FRESNO STATE

UPDATE: Duration of Status, CPT, and OPT

2 messages

International Student Services RBA <international@mail.fresnostate.edu> Sat, Oct 10, 2026 at 8:00 AM

FRESNO STATE
International Office

Dear International Student,

We are reaching out to update you on the following important items:

- The proposed new Student Visa regulations
- Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
- Optional Practical Training (OPT)

The proposed new Student Visa regulations
As previously published on our dedicated web page, the implementation of the proposed new Student Visa regulations (Removal of Duration of Status, and related restrictions) has been indefinitely blocked by a federal judge. This pause followed the filing of a lawsuit challenging the proposed new regulations. Since then, the U.S. government has appealed the Court's decision (see more details here).

Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
On September 2, 2026, we shared the California State University Chancellor's Office directive about new CPT restrictions. Since then, a separate lawsuit has been filed to attempt to block these new restrictions. It is too soon to know what effect, if any, the lawsuit will have, but we will update you as soon as we have more information.

Optional Practical Training (CPT)
On October 8, 2026, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) proposed new OPT fees: $70,000 for the initial authorization, and an additional $30,000 for STEM OPT extensions.

It is important to note that this is only a **proposal.** The DHS is currently accepting public comments about this potential change until November 9, 2026. The proposal and a link to submit a comment are available here. California State University (CSU) is planning to submit a system-wide comment, on behalf of all CSU campuses, including Fresno State, challenging the OPT fees proposal. The proposal may or may not become effective in the future, depending on the comments and other factors.

Please remember that we are here for you, so please do not hesitate to reach out! You can meet your International Student Advisors, Jasmine Cao and Ashley Alba, to discuss any questions or concerns. You can either schedule an appointment or simply come in during their walk-in hours every Tuesday between 11:00 am and 3:30 pm.

Warm regards,

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