

Bachelor of Arts

Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Students in the Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics (FARE) program acquire the analytical knowledge and skills needed to effectively deal with emerging issues in food, agriculture and resource management. Building on economic theory and applied methods in Canadian and international contexts, three thematic streams are offered for specialization including: Food and Agribusiness Management; International Agricultural Development Economics; and Resource Economics. FARE students have interests and skills that can be applied in a variety of job opportunities in industry, government agencies and non-governmental organizations.

WHY CO-OP?

As a co-op student, you will gain firsthand 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 a co-op preparatory course, a personal connection with a Co-op Coordinator to assist you during the employment process and on your work term, and access to senior student mentors.

COURSE SEQUENCING

In the Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics 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.

YEAR	FALL	WINTER	SUMMER
ONE	Academic	Academic	Off
TWO	Academic	Academic	Work
THREE	Work	Academic	Work
FOUR	Academic	Work	Work
FIVE	Academic	Academic	

SAMPLE JOBS

Intern – Demand Planning

Determine sales forecasts for products of customers. Review historical sales trends of promotional activity, draft forecasting data that will support and collaborate with sales initiatives and evaluate and monitor the progress of promotional activities to ensure they are aligned with the customers' strategy. Ensure the weekly promotional calendar is accurate (volume, timing and product mix). Liaise with the managers in charge of major market categories to keep current on market trends, new products, and incorporate this information in the projections. Perform a weekly analysis of promotional activity using key performance indicators and take appropriate corrective action when required.

Farming Operations Intern

Build and enhance overall relationships, primarily with farmer-members, processors-customers and the value chain, through developing and delivering practical solutions that enhance both outcomes and the experience, and by creating a "customer-centric" environment. Educate farmer-members in Best Management Practices, knowledge, data and technology to achieve assured production performance. Conduct on-site farm inspections to ensure compliance with regulations and policy for quota holding farmers, Specialty & Artisanal license holders and Family Food growers. Responsible for advocating positive change by supporting farmers to evolve their businesses to meet bringing them onto the connection platform and providing customer service to drive innovation and enhance traceability. Interface with processors and transporters to ensure regulatory compliance, assist them interfacing with farmers through the connection platform and supporting the administration of the marketing system.

Data Reporting Analyst

The Data Reporting Assistant will be responsible for coordinating requests for unique data reports from internal stakeholders. This involves working with the development team to ensure data provided meets the criteria required. A large part of this position involves quality assurance and checking the accuracy of the report by comparing data from various tools and SQL tables. As the reporting team works with a wide variety of data from growers, retails and wholesalers, this position allows for exposure to a variety of processes on different areas of the business, from tool development, reward programs, communications, planning and development.

SAMPLE EMPLOYERS*

- Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
- Agropur Cooperative
- Chicken Farmers of Ontario
- Statistics Canada
- Kenna

*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

- Advanced analytical and management skills needed to develop the capacity to effectively deal with emerging issues and challenges, such as food, security and sustainability
- Comprehensive understanding of economic theory and applied methods in both the Canadian and world context
- Strong leadership and communication skills, developed through education and work experiences
- Ability to handle and gather accurate economic data relevant to a research problem