

CO-OP EXPERIENCE

WHY PARTICIPATE IN THE CO-OP PROGRAM?

Co-op students preview their career as they go hands-on with powerful organizations in their field. But this isn't the only benefit. The co-op program allows students to:

- Get paid for their work
- Bypass tuition during their co-op semesters
- Work full-time (at least 32 hours) in their industry
- Explore industry interest areas
- Build skills and valuable resume experience
- Gain up to 12 months of work experience and still graduate in four years, unlike many universities

AM I REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE?

Many Widener students choose to participate in the co-op program, though you are not required to do so. If you're considering a co-op, make sure to plan early. Making arrangements during your first semester on campus will ensure you have time to finalize all the necessary details, including an orientation offered one year before your co-op experience.

The co-op program is open to students majoring in **business administration (all programs), computer science, computer information systems, and engineering.**

HOW IS MY CO-OP SALARY DETERMINED?

Your pay will vary based on the co-op cycle, your class standing, and your professional experience. The Career Design and Development office can help research your expected wage.

WHEN CAN I COMPLETE MY CO-OP?

You have the flexibility to create your own co-op schedule. This table offers a suggested schedule, depending on the academic year you choose to work:

	Summer	Fall	Spring
Freshman		Study	Study
Sophomore	Study	Work	Study
Junior	Study	Study	Work
Senior	Work	Study	Study

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

Students who wish to participate in co-op should make arrangements during their first semester on campus. To sign up, students must:

- Attend a co-op orientation a year prior to their experience
- Connect with their academic advisor and co-op program staff
- Follow deadlines and requirements set out by co-op program

HEAR FROM OUR CO-OP STUDENTS

"Co-op is the reason I chose Widener. The hands-on experience is key for distinguishing yourself from other applicants and deciding which career path is for you after college. Plus, the money you make on the co-op doesn't hurt either. Career Design and Development not only helped me refine my resume, but also sent it to employers in my field."

- Daniel Biagi, Electrical Engineering

"My opportunity at Comcast would not have been possible without Widener's co-op program. I never imagined that my dream company would hire me for my first co-op. This experience has not only helped me build numerous connections within the company, but it has also helped me understand what corporate life is all about. The co-op program helps differentiate yourself from other applicants when applying for a job as employers see that you have experience, especially from a tech giant company like Comcast."

- Mathew Thomas, Accounting

CONTACT

Cooperative Education Program

Offered through the Career Design and Development Office

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Widener University

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