



Application Information

To apply or find out more about available engineering co-op and internship opportunities, contact us at:

Office of Professional Practice
310 Perkins Hall
Knoxville, TN 37996-2030
Phone: (865) 974-5323
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Inquiries and charges of violation concerning Title VI, Title IX, Section 504, ADA or the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) or any of the other above referenced policies should be directed to the Office of Equity and Diversity (OED), 1840 Melrose Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37996-3560, telephone (865) 974-2498 (V/TTY available) or 974-2440. Requests for accommodation of a disability should be directed to the ADA Coordinator at the UTK Office of Human Resources, 600 Henley Street, Knoxville, TN 37996-4125.

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THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE



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A Message from the Director

We appreciate your interest in the Office of Professional Practice (OPP).

OPP is an organization that provides cooperative education and internship opportunities to help students balance classroom theory with practice and improve their professional and intellectual development.

While our primary goal is to serve the University of Tennessee College of Engineering students, we also strive to be of service to local, national and international companies. We work in conjunction with employers, for we believe that this is a dynamic relationship, which adapts to the objectives set forth by the changing times in the field of engineering.

The OPP continually works to identify and offer worthwhile work experiences to students during their years at the university, and endeavors to provide superior service to our clients.

Sincerely,
Walter Odom, OPP Director



What is the OPP?

Since 1926, the OPP has provided income-generating opportunities for thousands of engineering students to experience real-world engineering challenges through cooperative education (co-op) and internship programs.

Both programs offer structured learning environments where students develop increasing responsibilities by holding full-time paid positions in a professional setting related to their academic and career goals.



The engineering co-op program combines classroom learning with productive work experience over an extended period of time while internship positions are offered for less extensive assignments.

The OPP is responsible for reviewing student applications, providing information about participating employers, matching students to employers, and monitoring progress during work assignments.

Co-op Opportunities

Students in engineering co-op positions are employed and paid by industry, business, and government organizations for alternating periods of full-time study and full-time work.

Engineering co-op positions are not summer-only jobs or short-term internships. Each engineering co-op participant must work at least three semesters or a total of 52 weeks to complete the program.

Co-op engineers typically work full-time for one semester and study full-time for the next. To be eligible for an engineering co-op position, candidates must be full-time UT College of Engineering students who have achieved at least sophomore status and a GPA of 2.5 or higher. They must also receive approval for participation by a COE faculty member.



Integrated Internships

The internship program offers students full-time, paid positions for at least 10 weeks during the summer and a minimum of 16

weeks in the spring or fall semester. Participants may also begin positions as interns and advance to engineering co-op status. To qualify for an internship, students must be registered in the COE full-time, and must have accumulated at least 60 credit hours with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above.

Academic Advantages

Engineering graduates with co-op and internship experience have a competitive edge over their peers. Not only do they have documented professional work experience providing greater insight on the theories and principles of engineering and exposure to state-of-the-art equipment, but they also develop vital personal communication skills and associations with successful companies and organizations leading to valuable career networking opportunities.



Cash Compensation

Both the engineering co-op and internship programs allow students to focus on academics and career goals simultaneously. Since all positions are paid, participants earn competitive salaries—for co-op engineers, the average is \$2,100 a month—while advancing their knowledge of a chosen field.

Ambassador Assistance

The Office of Professional Practice selects a group of outstanding student participants each year to serve as Co-op



Ambassadors. The ambassadors are either in current work assignments, or have recently completed co-op jobs. The ambassadors assist the OPP staff, and provide tutoring and mentoring to other engineering students. Ambassadors also

serve as representatives of the OPP program at various COE functions.