Purdue University
Professional Practice Programs
Student Policy Statements
01/15/15 (finalized 02/02/15)

1. **Expectations:** Students enter and continue in their specific Professional Practice Programs in good faith and in fairness to both their employers and Purdue University while maintaining a satisfactory academic record required for their specific programs and satisfactory job performance with their employers.

2. **Application:** Application to the Professional Practice Program does not guarantee job placement. Students are Professional Practice students once they have accepted employment with a qualified employer, orally or in writing.

3. **Ethical Behavior:** Students will act in an ethical and professional manner as a representative of Purdue University and their employers. For example, if a student reneges an already accepted employment offer to accept a new employment offer, the student will be automatically dropped from the corresponding Professional Practice Program, regardless of the reason(s).

4. **Registration:** Once accepted into a Professional Practice Program, students are required to register for Professional Practice courses every work session (including summers) using appropriate course numbers. Any deviation from the specific program schedule must be approved by the Faculty Coordinator and the employer.

5. **GPA Requirements:** Students must meet the Grade Point Average (GPA) and academic requirements established by the faculty of their Colleges/Schools/Divisions/Departments in order to participate in Professional Practice Programs. Continued performance at this level and completion of all applicable course requirements are prerequisites for participation in Professional Practice Programs.

Students with a GPA of 2.8/4.0 or higher after their first semester are eligible to apply for the Five-Session Co-Op Program. Continued academic performance at this level and the completion of all First Year course requirements are prerequisites for beginning the first work session.

Students participating in the Five-Session Co-Op Program are expected to maintain a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.8/4.0 or better and maintain satisfactory progress toward degree requirements; however, GPA requirements may vary by Colleges/Schools/Divisions/Departments.

Students with a GPA of 2.6/4.0 or higher after three semesters are eligible to apply for the Three-Session Co-Op Program. Continued academic performance at this level and the completion of the sophomore year courses in their respective disciplines are prerequisites for beginning the first work session.
Students participating in the Three-Session Co-Op Programs are expected to maintain a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.6/4.0 or better and maintain satisfactory progress toward degree requirements; however, GPA requirements may vary by Colleges/Schools/Divisions/Departments.

Students in Academic Good Standing are eligible to participate in the Internship Program after completing all First Year requirements. Students in Academic Good Standing are eligible to participate in the Intensive Internship Programs after completing the sophomore year courses in their respective disciplines. Students participating in the Internship and Intensive Internship Programs must remain in Academic Good Standing.

Students should be aware that some employers maintain higher GPA standards than those required by Purdue. If a student selects an employer with higher GPA standards, it is the student’s responsibility to maintain those standards. Specific details on employers with elevated standards will be made available to you as needed.

6. **Co-Op Probation:** Should a student’s overall Grade Point Average drop below the satisfactory level at the end of an academic session, the student may return to the next Professional Practice work session, but will be placed on Professional Practice Probation. Based on the severity of the drop in GPA, the faculty coordinator decides if the student has to stay on campus for another academic session, or if the student may return to the next Professional Practice work session. The student must receive permission from the faculty coordinator and the employer to return to the next scheduled work session while on Professional Practice Probation.

Students on Professional Practice Probation must achieve a Semester GPA of at least the satisfactory level with a normal course load in the next academic session, or be dropped from the Professional Practice Program. This level of performance must continue each subsequent academic session until the overall GPA again exceeds the requirement for participation, at which time the student no longer will be on Professional Practice Probation.

7. **Academic Probation:** Academic probation is immediate cause for termination from the Professional Practice Program.

8. **Co-Op Work Schedules:** The Five-Session and Three-Session Co-Op Programs are designed for alternating work and academic terms as specified by the Colleges/Schools/Divisions/Departments. Deviation from these schedules is strongly discouraged as this schedule provides the most successful integration of work-related learning with academic learning. Changes in alternating schedules will be approved ONLY for compelling reasons, as determined by the Faculty Coordinator:

- Approval must be obtained in writing from BOTH the employer and Faculty Coordinator by mid-semester before the proposed change in sequence.
- Students must initiate the approval process by presenting a petition to their Faculty Coordinators stating the reasons for the proposed change in schedule.
• The prescribed alternating schedule for the five-term Co-Op program allows for only two summer work sessions, and for the three-term Co-Op program allows for only one summer work session. Exceptions requested by and granted to the student can alter these numbers; however, under no circumstances will a student in the five-term coop program be allowed more than three summer work sessions, and a student in the three-term coop program be allowed more than two summer work sessions.

• Note that back-to-back work sessions require two course registrations (one for each session) and two work reports (one for each session).

• Students not adhering to these procedures will be dropped from the Professional Practice Program.

9. Co-Op Work Session Durations: Students are expected to work a minimum of 17 weeks during the Spring and Fall work sessions and a minimum of 12 weeks during the summer work sessions. Since the academic session dates are subject to University calendar changes, the allowed work session dates may change as the academic calendar is revised. The allowed starting and ending dates for each work session are posted and continually updated on the OPP website. Students need to work out the actual beginning and end dates with their employers. The Professional Practice Programs are academic programs that exercise the right to utilize alternative schedules.

