ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Environmental Engineering at the University of Guelph draws on the traditional disciplines of chemical, civil and mechanical engineering to deliver a truly unique program. This comprehensive program equips students with the ability to understand and resolve practical problems that encompass air, water, soil and waste. In the classroom, lab and field you will develop skills in design, project management and the ability to communicate effectively in a professional workplace.

WHY CO-OP?

As a co-op student, you will gain relevant work experience, build professional networks, and develop essential interpersonal skills needed to succeed in the workplace, all while getting paid and earning your university degree. Guelph’s co-op program is unique due to the exceptional level of support provided, including an in-class preparatory course, a personal connection with a Co-op Co-ordinator to assist you during the employment process, and access to senior student mentors.

COURSE SEQUENCING

In the Environmental Engineering co-op program, you will participate in five co-op work terms in addition to eight academic semesters throughout your five years at the University of Guelph. This sequencing is viewable below:

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SAMPLE JOBS

Below are some examples of past Environmental Engineering co-op positions.

Environmental Engineering Co-op Student
In this role, you will develop data tracking methods to promote awareness and encourage reduction opportunities within the company. You will also be required to follow up on energy projects, track rebates, and ensure maximum return for hydro, gas and water projects. Additional duties include researching potential composting alternatives and waste reduction options for departments.

Research Assistant
During your eight month work term, you will be responsible for sampling sediments in the field from a boat or ship and will assist in evaluating the field collected sediment in the lab for standard properties. In addition, you will be required to conduct literature searches and prepare Power Point presentations. Data entry, processing and analysis support are key aspects of this job.

Air Quality Student
As an Air Quality Student, you will perform technical work on the fields of environmental compliance and reporting. You will assist in field work in support of air, noise, and water services including collection of air flow, sound level, and water quality readings. Other projects include developing emission models for industrial facilities to assist with modeling chemical discharges emission inventories. Applicants must have a valid driver’s license.

SAMPLE EMPLOYERS*

• CH2M Hill Canada
• Environment Canada
• Ministry of the Environment
• Various Regional Municipalities and Conservation Authorities

*This shows a sample of recent co-op employers, and will vary depending on employer recruitment needs. During a job search, students are encouraged to be actively engaged and are supported in establishing and maintaining their own personal contacts.

SALARY INFORMATION Average Weekly Salary Range: $644 - $750*

*Salary ranges are shown as rates before deductions. Statistics are based on jobs held by co-op students in 2016. These ranges may fluctuate on an annual basis in response to economic conditions.

SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE ACQUIRED

• Knowledge of fundamental engineering concepts, as well as physical, chemical and biological sciences
• Experience writing formal reports including proposals, engineering design reports and technical laboratory reports
• Effective problem solving, communication and teamwork skills developed from participation in group design projects
• Solid understanding of a variety of modeling and design software
• Exposure to a variety of field, laboratory and office work in a variety of employment sectors