

Facts for Faculty

Distinguishing between practicums/clinicals and cooperative education

Practicums/Clinicals

Practicum/clincial placements are mandatory practical learning components required to complete an academic program

While in a practical setting, students are usually required to work under a licensed professional in their field.

The University acts as the employer and assumes the duty to accommodate students with disabilities.

The student's learning is usually evaluated by the supervising faculty and the practicum/clinical supervisor(s).

Students are expected to meet specific academic requirements related to their program discipline.

Students in practicum/clincial placements are not usually paid.

Cooperative Education

Cooperative education may or may not be a mandatory practical learning component required to complete an academic program.

The supervising employer may or may not be in a field of practice where licensing is required.

During coop placements, the responsibility to accommodate students with disabilities lies with the employer.

The employer evaluates the student's learning and work perfomance and completes a report.

The student, coop coordinator, and employer collaborate to determine learning outcomes based job requirements.

Coop placements are usually paid, however, students may choose to gain experience through unpaid opportuntities.