CO-OP AND EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
EXPERIENCE MATTERS
# Co-op and Internship Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College/Academic Unit/Major</th>
<th>Program Length in Years</th>
<th>Months of Co-op/Internship Required</th>
<th>Approximate Number of Students Per Year</th>
<th>Average Weekly Co-op Earnings*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>College of Applied Science and Technology</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>School of Engineering Technology</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>880</td>
<td>$698</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Sustainability, Health, and Safety</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>International Hospitality and Service Management</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Packaging Science</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saunders College of Business</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounting, Finance, International Business, Management, Management Information Systems, Marketing, New Media Marketing</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4 to 6</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>$625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1,350</td>
<td>$855</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computing Security</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Game Design and Development, New Media Interactive Development</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Web and Mobile Computing (formerly Information Technology)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Computing and Information Technologies (formerly Networking and Systems Administration)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Software Engineering</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human-Centered Computing</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kate Gleason College of Engineering</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Biomedical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering (all options), Industrial Engineering (all options), Mechanical Engineering (all options), Microelectronic Engineering</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>$745</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>College of Health Sciences and Technology</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Co-op/internship optional</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>$456</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diagnostic Medical Sonography (Ultrasound)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Clinical internship required; students earn academic credit</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>$456</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutrition Management</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Physician Assistant (BS/MS)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Clinical rotation required; students earn academic credit</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>$456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercise Science</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Co-op/internship optional</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>$456</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>College of Imaging Arts and Sciences</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>School of Art, School for American Crafts, School of Design, School of Film and Animation, School of Photographic Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Co-op/internship optional</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>$700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomedical Photographic Communications</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1 term co-op or internship required</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>$700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Imaging and Photographic Technology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>School of Media Sciences</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>College of Liberal Arts</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Advertising and Public Relations, Communication, Journalism</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Museum Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1 term internship required (unpaid)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>$495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Relations and Global Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1 term co-op or internship required</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>$495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Policy, Sociology and Anthropology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1 term co-op or internship required</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>$495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice, Economics, Philosophy, Political Science</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Co-op/internship optional</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>$495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Humanities and Social Sciences</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Co-op/internship optional</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>$495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>College of Science</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Applied Mathematics, Applied Statistics and Actuarial Science, Biochemistry, Biology, Biotechnology and Molecular Bioscience, Chemistry, Computational Mathematics, Environmental Science, Imaging Science, Physics</td>
<td>4 or 5</td>
<td>Co-op/internship optional. Students are encouraged to complete internships and undergraduate research projects.</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>$865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bioinformatics</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

* Average weekly co-op earnings for all students in the associated college who have participated in a paid co-op.
For detailed information about co-op earnings at the program level as well as other information regarding co-op and internship requirements, visit www.rit.edu/programoverviews.
For more information about RIT career outcome rates and career trends, visit www.rit.edu/oce/joboutlook.
“Toyota’s experience with RIT has been wonderful. The relationships we have built with career services and the engineering departments are not only better than any other, but beyond our expectations. RIT is a top source of college co-ops and new grads for Toyota.”

Jerry L. Sturdivant, Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing North America

Elizabeth Bondi

Major: Imaging Science
Immersion: Italian
Activities: Honors Program; Optical Society of America Rochester Section and RIT Student Chapter; National Society of Leadership and Success; RIT’s Imaging Science & Technology Student Chapter; RIT Yoga Club
Study Abroad: Vercelli, Italy

Liz Bondi fell in love with imaging science and the multidisciplinary nature of the field. “I’ve been learning physics, calculus, computer science, engineering—imaging science combines all these wonderful areas. The applications are so cool,” she says. Bondi has focused her research on the restoration of ancient documents, which led her to Vercelli, Italy, where she spent two weeks at the Museo del Tesoro del Duomo restoring the “Vercelli Codex Evangeliorum Vercellensis,” a 4th century text of the first four books of the New Testament in Latin. Bondi assisted in processing multispectral images of the document. A 2015 Barry M. Goldwater Scholar, Bondi plans to attend graduate school to pursue a doctorate degree.

