

Recent Participating Partners

3M	Dow Chemical
Amgen	Micron Corporation
Baxter	NASA
Bend Research	Roche Colorado
Chevron	Washington Group International
Chevron Phillips	



"Through the co-op, I was able to make enough money to pay for about one-third of my school expenses. Most importantly, don't let the delay in graduation deter you from pursuing co-op employment. It's worth the delay,

and the work experience is invaluable. Besides, it's nice to get a break from school every once in a while."

—Erin Reed, co-op with NASA

"Working and interacting with engineers is a good thing to do. Also, [a co-op] helps you to think differently—it's not like at school where you go through steps that are laid out for you in a book—you have to think creatively and develop your own method for solving problems. It takes longer to graduate, but the money is great...It also gives you a little break.



—Angela Hellstern,
co-op with Roche Colorado

Contact us!

For general information regarding the Co-op Program please contact:

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If you are interested in learning more about specific co-ops by major, please contact your program's co-op director:

Aerospace Engineering Sciences:

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Chemical & Biological Engineering:

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Mechanical Engineering:

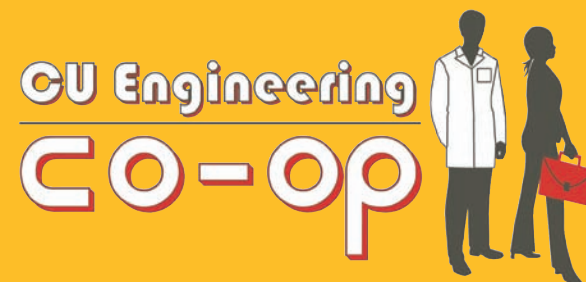
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International Co-ops/All other majors:

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**University of Colorado
at Boulder**

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**Cooperative Education
Program**

**Student Guide
Getting Involved**

[http://engineering.colorado.edu/
activelearning/co-op.htm](http://engineering.colorado.edu/activelearning/co-op.htm)

What is Cooperative Education?

The Cooperative Education (Co-op) Program is a professional development education program that allows students to participate in a year-round schedule alternating professionally related work experiences with classroom coursework. The Co-op Program can provide as much as two years of direct professional development within a 5-year bachelor's degree program.



Students who participate in co-ops are better prepared to enter the work force and frequently choose to continue their employment with their co-op employer after graduating. Recent surveys of seniors who graduated in May 2005 or May 2006 found that 17-21 percent found their permanent position through an internship or co-op experience.

Co-op experiences are paid and result in academic credit, although this credit does not necessarily apply towards the student's degree. Co-op students receive a certificate of participation or written acknowledgement as well as an entry on their transcript for each co-op experience.

Am I eligible for a co-op?

- Must be in good academic standing (minimum 2.75 GPA)
- Second semester sophomore or above

Where can I do my co-op?

- Choose from top companies right here in Colorado or others in major cities throughout the United States
- Opportunities range from Fortune 500 to entrepreneurial companies



A Valuable Investment

"Sixty percent of employers said they made offers to their co-op students for full-time hire."

—NACE 2004 Experiential Education Survey Executive Summary

"Typically former co-op students, when hired full time by a previous co-op employer, receive more rapid promotions and have a higher retention rate than non-co-op hires."

—Cooperative Education as a Source of Labor Supply to Firms in the College Labor Market: Analysis of Data from Four Case Study Firms

How do I get involved in co-op?

- Meet with the co-op director for your department (see back page for contact)
- Submit application for acceptance into co-op
- Create a resume to be submitted to potential employers
- Interview with potential employers
- Notify your co-op or academic advisor when you accept a job offer
- Attend REQUIRED workshop prior to going on your co-op assignment

Why Co-op could be for YOU:

- Make money (up to \$16K per work term!)
- Gain 1 year real-world experience
- Apply what you learn
- Work on compelling projects
- Build skills over time
- Establish a professional network
- Explore career options
- Earn course credit/notation on your transcript
- Co-op Certificate of Completion

Co-op vs. Time Out Program

Enrolling in a co-op program provides many benefits that are not available if you leave school and take a job with an employer through the Time Out Program. By enrolling in co-op, you are considered a full-time student for the duration of your co-op assignment. This keeps your student loans from being eligible for collection and *may* also impact your ability to retain a scholarship. In addition, a co-op coordinator from the college will be available to help with any problems you might encounter while on your co-op assignment. Finally, participation in the co-op program will ensure that you receive academic credit (not necessarily applying to your degree) and a notation on your transcript.

The cost of the co-op program is \$650 per co-op term for in-state and out-of-state students, paid through continuing education, for six credit hours.

