ABOUT THE PROGRAM
The Environmental Management (EM) co-op major focuses on the development of leaders in the areas of environmental science and technology. The EM program will provide you with a solid background in environmental science and management with business, using a mix of theoretical and applied study. EM students have a broad range of interests and skills that can be applied in many workplaces, including consulting, private industry, all levels of government and non-profit organizations. Through the co-op program, you will build transferrable skills in work environments that will contribute to your work readiness and career prospects upon graduation.

WHY CO-OP?
As a co-op student, you will gain firsthand work experience, build professional networks, and develop interpersonal skills that are essential for pursuing a career in environmental management. You will also get paid while earning your university degree. Guelph’s co-op program is unique due to the exceptional level of support provided, including a co-op preparatory course, a personal connection with Co-op Coordinators to assist you during the employment process, and access to senior student mentors.

COURSE SEQUENCING
In the Environmental Management co-op program, you will participate in four co-op work terms in addition to eight academic semesters throughout your five years at the University of Guelph.

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SAMPLE JOBS

Below are some examples of possible Environmental Management co-op positions.

Energy Management Student

The successful candidate will be responsible for the development, implementation and reporting for public sector Green Act Reporting, including the development of a customer reporting template, an implementation process for gathering and submitting reports, and communication of the reporting requirements to end users. The student will research and summarize Federal and Provincial conservation and demand management programs and incentives and will make recommendations that are most beneficial to clients. Finally, the student will work with various departments to draft and implement a new Utility Dashboard to communicate and illustrate utility data to address carbon emission reporting in Ontario and other reporting requirements.

Sustainability Summer Student

The successful candidate will provide analytical, administrative and data management support for the control brand sustainability team. This will include a seafood sustainability project to collect relevant sustainability information from various sources to enable reporting and support compliance efforts. Exposure to various other sustainability initiatives may include packaging, palm oil and animal welfare.

Environmental Quality Guidelines Assistant

The co-op student will support the derivation of environmental quality guidelines developed through Canada’s Chemicals Management Plan and/or the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment. The student may develop a guideline in whole or in part for either a metal or an organic substance through data collection, critical evaluation of toxicity information, data synthesis, statistical analyses, identification of data gaps, report writing, peer review, and revision.

SAMPLE EMPLOYERS*

- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Durham District School Board
- ECNG Energy
- Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Loblaw Companies Limited
- WSP Group

*Sample co-op employer list only. Employers will vary depending on recruitment needs. During a job search, students are encouraged to be actively engaged and are also supported in establishing and maintaining their own personal contacts.

SALARY INFORMATION

Students receive compensation from their employer for co-op work terms. The rate of pay will vary depending on a number of factors including the industry, the student’s program of study, and work term level. For your reference, a Co-operative Education Salary Guide is available on our website, which provides hourly rates (averages and ranges) for each degree program.

SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE ACQUIRED

Environmental Management co-op students exhibit strengths in the following key areas, developed through the combination of educational, extra-curricular and work experiences:

- Strong background in science, economics and business, mixing theoretical and applied study
- An understanding of various disciplines and their effect on environmental issues
- Management and decision-making skills for the application of scientific knowledge and industry-related data to environmental problems, and the evaluation of appropriate environmental policies
- Well-developed written and verbal communication, and interpersonal competencies
- Advanced skills in presentation delivery

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