

Guidelines for Master's Early Start Practicum Hours

- MS students require live supervision until after the completion of both internal practicums.
- Once Practicum I is completed, and once the student is enrolled in Practicum II, students may petition to be allowed to earn external practicum hours early before Practicum III (internship). If the student obtains this Early Start privilege, the hours earned will be counted like any other client contact hours earned. The student will be functioning as a regular master's level intern.
- To obtain this Early Start privilege, the student must sign up with an NSU DFT approved internship site with live supervision from a AAMFT Approved Supervisor. The student will be able to function independently, not just as an assistant, if the Approved Supervisor gives such permission. Internship sites without live supervision from a AAMFT Approved Supervisor are not open to students until Practicum III (internship).
- In addition, to obtain this Early Start privilege, the student must have earned a grade of B or better in their Internal Practicum I. The student should request their Internal Practicum I supervisor to email the MS in MFT program director with a report of the student's grade and overall satisfactory progress. The student should also obtain clearance from the Internship Coordinator, verifying that all fingerprinting, HIPAA and other requirements have been satisfied. The Program Director will then give permission for this Early Start privilege as indicated. This will commence after the student's Internal Practicum I and continue through Internal Practicum II.
- No more than 250 of the required 500 client contact hours may be earned while the student is in his or her first two practicums; at least 250 must be earned in Practicums III and IV.
- Once the student begins Practicum III, all NSU DFT approved internship sites are potentially open to the student. The need for permission from the Program Director and clearance from the Internship Coordinator will still apply.
- Early Start privilege applies to active, full term internship sites with a AAMFT approved supervisor on site and observing students at all times. Camps, short-term and one-day events are excluded.