Master of Engineering (MEng) with a Co-op Option

Presented by Western Engineering’s Career Services Team
Welcome to Western Engineering’s Career Services!
Meet the Team!

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Agenda

• Benefits of Participating in Co-op
• Program Eligibility
• Length of Program
• Application Timeline
• Co-op Program Application Process
• Work Permit Application Process
• Program Requirements
• Job Search Tools
• Direct Match Requirements
• Industry Project Introduction
• Student Questions
What are the Benefits of Participating in Co-op?

**Experience**
Gain practical, hands-on, industry-relevant experience through experiential learning within the workplace.

**Networking**
Build a professional network with employers and colleagues within the field.
Who is Eligible to Participate?

- Students with a cumulative average of 75% or higher and are registered as full-time students.
- Students who enrolled into the MEng program and are scheduled to start during the fall term.
- Domestic students (Canadian Citizens or Permanent Residents) who have successfully secured a co-op.
- International students applying for the Co-op Work Permit prior to securing a co-op (IRCC permits the aforementioned).
- International students who have successfully secured a co-op and would like to apply for the Co-op Work Permit.
What is the Length of the Program?

Students complete their 4-month co-op during the following **Summer or Fall term**.

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Students registered in the **Master of Engineering (MEng) with Co-op Option** are required to complete a co-op comprised of one term in addition to the three terms of the regular Master of Engineering (MEng) program. The total program length will be 4 terms.

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For students in the combined **Master of Engineering (MEng) – Graduate Diploma (GDip; Engineering Leadership and Innovation) program**, who opt-in to the co-op option, will complete their program in 5 terms.
When do Students Apply?

Students admitted to the Master of Engineering (MEng) program are strongly encouraged to apply for the co-op option at the beginning of the Fall term (September). Applications may be accepted after the Fall term in exceptional cases.
How do Students Apply?

Step 1:
Students are required to **pay an application fee of $100.** Students are to submit their Application Fee Payment through our Engineering Ecommerce Site. Students may pay by Visa, MasterCard, or Debit Visa.

Step 2:
Students are required to **submit an application through Western Connect.** Steps of how to apply through Western Connect are available on our Western Engineering Career Services Website.
How do Students Apply?

Step 3:

Students are encouraged to **complete the Graduate Career Preparation Module** through OWL.

Step 4:

After completing the application process, **students will gain access to Western University’s in-house job board** through Western Connect.
International Students: Additional Application Steps

International students are required to secure an approved co-op work permit prior to beginning their co-op.

Upon submitting an application through Western Engineering’s Career Services, international students can expect to receive an email from wecareer@uwo.ca detailing next steps as they relate to co-op work permits.
How to Get a Co-op Work Permit?

- Complete and Sign the Acknowledgement Letter
- Receive a Work Permit Letter from our office
- Submit an online application for a co-op work permit (Government of Canada Website)
To learn more about the application process and the supports available please attend an informational session hosted by Western International over Zoom on:

August 18th from 12:30pm to 1:30pm Eastern Standard Time

A link invitation will be provided after this presentation for you to register, and it is also available on the Western Events Calendar: [Events Calendar](#)
What Happens if a Student Does Not Secure a Co-op Work Permit?

If international students are not able to secure a co-op and an approved Co-op work permit before the end of their third term (cut off date: August 20\textsuperscript{th} 2023), their registration will be changed back to the original MEng program to which they were admitted.
What are the Program Requirements?

Students are required to pay a tuition fee of $500 for the co-op term. If students complete more than one co-op term, students are required to pay an additional $500 per term.

Students must maintain full-time status when participating in the program.
What are the Program Requirements? (Continued)

Students are required to submit a report at the end of their co-op term that describes their experiential learning experience. Failure to submit a report or submitting an incomplete report will be considered incomplete.

Students are not permitted to register in any course for credit during their co-op term. Students are required to complete their courses during the other three terms of their program.
Where Can I Identify Co-op Opportunities?

- Western Connect
- LinkedIn
- Company Job Boards
- Networking with Company Personnel
- Sphere of Influence

20% Job Boards
80% Networking

Please attend our workshops during the school year to learn about the hidden job market.

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What If I Find My Own Opportunity?

Direct Match Process - provide the Career Services team with the following:

- Formal Job Description
- Job Offer / Letter of Employment
- Company Information
- Supervisor Information & Position Title
What Makes a Co-op Opportunity Valid?

- Paid (more than minimum wage)
- Full time hours
- Engineering Focused
- Position must start either in May or September 2023
- If International, it must meet Western International Requirements
- Supervised by an employee at work location
- Evaluation of work term before student finishes it
- Length is 4 months (minimum 12 weeks)
- Submitted Application (Ecommerce and Western Connect)
Industry-Focused Project Introduction

*Earn course credits and get to support industry leaders through a real-world project opportunity!*

- Supervision from your academic advisor and industry Supervisor (+Network Opportunity)
- Expected to spend on average 6-12 hours per week on project (depending on duration)
- Must be completed within a period of 1-2 academic terms (4-8 months)

Eligibility:
- Enrolled Full Time
- Average 75% and above (no fails)
- Good Academic Standing

Student Application ➔ Review of Applications by Committee ➔ Industry Interview
Questions?
Let’s Connect!
Western Engineering Career Services

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