ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Chemistry is the study of the structure and behaviour of molecules. This includes the construction of molecules with specific properties for use in areas such as pharmaceuticals and the nuclear industry. You will also focus on the determination of trace chemicals in the environment using techniques for separation and spectroscopic analysis and the design of new materials for the microelectronics industry. Your learning will be facilitated by Guelph’s award-winning faculty in chemistry, electro-chemistry, toxicology, biochemistry and spectroscopy.

WHY CO-OP?

As a co-op student, you’ll gain relevant work experience, build professional networks, and develop essential interpersonal skills needed to succeed in the workplace, all while being paid and earning your university degree. Guelph’s co-op program is unique due to the exceptional level of support provided, including an online 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 Chemistry 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. This sequencing is viewable below:

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<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>FALL</th>
<th>WINTER</th>
<th>SUMMER</th>
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<tr>
<td>ONE</td>
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<td>TWO</td>
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SAMPLE JOBS

There is a diverse selection of jobs made available to Chemistry Co-op students, in government, academia, and the private sector within various industries. You may conduct research, participate in literature searches, or may assist in data collection and analysis. Students may work in a laboratory, a hospital, and/or in an office or field environment. Below are some examples of positions held by Chemistry Co-op students:

Production Assistant
The Production Assistant will be required to support the production schedule of paint products. Associated tasks include milling of paints, paint let-down work, and other related lab and production duties.

Quality Control Specialist
You will conduct chemical, physical, spectroscopic and chromatographic examination of raw materials and finished product; preparation of test solutions, reagents, standards and other common laboratory solutions; record keeping to current GMP standards. You will also maintain laboratory equipment.

Project Technologist
Students will take on the tasks of working with company’s scientist to investigate customer complaints, assist with writing investigation reports, provide customer support over the phone, document customer complaints and corrective actions and participate in other product testing as required.

Additional Sample Jobs: Quality Assurance Specialist, Electrochemistry Researcher, Chemical Laboratories Analyst, Pharmaceutical product development work, and more.

SAMPLE EMPLOYERS*
- Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Bio Agri Mix LP
- SUEZ Environmental
- Canadian Nuclear Laboratories

*This shows a sample of recent co-op employers, and employers will vary depending on employer 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.

ABILITIES & KNOWLEDGE ACQUIRED

- Sound knowledge of the theoretical foundations of the chemical sub-disciplines of analytical, inorganic, organic and physical chemistry
- Practical laboratory experience in wet bench chemistry including inorganic and organic synthesis, quantitative analysis and analytical instrumentation
- Well-developed problem solving and computer literacy skills
- Strong communication and teamwork abilities