Cooperative Education Program

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“Co-op experience is important to students in many ways. The classroom provides engineering students with the foundation, but it is the workplace that allows students to create and innovate in the real world. I know this first hand from my days as a Clemson engineering co-op years ago! At Bosch specifically, we assign each co-op a mentor. Often these relationships continue as the individual transitions from student to professional. Engineering is a challenging career, but the opportunities are tremendous. Clemson knows this and does a great job linking industry and education, while preparing students for these rewarding careers.”

Mike Mansuetti, President of Robert Bosch LLC
Clemson alumus and former engineering co-op student

This ancient proverb expresses so well what the Cooperative Education Program is about.

When given the chance to apply theory that is learned in class, students gain a greater understanding of the material from a different perspective.

Students report that when they are on a co-op rotation, they learn new concepts in their field as well as material not yet covered in their classes.

Beyond the educational benefits of the co-op program, students also agree that the significant full-time experience the program offers gives them a competitive edge when seeking employment upon graduation.

Look inside to find out more!
The Co-op Experience is an integral part of your education!

Cooperative Education is designed to provide the student with an opportunity to learn under a mentor in his or her field of study. Students are employed full-time, with pay, by a participating company.

Companies serve as teaching partners of the University, and the co-op experience becomes an integral part of the participating company.

With more than 900 students participating, the Co-op and the co-op experience becomes an integral part of the student's education.

Semesters of co-op rotations typically alternate with semesters of classes and result in significant full-time experience for each student.

Students’ experiences are monitored and evaluated by one of the academic staff of co-op advisors to ensure a successful teaching and learning process.

With more than 900 students participating, the Co-op Program involves students across the spectrum of majors at the University. However, the majority of participating students come from the College of Engineering and Sciences.

Co-op students maintain full-time student status during each rotation.

State scholarships may be deferred while on rotations so that the students maintain their funding through graduation.

The Co-op Program can be integrated into a college plan that includes other academic or social programs offered by the University (i.e., study abroad).

A minimum Clemson University GPA of 2.5 is required to be eligible to enter the program, although some companies require a higher GPA.

Students may enter the program as early as first semester of their second year (see rotation diagram). All students must have declared their major.*

*Please see our website for complete information regarding eligibility. www.http://clemson.edu/coop

Rotation Requirements

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Rotation Option</th>
<th>Fall 2015</th>
<th>Spring 2016</th>
<th>Summer 2016</th>
<th>Fall 2016</th>
<th>Spring 2017</th>
<th>Summer 2017</th>
<th>Fall 2017</th>
<th>Spring 2018</th>
<th>Summer 2018</th>
<th>Fall 2018</th>
<th>Spring 2019</th>
<th>Summer 2019</th>
<th>Fall 2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Option 1 Su-Sp-Fa Cycle</td>
<td>Classes-Semester 1</td>
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<td>Enter Program Semester 3</td>
<td>1st Co-op Rotation</td>
<td>Classes-Semester 4</td>
<td>2nd Co-op Rotation</td>
<td>Classes-Semester 5</td>
<td>3rd Co-op Rotation</td>
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<td>Classes-Semester 7</td>
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<td>Final Semester</td>
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<td>Classes-Semester 5</td>
<td>2nd Co-op Rotation</td>
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<td>3rd Co-op Rotation</td>
<td>Classes-Semester 7</td>
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<td>Final Semester</td>
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<td>Option 3 Su-Sp-Fa Cycle</td>
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<td>Classes-Semester 5</td>
<td>1st Co-op Rotation</td>
<td>Classes-Semester 6</td>
<td>2nd Co-op Rotation</td>
<td>Classes-Semester 7</td>
<td>3rd Co-op Rotation</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Final Semester</td>
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</table>

Come see us to get started!

Multiple rotations on assignment are required to complete the program. The commitment to completing multiple rotations is one of the factors that differentiates the co-op assignment from an internship.

For engineering students, a minimum of…
- 3 Rotations
  - Two 18-week Semesters
  - One Summer Semester

For non-engineering students, a minimum of…
- 2 Rotations
  - One 18-week Semester
  - One Summer Semester

Common for non-engineering students, such as Packaging Science and Business students, to complete back-to-back rotations
- Spring-Summer or Summer-Fall

Second or third year students interested in seeking a co-op assignment should contact the Co-op Program office early in the semester before they want to begin their first rotation. The fall semester is the time to interview for assignments that begin in January and the spring semester is the time to interview for assignments that begin in May or August.