Student Work Placement Program Funding Available

Funding Opportunity – Hiring Co-op Students
Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) aims to limit the number of students who lose a co-op work term due to COVID-19. The ESDC’s Student Work Placement Program (SWPP) typically offers small/medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) a wage subsidy of up to $7,000 per student per term to increase the number of quality work-integrated learning (WIL) experiences for post-secondary students.

Unlike previous years, student employment at post-secondary institutions will qualify for the SWPP funding for the summer 2020 term. Eligible student employment at a post-secondary institution must provide a quality WIL experience for students that is directly related to their program of study and/or the student’s career goals.

The SWPP will allow students to work from home and accept a delayed start date of the work term beyond May 1. Faculty conducting research who wish to hire a co-op student may also qualify, provided the student is engaged in applied research.

Consistent with public health policy, and following extensive consultation with colleges, the Office of Research urges, in the strongest terms, the significant scale back of research activities, with the aim that scale back is done to reinforce physical distancing. The Office of Research has issued directives for research activity in the Guidance note for COVID-19 related research continuity, scale back, and shut down.

If you are interested in hiring a co-op student, with or without this funding, you can proceed as follows:
1. Log in or register for an account by clicking here
2. Receive a log-in ID and password
3. Post jobs, review cover letters and résumés, select candidates to interview

If hiring a student is dependent upon receiving SWPP funding, please have your job posting ready. You can apply to one of the SWPP partners below to determine whether the job is eligible and then proceed to post your job on Experience Guelph once you have confirmed funding.

If you require assistance with posting your job, contact our office at recruit@uoguelph.ca. For general co-op questions, contact Carrie Steele at csteele@uoguelph.ca.

Several SWPP partners offer a wage subsidy, and their application processes may vary slightly. Below is a list of the partners. Magnet – Campus Connect funds the broadest range of positions that may not fit within the industry sectors represented by the other partners. If you are interested in SWPP funding, you should apply to the partner most aligned to the work the student will be doing. If your position falls outside the sectors represented by other partners, apply to Magnet – Campus Connect.

Student Work Placement Program Information
SWPP Partners
Magnet – Campus Connect
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The Magnet program works with a range of recognized associations and organizations who represent key industry sectors in Canada. This SWPP partner works within a variety of roles and represents a key partner for post-secondary institutions. The program provides employers with wage subsidies worth up to 50 per cent (to a maximum of $5,000) of a co-op student’s work-term pay.

**Information Technology Association of Canada (ITAC)**
Employers must be willing to provide full-time work in a business and technology or technology capacity to be eligible for funding.

**Information and Communication Technology Council (ICTC) – WIL Digital**
Canadian employers eligible to apply for this funding must be working in one of several emerging sectors -- advanced manufacturing, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, fintech, intelligent retail, big data, clean tech, connected transportation, entertainment and gaming, e-health -- and providing a paid WIL experience to a post-secondary student studying full-time in science, technology, engineering, math or business in Canada.

**Biotalent Canada – Student Work-Integrated Learning Program**
For this program, the co-op position or the employer must have a biotechnology focus.

**Electricity Human Resources Canada (EHRC) – Empowering Futures**
Empowering Futures is the new WIL program for Canada’s electricity sector. Led by EHRC, the program will create up to 1,000 new WIL opportunities in electricity over three years.

**Environmental Careers Organization (ECO) of Canada – Wage Subsidy Program for Environmental Students**
ECO Canada’s co-op program provides a wage subsidy to employers hiring students in an environmental role (environmental sector, division or projects).

**Mining Industry Human Resources Council (MiHR) – Gearing Up**
Gearing Up is the WIL program for Canada’s mining sector. Led by MiHR, the program will create 850 new WIL opportunities in mining over four years.