Curricular Practical Training (CPT) Application Packet

General
Curricular Practical Training (CPT) is an internship, co-operative education, or required practicum (such as a clinical course) offered by sponsoring employers through cooperative agreements with The University. CPT may be paid or unpaid employment. The purpose of CPT is to facilitate academic objectives. CPT must be an integral part of a student's established curriculum where the position is directly related to the student's major area of study. CPT may only be taken before completion of study.

The student must obtain employment authorization from the International Office to be engaged in CPT BEFORE beginning the internship/co-op/practicum. CPT employment authorization will be given on a new I-20 issued upon approval of the CPT application. The conditions of CPT (the employer's name, part/full time, location, the CPT period) will be indicated on this form. You may not change employers during CPT.

CPT Eligibility Requirements
Applications for CPT will only be considered if the co-op/internship/practicum meets one of the following criteria:
1. The co-op/internship/practicum is required by your program in order to graduate. Employment experience that is required for all students in a degree program always meets the requirements for CPT, regardless of whether academic credit is received for the work.
2. If the co-op/internship/practicum is not required for graduation from your degree program, then the training must be listed in the school bulletin of course offerings, carry academic credit (except for co-ops), and have an instructor assigned to the course.

*Colleges may have additional restrictions or requirements regarding internships, and not all colleges offer co-ops.

Student Eligibility Requirements
- You have been enrolled full-time for one academic year. Exception: This requirement is waived for graduate students who must start CPT immediately due to their program requirements.
- You are in good academic standing and are maintaining valid F-1 status.
- If you participated in The University of Akron study abroad program, the semester of study abroad can be counted towards the one full academic year requirement. However, prior to studying abroad you must have been enrolled in this program full-time at UA for at least one semester while physically present in Akron.
- Students enrolled in the English Language Institute are not eligible for CPT.

Part-Time CPT
Employment for 20 hours or less per week is considered "part-time". You must be enrolled full-time. There is no limitation on the length of time you may participate in part-time CPT; this type of CPT does not affect student's eligibility for Optional Practical Training (OPT).

Full-Time CPT
Employment for more than 20 hours a week is considered "full-time". You must be enrolled full-time. If you have one year or more of full-time CPT, you will not be eligible for OPT.

CPT during Summer
If you do CPT during the summer, then you only have to enroll in the internship course or credits to monitor the internship. You DO NOT have to enroll full-time (unless summer is your final semester).
CURRICULAR PRACTICAL TRAINING
Application for Co-op/Internship/Practicum

Instructions: The student completes Section I. Your Academic Advisor completes Section II.

Section I. To be completed by the student:

Please submit this application AND a copy of the job/training offer letter from the employer typed on company letterhead, signed by the employer. The letter must include employment dates, job duties, supervisor’s name and hours per week. You must submit these documents to the International Center at least two weeks before the beginning date of the semester. If the CPT application is approved, the CPT employment authorization and conditions of this authorization will be indicated on a new I-20. This I-20, together with your valid passport and I-94 indicating “D/S”, will be your employment authorization. You may start the CPT only upon receipt of the I-20 with employment authorization. Working off-campus without employment authorization is a violation of F-1 visa status. Authorization will be given on a semester basis only. Any additional semesters or time on the CPT requires a new application.

Student’s name ________________________________ Major/Program______________________________

Student ID ___________________________ Student email _________________________________

Date that the student expects to complete all course requirements _____________________________

Employer Name_____________________________ Employer Phone number__________________

Employer Address ________________________________________________________________________

Employment Supervisor _________________________________

Employment start date_________ Employment end date__________________________

Hours per week ____________________ ☐ Part-time ☐ Full-time

Note: Part-time means 20 hours per week or less. Employment for more than 20 hours per week is considered full-time.

Please list all previous periods of authorized practical training (if applicable):

CPT or OPT___________ Major/Level of the program_______________________________________

CPT or OPT___________ Major/Level of the program_______________________________________

I understand that my practical training must be directly related to the major and level of my current program.

Student signature ___________________________ Print ___________________________ Date ______________
Section II. To be completed by the Academic Advisor.

The student listed below wishes to apply for Curricular Practical Training (CPT). CPT is employment authorization that is an integral part of the student’s established curriculum and is directly related to the student’s major area of study. CPT is not meant to facilitate special employment opportunities for F-1 students. If the primary goal in the proposed work experience is not academic, CPT should not be recommended. Please certify that the proposed program meets the following requirements.

Student____________________________________ ID #_________________

1. This work experience is an integral part of the established curriculum and part of the student’s degree program. Briefly describe how the employment is an integral part of the curriculum.

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

2. Is the co-op/internship/training required for all students in order to graduate from their program of study?   Yes ☐   No. ☐ If no, the student must register for a course.

Please complete the following:

Course number__________________  Course title_____________________________

Number of credits student will receive (if applicable)______________  Semester/session_____________

Name of Instructor_______________________________________________________________________

For thesis/dissertation students only. If the student will enroll in thesis or dissertation credits to monitor the internship, the work must be related to the student’s thesis or dissertation research. Describe how the work will be incorporated into the student’s thesis or dissertation.

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

3. This work is offered through a cooperative agreement between The University of Akron and the employer.

______________________________________________________________________________________

Signature of Academic Advisor (Required) Print Date

Additional signature, if required Print Date
(Required for co-op students and College of Engineering graduate level internships)