

WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING ABOUT CO-OP

“I owe my degree to hard work, sacrifice, and the fine professors who taught me the necessary fundamentals. However I owe my newfound career to the Co-op Program. I received invaluable, hands-on experience in a career field I was just beginning to learn about. If I could tell every incoming freshmen one thing, it would be to join the program.”

“Upon entering the class, my goal was to obtain a job in the engineering field. But after the first day, I realized it was worth much more than a job. I am leaving with the knowledge on how to improve my communication skills on the job, how to set goals, and how to successfully solve a problem.”

“Involvement with the Cooperative Education Department helped me to focus on my goals, learn to recognize my strengths, and decide where I need development.”

“I learned from the seminar how important values are and how important it is to include them in your goals. If your values are not applied to what you do in the future, you may not be happy. I have learned that I need to find a career that will allow me to do what I believe is right.”

CO-OP STAFF MEMBERS

Peg Curro, Director
E-mail: peg.curro@bristolcc.edu
508-678-2811, ext. 2456

Nicole Heaney, Coordinator
E-mail: nicole.heaney@bristolcc.edu
508-678-2811, ext. 2471

Holly FitzGerald, Co-op Advisor
New Bedford Campus
E-mail: holly.fitzger@bristolcc.edu
508-678-2811, ext. 4000

Robert Koohy, Co-op Advisor
Attleboro Campus
E-mail: robert.koohy@bristolcc.edu
508-226-2484



**Office of Cooperative Education
and School to Career**
Bristol Community College
777 Elsbree Street
Fall River, MA 02720
Phone: 508-678-2811, ext. 2407
Fax: 508-730-3282
Email: co-op@bristolcc.edu
Website: www.bristolcc.edu/Co-op



COOPERATIVE EDUCATION & INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



CONNECTING CLASSROOM LEARNING WITH WORK-BASED EXPERIENCE

Cooperative Education Program
Bristol Community College
777 Elsbree Street, Room K123
Fall River, MA 02720
508-678-2811, ext. 2407

THE CO-OP EXPERIENCE

WHAT IS CO-OP?

Cooperative Education (Co-op) at Bristol Community College is a nationally recognized academic internship program which connects students and employers.

Co-op integrates classroom learning with professional experience in positions related to your major or long term career interests. By working approximately 12-15 hours per week and participating in a one hour per week seminar, you will have the opportunity to earn 3 credits and compensation, as well as gain knowledge, experience, perspective, and confidence.

Since 1986, the Cooperative Education Program has partnered with international, national, regional and local employers. Cooperative Education exemplifies Bristol Community College's commitment to provide you with a practical and comprehensive educational experience.

WHAT WILL CO-OP DO FOR ME?

- Earn 3 credits towards your degree
- Provide you with individualized career development resources
- Confirm a major, especially if you plan to transfer to a 4 year institution
- Develop marketable skills and a competitive resume
- Integrate your classroom learning with relevant work experience
- Establish contacts/references with employers in your field

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Co-op is open to students in ALL majors. You are eligible for Co-op if you:

- Are enrolled in a program of study
- Are in good academic standing
- Have completed 27 credits
- Have a GPA of 2.5 or above

For information regarding certificate programs or the Walt Disney College Program, contact the Co-op Office at 508-678-2811, ext. 2407 or Co-op @bristolcc.edu.

WHAT IS THE SEMINAR?

As a Co-op student, you will enroll in the Co-op Seminar (CED 11, EDU 20 or RMN 16). The one hour, weekly interactive seminar is an integral part of your success and learning. Important topics include goal setting, developing realistic action plans, values clarification, communication skills, team building, conflict negotiation, time and stress management, networking, interviewing, and self assessment.

HOW DO I OBTAIN A POSITION?

The Co-op staff will work with you during the prior semester to assist you with resume writing, interviewing skills, career development, scheduling, and other areas to ensure your success obtaining a co-op/internship position. You will interview with prospective employers and final hiring decisions will be made by the employer. Salaries are set by employers and depend on the industry, skill level of the position, experience level, and market conditions.

ARE YOU LOOKING TO ADVANCE IN YOUR CURRENT JOB?

Many BCC students are already working in a job related to their major. You may have years of experience or may be ready to advance in your position. By participating in Co-op and developing new learning objectives, you will gain valuable skills for advancement.

Co-op will help you:

- Earn 3 credits towards your degree
- Explore career possibilities within your current company
- Take on new challenges, projects or responsibilities
- Demonstrate your commitment to professional development

HOW DO I APPLY?

- Contact the Co-op staff at least one semester **prior** to the semester you plan on registering
- Complete an online application at **www.bristolcc.edu/co-op** and **select apply online**

You will be notified by email if you have been accepted. Co-op staff is available in person, by phone, and by email to answer any questions you have about the program.

For additional information, visit our website at **www.bristolcc.edu/co-op**.