

Co-op program  
at Biology Department  
(Biology, Ecology, Cell Molecular Biology)

Information updated on Nov 19, 2020

# Co-op option

Co-op option is available to students who are in specialization/honor's program in Biology, Ecology and Cell Molecular Biology. The Co-op program gives you the chance to complete **paid work terms** that last 12 to 16 weeks. The work experience gives you an huge advantage over other graduating students in a competitive job market.

Sample work-study schedule for students for students who has 60 credits remaining before graduate.

Year 1	Study	Study	<b>Work</b>
Year 2	Study	<b>Work</b>	<b>Work</b>
Year 3	Study	Study	Graduate

Sample work-study schedule for students for students who has 90 credits remaining before graduate.

Year 1	Study	Study	Study
Year 2	<b>Work</b>	Study	<b>Work</b>
Year 3	Study	<b>Work</b>	Study
Year 4	Study	Graduate	

Job descriptions depend on the type of employment. Following are example work duties of Biology Co-op students.

- work as a lab assistant; characterize the effects of drug candidates in cells and/or animals; work on gene cloning and molecular diagnostics
- act as a field assistant to carry out species identification, measurement and counting
- market medical and scientific equipment
- quality control, technical assistant, regulatory affair

Co-op job positions are posted to the internal co-op job posting board. However, it is student's responsibility to search and apply to the positions. Students are encouraged to apply to a wide range of job postings.

# Benefits of Co-op education

- Earn a salary while on work terms.
- Obtain valuable work experience while in school. Employers often prefer hiring graduates with internship experiences.
- Gain exposure to different types of jobs. This will help making the right career choice.
- Build business contacts/networks. Employers often prefer hiring somebody they already know.
- Apply theoretical knowledge gained in class. Work experiences also positively influences academic skills, as students will see relevance of their studies to the future careers.

## Responsibility of Co-op students

- Co-op students must pay co-op fee (\$ 185 per term over 8 terms) to cover the administrative cost.
- Co-op students must maintain the full-time student status (minimum of 12 credits per term) during the study term.
- Co-op students must maintain the high academic standard (GPA of 3) during the study term.
- Co-op students must participate career training courses offered by the Co-op Institute during the first study term.
- Co-op students must be actively engaged in the job search and job application processes.
- Co-op students must complete Reflective learning course assignments during the work term.
- Co-op students must submit a work term report at the end of each work term.

# Eligibility

## Newly admitted students:

- R-score cut off is 30 (overall and Biology) for students who are from the Quebec CEGEP system
- Students with R-score below 30 should spend at least 12 credits at Concordia to demonstrate competencies in Science courses (GPA of 3.0 or above). Please read the section below about the admission of internal applicants.
- Students who are in the extended credit program (ECP) program should complete at least 12 credits at Concordia and must demonstrate competence in Science courses (GPA of 3.0 or above). Please read the section below about the admission of internal applicants.

## Internal applicants:

- Must have completed at least 12 credits at Concordia, including at least 9 credits in Science courses.
- GPA of 3.0 or above in Science courses.
- Must have 60 credits remaining in the B.Sc. program at the start of Co-op program.
  - First year for students who are in 90 credits program
  - First & second year students who are in 120 credits program.

# Eligibility FAQ

**Q1. I did not check the Co-op checkbox. Can I still apply?**

Answer: Yes you can!

**Q2. How do I know if I will be in the Extended Credit Program (ECP)?**

Answer: In general, applicants from high schools are placed in the ECP program. Check your admission letter to see if you are in the ECP program.

**Q3. I am in Biology Major program. Can I still apply for Co-op?**

Answer: Yes you can! If you are accepted, we can switch you to a Specialization program.

**Q4. I am in the second year at Concordia. Can I apply?**

Answer: It depends on which program you are in. First and second year students in ECP program can apply. But, if you are not in ECP, you do not have enough credits remaining for your degree to complete the co-op requirement.

# Application Procedure

<https://www.concordia.ca/academics/co-op/students/how-to-apply.html>

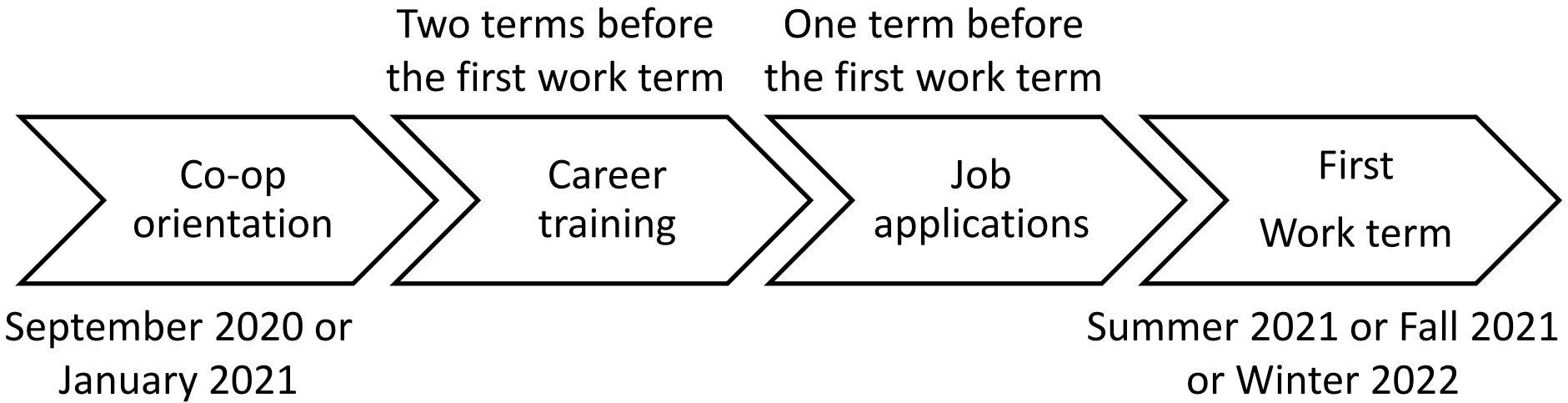
## New Students

- Check 'I want to apply for the Co-op option' when you apply to Concordia University

## Internal Applicants

- Fill out the application form [here](#).

# After admission



# Questions?

Co-op Academic Director

Madoka Gray-Mitsumune

[madoka.gray-mitsumune@concordia.ca](mailto:madoka.gray-mitsumune@concordia.ca)