

CO-OP Education

Cooperative education is a structured educational strategy integrating classroom studies with learning through productive work experiences in a field related to a student's academic or career goals. It provides progressive experiences in integrating theory and practice. Co-op is a partnership among students, educational institutions and employers, with specified responsibilities for each party. The Co-op programs include:

- New learning opportunities through a job experience
- Specified minimum work periods equivalent in length to an academic term (quarter, semester or trimester). Students work approximately 40 hrs/wk, full-time during the term. In parallel programs, students work approximately 20 hrs/wk, part-time during the term
- Official school enrollment during employment
- Formal recognition of the co-op experience on student records (e.g. grade, credit hours, part of a degree requirement, notation on transcript, etc)
- Remuneration for the work performed (paid salary)

Outcomes for the student:

- Ability to integrate classroom theory with workplace practice
- Technical knowledge through use of state-of-the-art equipment
- Clarity about career goals
- Understanding of workplace culture
- New or advanced skills
- After-graduation employment opportunities

For detailed information about college Co-op Programs visit <http://www.co-op.edu>.