

SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AT WALSH



CURRICULAR PRACTICAL TRAINING (CPT)

Off-campus work authorization directly related to a student's major and required or integral to their academic program.

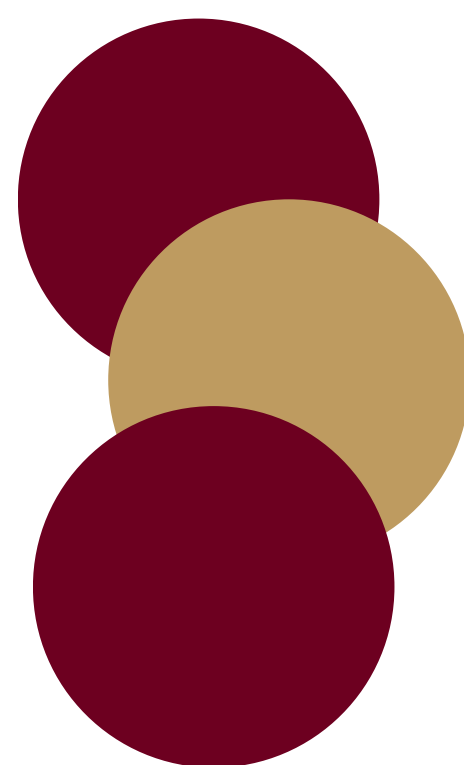
Eligibility: One academic year in F-1 status (exceptions apply for graduate programs).

Key Requirements:

- Position must be tied to the student's major.
- Must be approved by the DSO before employment begins each semester—even if continuing the same job.
- Can be part-time (20 hours/week) during the semester or full-time during breaks.

Faculty/Advisor Tip:

Academic Advisors must complete the CPT Form every semester. Always refer students to the DSO for final authorization.



OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING (OPT)

Employment related to the student's major that can take place during or after studies.

Timeline: Students may apply up to 90 days before graduation; approval takes 3–5 months.

Key Points:

- Requires USCIS approval and an Employment Authorization Document (EAD).
- STEM students may be eligible for a 24-month extension.

Faculty/Advisor Tip:

Encourage students to apply early and maintain good academic standing to avoid delays.

 **ACADEMIC**
requirements 

ONLINE COURSE RESTRICTIONS

- Only one online/distance-learning course (up to 3 credits) may count toward the full-time requirement each semester.
- The remaining credits must be in-person.
- Once the full-time minimum is met, students may add additional online or in-person courses as desired.

Important Notes:

- Dropping below full-time requires prior DSO authorization.
- Notify DSO of any major, program, or off-campus address changes immediately.

Faculty/Advisor Tip:

If a student wants to drop a course or change modality, refer them to the DSO first to avoid risking visa status.
If a student is facing academic issues related to attendance, outreach, or is at risk of academic withdrawal, please consult the Office of Culture & Belonging early to provide support and resources.

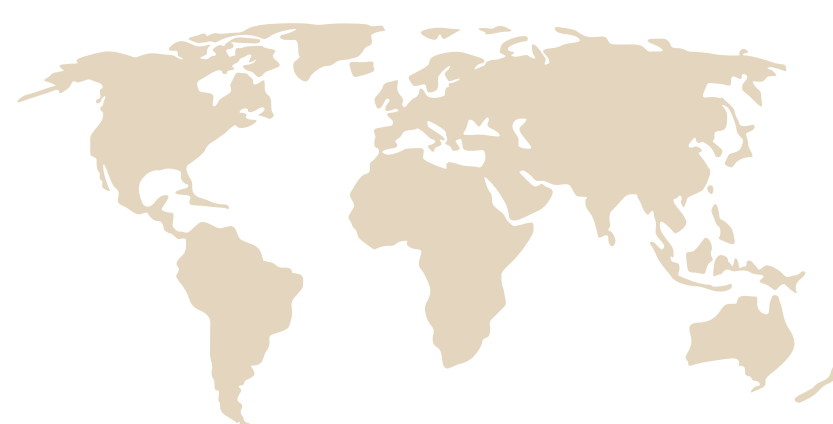
FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT

- Undergraduate students must enroll in at least 12 credit hours per semester.
- Graduate students must enroll in at least 9 credit hours per semester.
- Assist students with course planning to ensure a full-time, in-person course load.

✓ DO'S

- Use clear, simple language when communicating
- Encourage use of office hours and tutoring
- Refer students to the Office for Culture & Belonging or DSO for questions
- Respect and acknowledge cultural differences
- Be patient with language barriers and cultural differences

HELPFUL DO'S AND DON'TS



✗ DON'TS

- Assume all students understand U.S. academics or cultural norms
- Discuss visa status or immigration issues publicly
- Suggest work or employment without proper authorization
- Penalize quietness or different communication styles
- Ignore signs of academic or personal struggles

NEED SUPPORT? CONTACT:

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