For MBA students, curricular practical training is defined as any optional internship that is an integral part of the established curriculum for a program of study. Only internships that are directly related to the course curriculum qualify as curricular practical training.

Please note that the CPT is not a right but it is a privilege given by the College of Business Administration to international students. Some institutions, such as SDSU, allow students to work as interns off campus as part of their curriculum. According to the Immigration and Naturalization Act, the terms and conditions of the CPT are determined by the degree-granting institutions.

Requirements Specific to Curricular Practical Training (CPT)

General Requirements
To be eligible for either summer or academic year CPT, the student must satisfy the following department criteria:

1. The student’s SDSU GPA must be 3.0 or higher.
2. The student has completed at least one academic year towards fulfilling their POS requirements.

Students are expected to attend all classes for which they are enrolled. If attendance in classes is being negatively affected due to your internship, your CPT authorization will be revoked.

Enrollment in BA 780 or BA 798
Students must enroll in the 3-unit BA 780 course. BA 780 can be used as an elective for the MBA program. A total of 6 units of credit in BA 780 can be used on your POS. If you are unable to enroll in a 3 unit class, you may elect to enroll in a 1-unit BA 798 course. Please see your advisor for more information.

Number of Hours
Students may work up to 40 hours per week during summer. Internships located outside of San Diego County are allowed as long as a student is not enrolled in a class (other than BA 780/ BA 798).

During the academic year (the Fall and Spring semesters) students can work up to 20 hours per week. Internships during an academic year must be located within San Diego County.

Students in their final semester, who have applied to graduate and are taking 6 units or less, may be granted a one-semester only exception in which they can work up to 40 hours per week.

Students must adhere to all CPT regulations established by this policy, the SDSU International Student Center and the Immigration and Naturalization Act. Additionally, students are expected to attend all classes for which they are enrolled. Failure to comply will result in non-renewal of CPT participation.