students are not permitted to engage in any employment prior to receiving their CPT authorization. Furthermore, students should not work more than the authorized amount of hours or beyond the timeframe indicated on the I-20.

The International Office authorizes CPT for internships and CPT for short term employment. Students who are participating in an unpaid internship or volunteer work do not need CPT authorization. Students who have been approved for 12 months of full-time CPT throughout a degree program, will lose their OPT eligibility.

Conditions and Limitations:

- Student must have been enrolled as a full time F1 student for one academic year prior to participating in CPT.
- Students must maintain a good record of full-time student status in a degree program (BFA/BA/BS-12 units, MFA/MA-9 units).
- Students must be enrolled in a degree seeking program. Personal Enrichment students do not qualify for CPT.
- CPT must be PART-TIME, 20 hours per week or less during any Spring and Fall semester while enrolled in a full course load. Consequently, any internship or short term employment must be in the SF Bay Area, unless the internship is during the summer and student is scheduled to resume onsite classes in the following Fall semester.
- CPT can be FULL-TIME during the summer semester only, unless summer is the last semester before degree completion.
- Students who have one class left to complete degree requirements and are planning to take the last class as an internship class, must apply for pre-completion OPT. For more detailed information, please contact the International Office at intlservices@academyart.edu
- Students may be authorized for CPT only one semester at a time. If 2 consecutive semesters of CPT are desired, the student must complete a new application 2-3 weeks before the next CPT period begins.
- CPT can be authorized for internships and short term employment. If you have an internship or short term employment offer or you are simply interested in applying for CPT, please contact your academic advisor or the International Office for additional information.