Day 1 CPT

Jing Feng Law Group PLLC
U.S. Immigration Attorneys & Counselors

Curricular Practical Training (CPT)

Curricular Practical Training (CPT) allows F Visa students to work and gain work experience through employment training and paid internship programs directly related to their major area of study.

Day 1 CPT

Generally, F Visa students have to study a program for more than one year before they are allowed to engage in CPT. However, those who have already completed a program in the U.S. may bypass this requirement. This makes Day 1 CPT possible.

CPT Conditions

- CPT must be integral to your major and the experience must be part of your program of study.
- For Day 1 CPT in graduate levels, designated school officials (DSO) may authorize CPT during the first semester if the program requires this type of experience.
- CPT requires a signed cooperative agreement or a letter from the employer.

CPT Conditions

- You can work on CPT either full-time or part-time.
- If you have 12 months or more of full-time CPT, you are ineligible for OPT, but part-time CPT will not impact your OPT.

CPT Eligibility

Designated School Officials (DSOs) have the right to determine the Day 1 CPT eligibility of the students. It is up to the university to determine if any of its programs need to be paired with a Day 1 CPT option. It is also the university's responsibility to make sure their Day 1 CPT programs are in compliance with all the USCIS regulations.

Requirements for Schools

- Designated school official (DSO) authorization of CPT on the student's Form I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status.
- Authorization by DSO should be based upon finding that the CPT is an integral part of an established curriculum.
- Statement that the authorized CPT is an integral part of the student's program.
- CPT agreement signed by the school and the employer.

Requirements for Students

- F-1 (full-time student) status;
- CPT job offer;
- CPT job description should be closely related to enrolled program;
- CPT application should be approved by DSO with CPT I-20;

- Throughout CPT, you should maintain GPA at or above 3.0;
- Part-time CPT is 20hr/week;
- Full-time CPT is 40hr/week;
- If you used full-time CPT for 12 months, you will not be able to have OPT after graduation.

Document List for Students

Secure the following while under CPT (you are required to present them when changing your status):

- Official transcripts issued by the school;
- Certificates issued to you showing courses completion;
- Receipts for tuition payment;
- Receipt for books, parking passes, and school supplies;
- Your student ID;
- Your course list and syllabi;
- Info about your program;
- Evidence showing that you have attended the courses including transportation receipts, tickets, and attendance records;

- Your US residence's utilities bills, rental contracts, and rent payment receipts;
- Online education class credits you are enrolled for each session, term, and semester;
- Name and code of the courses which you are enrolled that require CPT;
- Document as evidence that CPT is required for your study; and
- Statement from the school that CPT is an integral part of your program.

Application Process

Step 1
Get an offer from accredited Day 1 CPT University. By this time, it is ideal that you should already have a job offer from your intended CPT job.

Step 2
Complete SEVIS Transfer to enable CPT university to issue new I-20.

Step 3
Upon payment of tuition fee, enroll to selected course which curriculum requires CPT.

Application Process

Step 4

Apply for CPT according to school guidelines. Submit your offer letter, and a CPT agreement signed by your employer along with other supporting materials required by your university to apply for a new CPT I-20.

Step 5

Wait for your CPT application to be approved by your CPT school and receive your new I-20. You are not allowed to work until you receive your new I-20.

Problematic CPT

A problematic CPT might result to serious consequences, which impact changing or extending your status in the future. Such record also triggers denial of your visa application.

Signs of a Problematic CPT

- **If all you need to do is to pay the tuition;**
- **If you are never required to attend any classes;**
- **If there are no regular campus, staff, and teaching activities; and**
- **If anyone in the same program was denied a change of status due to participating in the program.**

What is a Legit CPT?

- If you are enrolled in a legitimate CPT program and you have to attend discussions and maintain good standing;
- If your CPT is authorized by the DSO;
- If you keep your I-20 updated;
- If the school has a good partnership with the CPT job; and
- If the program has a good track record in terms of previous successful CPT's.

Day 1 CPT programs:

	Trine University	Westcliff University	Monroe College	Harrisburg University	California Institute of Advanced Management	Ottawa University	Humphreys University	National Louis University
Location of the campus	Detroit MI Pheonix AZ	Irvine CA Miami FL	New Rochelle NY Bronx NY	Harrisburg PA Philadelphia PA Dubai, UAE	Alhambra CA	Overland Park KS Brookfield WI Surprise AZ	Stockton CA	Tampa FL
Frequency of virtual attendance	No info from official website	Weekly	No info from official website	Weekly	No info from official website	No info from official website	No info from official website	No info from official website
Frequency of in-person attendance	No info from official website	No info from official website	No info from official website	No info from official website	No info from official website	No info from official website	Every weekend	No info from official website
Frequency of CPT Renewal	Once per academic year	Once per semester	Once per semester	Once per year	Once per semester	Once per semester	Once per semester	Once per semester
Type of school	Non-Profit	For-Profit	For-Profit	Non-Profit	Non-Profit	Non-Profit	Non-Profit	Non-Profit
Master in Business	MBA & MSBA	MBA	MBA	N/A	MBA with 2 concentrations	EMBA, MBA,	MBA & MBA-IT	MBA
Doctor in Business	N/A	DBA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	DBA
Master in IT	MSIS	MSCS & MSIT	MSCS	MSIT	N/A	N/A	MBA-IT	N/A
Master in DS	N/A	N/A	MSDS	N/A	N/A	N/A	MBA	N/A
Switching between Master's and PhD in DS/BA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Master in Project Management	MSEM	MSEM	N/A	Project Management MA	MBA	N/A	N/A	N/A
Doctor of various subjects	N/A	DBA	N/A	PhD-IT	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Estimated tuition for 2023 per semester (6 Credit hours)	$3000 - $3500	$4500 - $5400	$3900 - $9000	$5000	$4000	$3900	$2580	$4554 - $4686
Duration	2.5 Years	2 - 5 Years	1.5 - 3 Years	3 Years	2 Years	3 - 3.5 Years	2 Years	2.5 - 5 Years
Highest global scholarship	**Sholarship only available to undergraduate programs**	**Up to $5000**	**Up to 20% of tuition**	**Sholarship only available to undergraduate programs**	**No amount on official website**	**No amount on official website**	**No amount on official website**	**No amount on official website**

Information shown above are collected via official school websites as of April 14, 2023. Changes may be implemented by the schools in the future.

End

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