

## International Student and Scholar Support

# CURRICULAR PRACTICAL TRAINING

CPT is a work benefit of the F-1 visa which allows international students to work off-campus jobs, but only if the job is integral to the curriculum and necessary for graduation. All off-campus jobs, paid or unpaid, require CPT authorization from ISSS.

### What is CPT?

- Off-campus work authorization for educational gain (not monetary)
- Training required by degree or specific course
- Experiential work opportunity
- Internship connected to curriculum

### CPT Requirements:

- Full-time enrollment on F-1 status for 1 academic year prior to applying
- Must receive approval from ISSS office before working.
- Must have job offer
- Must maintain full-time enrollment while working during semester.

### Types of CPT at USC:

- Course Required CPT -internship hours related to a specific class
- Degree Required CPT - only applies for certain degree programs
- Dissertation Research CPT - can only be used by students with a thesis or dissertation
- Carolina Internship Program (CIP) CPT - apply with Career Center first

### Application process:

- Obtain internship offer
- Meet with ISSS advisor to determine eligibility
- Apply to ISSS 2-3 weeks prior to start of job
- Complete appropriate CPT form located in ISSS Forms Library (will need academic advisor and employer's signature)
- If applying for CIP, go to Career Center first
- Email form to [iss@sc.edu](mailto:iss@sc.edu)
- Wait for approval (ISSS will email you an updated I-20)
- Print and sign CPT I-20

### Regulations (briefly):

- Accumulating 1 year of full-time CPT will eliminate a student's eligibility for OPT
- Off-campus work should be within a 100-mile radius of Columbia (remote work is ok)
- Working without proper authorization will result in termination of SEVIS record



**MORE INFO**



## Contact us!

If you ever have any questions or need help, please do not hesitate to reach out to an ISSS advisor.

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Scan here to schedule an in-person advising appointment.



**Global Carolina**

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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