Ongoing CPT for Dissertation

While on Dissertation students should use the “dissertation” course, 999, and use it for satisfying dissertation requirements. The department code before 999 will be either BE, CBE, CIS, ESE, MEAM, or MSE. (This registration will not be EAS 898.) The Dissertation course must be linked to any “ongoing” CPT requests, that may last for multiple semesters. The student will upload a letter from faculty advisor stating how the proposed internship/work is an integral part of the established academic curriculum; and how the dissertation cannot be completed without this CPT work. This letter must be given to RAS and to ISSS (through the iPenn system).

SEAS/ISSS will authorize ongoing, full or part-time, dissertation CPT on a semester by semester basis. The advisor’s letter could cover a whole year of ongoing CPT and you may use the same letter for the multiple CPT requests. Same with the offer letter from the employer; it can cover more than one term’s CPT (ie: January 25- December 1, 2021). However, each semester, ISSS will need an iPenn CPT eform, and the student will follow Engineering’s CPT procedure.

For CPT’s continuing through Summer: the CPT and the 999 dissertation registration in the Spring term will carry students through Summer. If the CPT starts in Summer and continues into Fall, the student must be registered for 999 dissertation in the Fall term.

Please note, students on 995 dissertation cannot be on CPT. Students cannot be on CPT in their final semester. No CPT can be used for work authorization before post-completion OPT in the student’s final semester.