Info Session

Computer Science & Cognitive Systems

Co-op Program

Science Co-op
Overview

- Introduction to Co-op
- Application Process
- Co-op Schedule and Timeline
- FAQ
What is Co-op?

- **Work-integrated learning**: curricular experiential education that formally integrates a student’s academic studies with quality experiences within a workplace or practice setting. It aids in the development of student learning objectives and outcomes related to: employability, agency, knowledge and skill mobility and life-long learning.

- A **Co-op Program** is designed to integrate learning by **alternating academic terms and paid work terms**. Work terms provide experience in a workplace setting related to the student’s field of study. The number of required work terms varies by program; however, the time spent in work terms must be at least 30% of the time spent in academic study for programs over 2 years in length and 25% of time for programs 2 years and shorter in length.
Work Integrated Learning / Co-op

Academic Studies

Professional Skills and Network

Work Experience
Benefits of Co-op

- Practical Skills
- Hands on Experience
- Preparedness for Post Graduation Job Market
- Professional Network
- Clarity
- Better Resume
- $$$ for tuition
- Confidence
- Secondary Benefit
Employers love hiring UBC Co-ops

... Co-op students are bright and self motivated

... Co-op students bring fresh perspectives, ideas and concepts!

... we want to build future talent pipeline for hiring new graduates!

... UBC Co-ops are awesome!

... We love to mentor!
Supporting Student Success: Co-op Workshops

- Crafting Resumes
- Effective Cover Letters
- Job Search Strategies
- Interviews (technical and non-technical)
- Transitioning from school to work
- Recognizing discrimination, bullying and harassment at workplace

All workshops are mandatory and must be completed prior to start of job search
Application Process
Who can apply?

- Full-time student
- Majoring in **CPSC/COGS** now; or no major yet and will declare CPSC as a major in the coming term
- 30+ credits remaining after application (current) term
- Minimum B- and above class average for courses related to major

*At the time of application!*

**BSc(CPSC,COGS)/BCom/BA**
- Completed or completing CPSC 121, 210

**BCS**
- Completed or completing CPSC 110

* *BSc = 4-year program*  
* *BCS = 2-year, 2nd degree program; BCS students can apply for Co-op in the 1st year*
When to apply?

**BSc Students**
- Year 1, Term 2? Apply in the Spring Cycle (March deadline)
- Year 2, Term 1? Apply in the Fall Cycle (October deadline)
- Year 2, Term 2? Apply in the Spring Cycle (March deadline)

**BA and BCom Students**
- Year 2, Term 1? Apply in the Fall Cycle (October deadline)
- Year 2, Term 2? Apply in the Spring Cycle (March deadline)
- Year 3, Term 1? Apply in the Fall Cycle (March deadline)

**Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS)**
- Year 1, Term 1? Apply in the Fall Cycle (October deadline)
- Year 1, Term 2? Apply in the Spring Cycle (March deadline)
How to Apply?

**Apply Online**
- Online application
  [www.sciencecoop.ubc.ca](http://www.sciencecoop.ubc.ca)
- Resume and non-UBC transcript in one document

**Deadline Dates**
Announced each term (check the Science Co-op Website)

**Transcript:**
- From UBC: no transcript needed (we check directly from the UBC system)
- Any other post-secondary non-UBC transcript (including overseas):
  - Non-official transcript/screen captures are fine
  - Combine with resume into 1 file

Apply as soon as you are eligible to maximize your time, and thus opportunities in Co-op
How are students Assessed?

**Application**
- Online Submission
- Quality of responses to application questions

**Resume**
- Technical Projects
- Work Experience (eg. McDonald’s, Camp Counsellor)
- Volunteering Experience
- Extracurricular Activities

**Intake Interview**
- Communication
- Professionalism
- Teamwork Skills
- Leadership Skills
- Open and Flexible
- Willingness to Relocate

* This will not be the same resume employers see

You will be notified 3-4 weeks after the application deadline whether you are invited to an intake interview.

UBC Science Co-op Programs
International Students

International students can participate in the Co-op program.

- International students will need a Co-op work permit to work in Canada.
- The Co-op office will assist you in applying for the co-op work permit.

Fees and application process to the Co-op program are the same for domestic and international students, though there are Co-op jobs with citizenship restrictions.
Where have Co-op Students worked?
Co-op Schedule and Timeline
Co-op Schedule (Spring Application)

Schedule A for BSc Students - Spring Application

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Summer</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Study Term 1</td>
<td>Study Term 2 + Apply to Co-op</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Study Term 3</td>
<td><strong>Work Term 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Work Term 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Study Term 4</td>
<td>Study Term 5</td>
<td><strong>Work Term 3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Work Term 4</strong></td>
<td>Study Term 6</td>
<td><strong>Work Term 5</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Study Term 7</td>
<td>Study Term 8</td>
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</tbody>
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Schedule for BA or BCom Students- Spring Application

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Study Term 3</td>
<td>Study Term 4 + Apply to Co-op</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Study Term 5</td>
<td><strong>Work Term 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Work Term 2</strong></td>
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<td>Study Term 7</td>
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<td>Study Term 8</td>
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* BCS Spring applicants should discuss your schedule with your Coordinator at intake interview.
# Co-op Schedule (Fall Application)

## Schedule B for BSc Students - Fall Application

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Winter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Study Term 1</td>
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<td>Study Term 3 + Apply to Co-op</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Work Term 1</strong></td>
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## Schedule for BCS Students - Fall Application

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Study Term 2</td>
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<td>Study Term 5</td>
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</table>
General Rule of thumb: students normally start their Work Term about 1 year after applying to the Co-op Program
Basic Requirements / Expectations

Commitment to the Co-op Program

• Complete all workshops before getting access to job search portal
• Actively engage in the job search
• Be open and flexible to job opportunities

Work Term Completion (Varies by Program*)

• BSc (CPSC, COGS): Four to five 4-month work terms
• BCom and BA: Three 4-month work terms
• BCS: Two 4-month work terms
• Work terms cannot all be in the summer and must end degree on an academic term

Program Fees

• Administration and Workshop Fee: One-time fee
• Co-op Fee*: payable for each 4-month work term that you have secured a job (same fee for domestic and international students)

* Co-op fees are subject to change; please refer to the UBC Calendar
FAQs
I am currently in another major, can I apply to CS Co-op?

- If you currently have a declared major (e.g. Math, CMS), please apply to the co-op program of your current major.
- You can transfer to CS Co-op once you become a CS major.
- Once students are admitted into the Science Co-op program, they have access to ALL job postings in the different disciplines.
Which program should I apply to when I am a combined/double major?

• Submit **ONE** application only --- based on career preference, or the discipline you’d like to start your first work term in.

• Should the two combined programs have different application timeline, we recommend that you apply to the program that accepts applicants with an earlier timeline.

• Once you are admitted to Science Co-op, you have access to all jobs in the job portal.
How many students are accepted?

- The Co-op program doesn’t have an admission upper limit, i.e. students are not competing against each other for admission

- Admission rate varies by year, ranging from 75-85%
More information:

www.sciencecoop.ubc.ca