



F.A.Q. Co-op Program

Frequently Asked questions



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F.A.Q. Co-op Program



■ Frequently Asked questions

• **What does WTC's Co-op Program offer?**

The Co-op Program offers students the opportunity to improve their English language ability and gain real work experience in Canada.

• **Who is eligible to participate in WTC's Co-op Program?**

Anyone who wants to improve their English language skills and experience Canadian culture while getting paid is eligible to participate.

• **What is the minimum age requirement to participate in the WTC Co-op Program?**

Students have to be at least 18 years of age to be admitted in this program.

• **What are the required documents?**

Students must obtain a Study and Work Permit (Co-op Permit), or apply for a Working Holiday Visa. Students will obtain a Canadian Social Insurance Number after their arrival in Canada.

• **How can I apply for the Study and Work Permit?**

Some students may apply for both permits (Study and Work Permit) back in their home country. Other students may need to apply for the Study Permit in their home countries and then apply for the Work Permit after they arrive in Canada. WTC will assist students in obtaining post-arrival documents. Please contact WTC for details.

• **What are the minimum and maximum lengths of the program?**

The minimum length is 24 weeks (12 weeks of study and 12 weeks of work). The maximum length is 48 weeks (24 weeks of study and 24 weeks of work). The work period cannot be longer than the study period, and the work period will only begin after conclusion of the study period. The work period has to be equal to or less than the study period in length. For example, if the study program is 12 weeks long, then the number of weeks for the work program must last 12 weeks or less.

• **What is the difference between the Business Internship and the Co-op Program?**

The difference is that positions for the Business Internship Program are generally unpaid, and they are related to the business environment or to the student's work experience. The Co-op Program focuses on the service industry, and students will receive a minimum wage.

Positions for the Business Internship Program are designed to give students the opportunity to develop new skills related to their field of interest, with the purpose of achieving their career objectives.

Positions for the Co-op Program are recommended for those who wish to develop English skills in a real Canadian work environment while getting paid.

• **Which English courses do students have to take?**

Students must take the minimum required ESL courses (12 weeks of courses, as mentioned above) in order to participate in the Co-op Program. The course level to be taken and the amount of ESL coursework will be determined based on the student's English language competency.

• **Can students work while studying?**

No, students cannot work while they are studying. Students must complete the study period before beginning the work period.

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- **Will WTC prepare me for and help me obtain a work placement?**

Yes; included in the study program are workshops designed to help students with job hunting, resume-writing, and interview skills. WTC will also arrange for students to work with its business partners by setting up interviews with potential employers.

- **What types of jobs will students likely obtain through this program?**

Students will have the opportunity to obtain jobs that are related to the service industry/customer service, such as positions in restaurants, coffee shops, retail shops, hotels, resorts, and other similar workplaces.

- **What is the required level of English to participate in the Co-op Program?**

Students have to successfully complete ESL Level 5 or higher in order to participate in the program. See Co-op Program details on the WTC website or the college brochure for program requirements.

- **What wage/salary will students earn?**

The exact wage/salary will vary based on employer, business, and location, but it will not be lower than provincial minimum wage (currently CAD\$8/hr).

- **What type of accommodation does WTC provide?**

WTC provides homestays with Canadian families in the Vancouver area. Other types of accommodation are available. Please contact us for more information.

- **Is this program offered year-round?**

Yes, our Co-op Program is offered year-round; students can start the program on any Monday.

- **How much does it cost to participate in the Co-op Program?**

The Placement fee is CAD\$800, which includes visa documentation, Social Insurance Number application, workshops, and job placement support. This fee does not include the study program. Please refer to our current tuition fee schedule for further details.

- **Can students do a Self-Placement?**

Yes, students can find their own positions. However, there is a Self-Placement fee of CAD\$500. This fee includes Visa application support, workshops, application for Social Insurance Number, and Co-op Program support.

- **How many hours per week are students likely to work?**

Students are likely to work between 35 and 40 hours per week, depending on the position.

- **What happens if students quit the program?**

Students who quit the program will not be eligible to graduate, because successful completion of the program is necessary in order to obtain the WTC Co-op Programs Diploma. The placement fee is also non-refundable should students decide to discontinue the program prior to its successful completion.