10. Co-Op Program Duration: The minimum number of weeks required to complete the five session Co-Op program is 70 weeks. The minimum number of weeks required to complete the three session Co-Op program is 41 weeks.

11. Full-Time Work Status: Students are expected to work full-time while on work session.

12. Second Co-Op Employer: A Professional Practice student participating in a Co-Op program may have a second employer, ONLY if it does not conflict with the interests of the primary Co-Op employer.

13. Resignation: A Professional Practice student may resign from a Professional Practice Program by writing a formal letter of resignation to the employer with a copy to the faculty coordinator. The student is responsible to inform the faculty coordinator that the employer has confirmed the resignation. A former Co-Op student may not work for their former Co-Op employer until after graduation.

14. Co-Op Work Session Report: The Work Session Record and Evaluation form, the Professional Practice Student Performance Appraisal form, and a written work report approved by the employer are required for each Professional Practice work session. Additionally, students give the Professional Practice office the right to collect and disseminate certain data about work experiences in the aggregate. Only the Professional Practice Office and university staff will have access to individual data. The students’ privacy will be maintained at all times. This data will be used to evaluate and improve the program. Participation in these surveys is a requirement of participation in the program. Submission of these reports, forms and information is a condition for a satisfactory grade in each Professional Practice work session course. These forms, and the work report, are due the first
day of classes following the work session, unless otherwise specified by the Faculty Coordinator. If they are not received by the end of the first week of classes, the student’s grade may be changed to Unsatisfactory/Incomplete. If not received within six (6) weeks (3 weeks in summer), the employer may be notified. If not received by mid-semester (end of 4th week in summer), the student may be dropped from their Professional Practice Program.

15. **Professional Practice Certificate:** A Professional Practice Certificate will be granted if Satisfactory grades have been received in ALL required work session courses, all of the additional Professional Practice requirements of the student’s College/School/Department have been met, and the student has completed the minimum number of work sessions for their particular program. A Certificate may be granted for fewer than the standard number of work sessions required by the College/School/Division/Department (e.g., late start in the Program), but the student must petition their Faculty Coordinator for the Certificate. The Professional Practice student must keep a current address, telephone number, and email address on file with their Faculty Coordinator, whether they are at work or on campus.

16. **Registration Fee:** Students must register for each of the required work sessions as established by their Colleges/Schools/Divisions/Departments and pay the required registration and service fee. The course registration fee is due in the Bursar’s Office by the deadline specified by the University. If not received by the deadline, students will automatically be assessed a late fee. A new bill will be mailed that includes the late fee and the course registration fee. The student’s record will be encumbered if payment is not received within 3 weeks of the due date. Poor postal service or not receiving a fee statement are NOT acceptable reasons for waiving the late penalty. Failure to register for a Professional Practice work session course or failure to pay the required fee may result in immediate termination from the Professional Practice Program.

17. **Exceptions:** Each Faculty Coordinator has the authority to make exceptions to any of these policies.

18. **Policy Changes:** Individual Colleges/Schools/Divisions/Departments have the right to implement policies beyond the ones listed here.

_I have read and understand the policies governing my participation in a Professional Practice Program at Purdue University and hereby apply for admission. If accepted, I agree to abide by the policy statements and responsibilities listed above as conditions for admission to and continuation in the program._

_I understand that under the Family Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, I have the right to inspect and review any records that are sent out of the University directly related to me. I hereby waive these rights regarding my resume, records, grades, directory information, employment information, or evaluations which:_

(1) _may be provided to an employer as the basis for my application for Professional Practice employment;_
Yes, I agree _____  No, I do not agree _____  (place an “X” in the appropriate place)

(2) may be provided to or received from my Professional Practice employer for the purpose of evaluating my progress while in a Professional Practice Program.

Yes, I agree _____  No, I do not agree _____  (place an “X” in the appropriate place)

__________________________________________  __________________________
Signature  Date

__________________________________________
Student Name
Summary of Available Programs:

**COOPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS:**

**Five-Session Co-Op Program**
Students work for the same employer 5 alternating work/school sessions. Students begin work after completing all First Year requirements. Minimum GPA requirement is 2.8/4.0, but may vary by College/Department.

**Three-Session Co-Op Program**
Students work for the same employer 3 alternating work/school sessions. Students begin work after completing all sophomore year requirements. Minimum GPA requirement is 2.6/4.0, but may vary by College/Department.

**INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS:**

**IP – Internship Program**
Students are not required to work for the same employer each work session. Students work any time after their freshman year and work either 2 or 3 summer work sessions. The minimum GPA requirement is Academic Good Standing.

**IIP – Intensive Internship Program**
Students work 2 consecutive work sessions for the same employer. Students begin work any time following their sophomore year. The minimum GPA requirement is Academic Good Standing.