



Engineering Cooperative Education is an optional educational program at the University of Dayton, and is extremely desirable to potential employers. Co-op helps students integrate classroom theory with practical work experience.

Participating students alternate periods of full-time study at the University with periods of full-time, paid work experience in industry, business or government. Students earn good wages (an average of \$11,000 per term) that help defer the expenses associated with their education. Our connections allow for a wide range of industries, company sizes and locations.

The Co-op Program requires that the student's employment be related to the academic discipline being pursued. It should be diversified enough to afford a broad learning experience. Subsequent work periods should increase in difficulty and responsibility. Employer evaluations of job performance and student feedback are integral parts of the program.

Co-op builds a strong and positive relationship between the institution and the surrounding business community.



The University of Dayton's Cooperative Education Program is a hybrid that combines flexibility with professional support services. Pursuing coop placements is completely voluntary, but for those who choose co-op, a full complement of education and support is available from our team of engineering professionals. Students take a class to prepare them for the co-op experience, attend on-campus interviews and have a staff liaison to answer questions and provide guidance.

The goal of our staff is to help students figure out what they want to be doing during their career and what companies may be a good fit. Our approach is more personalized than just filling slot A with student B.

Co-op jobs are available in the Dayton area and across the country. Students with specific career interests can even find their own co-op opportunities and be supported by our office.

Students work 3-5 work terms (semesters including summers) and can live in campus housing and participate in campus activities if they are working locally. No tuition is paid during work terms unless students choose to take a class while working. Students can take up to three credit hours during their first work term and seven thereafter.

In general, scholarships awarded by the University continue to be credited upon return to full-time studies. The money earned during work terms can impact eligibility for grants, loans and work/study so a financial aid counselor should be consulted before accepting any position.

Like most jobs, both employer and employee must be satisfied to continue the relationship. There are no contracts either guaranteeing an offer of employment after graduation or mandating that the students work for the company upon graduating. However, employers frequently make offers to those who have successfully completed the program if they have openings.



"Engineering companies were very impressed to see not only that I have hands-on experience in applying classroom knowledge but also that my term reviews were positive, and I had been asked back many times. Being able to relate my classes to the real world was a very valuable thing for me, and I can tell that it will benefit my future career more than I can possibly imagine."—Chemical Engineering Graduate

"Co-oping was of incredible importance. Not only did it give me great experience and practical industry knowledge to talk about in interviews, but it also helped me develop a great deal of confidence when discussing my attributes/experiences." —Mechanical Engineering Graduate

"Co-oping was very important. Most importantly, it allowed me to experience a true work environment. It also gave me confidence when seeking other employment opportunities. I highly recommend the co-op experience" —Civil Engineering Graduate



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School of
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EXPLORE

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