CAL STATE EAST BAY CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND PRACTICAL TRAINING

Start off your career or take it to the next level with a degree from Cal State East Bay

At California State University, East Bay, our goal is to prepare students for future careers. Our professors are dedicated to your success— in the classroom and beyond. Our location in the San Francisco Bay Area attracts award-winning professors, many of whom are recognized experts in their fields. This allows us to offer you a strong academic course of study and a real-world curriculum that will prepare you for a lifetime of personal achievement and career success.

Get Practical Training in the Bay Area

Cal State East Bay’s location in the hills overlooking the San Francisco Bay provides more than just a great view; it also places our students in the ideal location for career development just a 30-40 minute drive from San Francisco and Silicon Valley where our students can get practical training in local organizations and international companies based in the Bay Area. Not all universities can offer the same wealth of opportunities for internships and work placements on their doorstep.

Curricular Practical Training (CPT)

Curricular Practical Training (CPT) allows F-1 students who are in good academic standing and have completed one academic year of full-time study in the US the opportunity to work off-campus (either full-time during a vacation term or part time during the academic year). Immigration regulations require that CPT must be an integral part of an established curriculum, meaning the employment must be related to your degree program. Students enroll in an internship course to receive academic credit for the CPT work experience. Each academic term dozens of CSUEB students gain valuable experience in their field by completing these internships in companies throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.

What CSUEB students say about their CPT experience

During my grad program, I did CPT at Amazon and Intel in the Summer of ’21 and Fall of ’21 respectively, I had a fantastic learning experience at both of my internship sites. I would like to express my gratitude to all my professors at CSUEB for offering a competitive curriculum, which helped me prepare for my interviews. I would also like to thank entire CIE staff, for their continuous guidance and support.

Olivia David Rodrigues, India, MS Business Analytics CPT: Amazon & Intel

“One of my main reasons for choosing CSU East Bay is that its program combines the theoretical knowledge and practical skills one needs to be qualified to work immediately after graduation. I was honored to intern at Genentech in the Biometrics Department; this helps me to apply the things I learn in class to real-life problems. Part of my responsibilities at Genentech is to analyze patients’ data and produce statistical reports. It is a great opportunity for me because I get to work with people from different back-grounds in order to develop drugs for fatal diseases such as cancer.”

Nasser Al-Ali, United Arab Emirates, MS Statistics CPT: Genentech

“The location of the Cal State East Bay is vital for attracting talented and experienced faculty members. Many of my teachers have industry experience, teach at other schools in the area and know potential recruiters in the region. This exposed me not only to the academic side of my field but also the industry one. Living in the Bay Area, I had many opportunities to attend technical events and lectures at our University and in the vicinity. The knowledge I gathered at such occasions combined with what I had learned in my courses at Cal State East Bay, helped me stand out and get an internship at Yahoo!”

Pratik Patel, India, BS Computer Science CPT: Yahoo!

CSUEB Career Services

Our career education center is available to work with you from day one, offering personalized career assessment and advising sessions, counseling, information and employment resources as well as hosting career fairs and recruitment events where students can meet prospective employers. We provide all the resources students need to make the transition from campus to the workplace.

AACE advising staff have Master’s degrees in Counseling or Career Services, years of experience working with students, as well as cross-cultural sensitivity and a solid understanding of the special needs of international students looking for internships and practical training.

CSUEB uses Handshake to enable students to search paid job opportunities on and off campus as well as post resumes, research companies, schedule on-campus interviews, and learn about AACE Events (Career Fairs, Employer Information Sessions, Professional Development Workshops, and other networking events).
Optional Practical Training (OPT)

Optional Practical Training (OPT) is an opportunity for F-1 students to work in the United States for 12 months in their field of study without earning academic credit. Most students apply for OPT authorization to begin after finishing their program of study, thereby extending their length of stay in the US by one year following their studies. For students and graduates in certain Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields (for a full list see: https://www.ice.gov/doclib/sevis/pdf/stemList2022.pdf), CSUEB’s proximity to Silicon Valley means they are perfectly placed to take advantage of the 24-month OPT extension option for STEM students who have completed an approved 12-month OPT program (for a total of 36 months for STEM OPT). In academic year 2020-21 376 students were approved for Post-Completion OPT and 231 students had approved OPT STEM extentions. Students from 42 countries and 45 different undergraduate and graduate degree programs and certificate programs participated in OPT.

What CSUEB students say about their OPT experience

“CSUEB’s MS Accountancy program is a great stepping stone to a career in public accounting or finance, as it allows graduates to be potential CPA candidates. Through this program, I was able to take part in networking events with accounting firms, developed valuable relationships with fellow peers now working in the same industries, and landed a full-time position with Deloitte & Touche, LLP. Employment for international students is very much possible!”

Jeff Cho, South Korea, MS Accountancy  
OPT: Deloitte & Touche

“Being able to work at Facebook has been a life-changing opportunity, and validation of all the effort I put into my education at Cal State East Bay. Having come to CSUEB as a transfer student, I really appreciated being given the chance to do an internship in the Computer Emergency Response Team within Facebook’s Information Security, where I got to learn from top security professionals. I felt supported by my professors and staff at the University throughout the CPT process and was thrilled when Facebook offered me a position as a Security Engineer, working on protecting employees and users from external threats, for my OPT.”

Enxona Ferati, Kosovo  
BS Computer Science  
CPT, OPT, and STEM OPT: Facebook

“The opportunities and valued lessons I received through the course of my studies at California State University East Bay are unmatched till date. One of the aspects of my experience at CSU East Bay that prepared me for my OPT was its rich cultural diversity. While at CSU East Bay, I studied and worked students/professors from many different cultures. I learned how different people approach situations based on their cultural backgrounds which made my transition into the diverse workforce of the Bay Area very smooth. I am currently on my OPT STEM tenure working as a Research Associate in a pathology lab at Fremont California, where I continue to use the academic and professional skills I learned through a well rounded education at CSU East Bay.”

Olive Shang, Cameroon, BS Biological Sciences  
STEM OPT: BioGenex Laboratories

“Cal State East Bay professors are always going above and beyond to expose you to both academic and career opportunities. As a former performance analyst for an investment bank, I have been blessed to work with the smartest and brightest consultants in corporate real estate as a member of the CBRE team for my CPT and OPT. Building financial models using knowledge I gained in my previous roles and enhancing it with newly acquired analytical/technical skills, I was able to quickly stand out among my peers and add value to our clients. CSUEB is the right place to invest in yourself and build life-long relationships.”

Bohdan Stryuk, Ukraine, MS Economics  
CPT & OPT: CBRE

“What MS in Computer Science program at CSUEB prepared me for every facet of software engineering within the industry. The program perfectly blends theory with practical experience and provides a strong focus on team collaboration in courses. The curriculum is remarkably constructed so that students get exposed to most of the major areas of computing and can apply their learning immediately. I was an international student with zero work experience when I entered CSUEB, and I felt I was ready to conquer the world when I left it. Currently, I am working as an SRE at Apple Inc.”

Gaurav Hooda, India, MS Computer Science  
OPT & STEM OPT : Apple