Learning by Doing
At RIT, cutting-edge academic programs, outstanding faculty, and first-rate classroom and laboratory facilities provide you with a great educational experience. But in today’s world that’s simply not enough. You need to be prepared for the real challenges and opportunities you will experience once you’ve graduated. Your total education must be comprehensive and relevant. It must be tested in real-world settings and on real-world problems before you graduate.

RIT’s co-op and experiential education programs do all that—and more.

RIT offers a full range of experiential learning opportunities. You may, for example …

• gain valuable work experience through internship and paid cooperative education work assignments with corporations and organizations around the U.S. and abroad.
• join a team solving business problems through industry-sponsored, class-based projects including senior capstone design teams.
• study abroad at one of more than 100 universities in more than 30 countries or travel abroad through RIT-sponsored group or class trips.
• work on an interdisciplinary student team competing at the national or international level.
• work alongside a faculty member on an externally funded research project.
• work part-time on and off campus in assignments designed to complement your academic course of study.
• volunteer your time and experience through our Community and Service Learning programs.

RIT is a world leader in experiential education. Every academic program at RIT offers something in the way of experiential education. Those opportunities are always specific to the educational goals of the course of study, reflective of what’s available in the real world, and sensitive to your needs and interests.

The Bottom Line
Co-op and experiential education at RIT offers you many advantages, but the bottom line is that employers and graduate schools prefer students with related experience. Consistently, 95 percent of RIT’s graduating students are employed or enter graduate school within six months of graduation. Additionally, of those employed, 50 percent or more begin their careers working full time for one of their co-op employers. Students with graduate school attendance plans have a competitive edge for admission and are desirable to those programs as a result of co-op and experiential education experience.

Cooperative Education
Cooperative education (co-op) is the most extensive and intensive of RIT’s experiential education opportunities. Co-op is full-time, paid work experience directly related to your course of study and career interests. Periods of full-time study are alternated with periods of full-time
employment, offering the best way for you to immerse yourself in the real world and apply what you’re learning and experiencing in your studies at RIT. Some academic programs require co-op while others make it available on an optional basis.

RIT has the fourth-oldest and one of the largest cooperative education programs in the world, annually placing more than 4,300 students in more than 5,700 co-op assignments with more than 2,200 employing organizations. Last year those students generated more than $45 million in earnings through their employment with industry, business, government, and the not-for-profit sector throughout the U.S. and in 40 foreign countries.

**Internships**

As an alternative to co-op, many academic programs at RIT offer students the opportunity to gain career-related work experience through internships. Students in the medical science programs, for example, are required to complete a clinical internship in the fourth year that provides the experience necessary for professional licensing. Other academic programs—including, for example, public policy and international and global studies—offer internship opportunities in addition to co-op. While co-op assignments are full-time paid positions, internships may not pay a salary or require a full-time work schedule. Also, in some instances, internship credit may be substituted for specific courses required in the academic major.

**Study Abroad**

To prepare you for success in our global society, RIT offers a range of exciting study abroad opportunities that expand your horizons in every sense. With over 400 programs in 50 countries, there is usually a study abroad program for students of every major. RIT Global offers four types of study abroad programs: Gateways, Global Campuses, Faculty-led, and Affiliate. Gateway programs are RIT customized programs that are usually major-specific. Our Global Campus programs allow students to enroll directly in one of RIT’s overseas campuses in Dubrovnik and Zagreb (Croatia), Dubai (United Arab Emirates), and Pristina (Kosovo). Faculty-led programs are RIT customized programs that are usually major-specific. Our Global Campus programs allow students to enroll directly in one of RIT’s overseas campuses in Dubrovnik and Zagreb (Croatia), Dubai (United Arab Emirates), and Pristina (Kosovo). Faculty-led programs are generally major-specific and are designed and executed by an RIT faculty member. Finally, Affiliate programs run through RIT partner organizations.

**Undergraduate Research**

At RIT, student-centered research means that undergraduates conduct research assignments that their peers at other universities often don’t see until graduate school. This hands-on experience at all undergraduate levels is consistent with RIT’s history as an experiential learning university. By providing undergraduates the opportunity to do genuine research work, students learn the following at RIT:

- Research project planning
- Project troubleshooting
- Real problem solving
- Research assessment

These hands-on skills become the foundation of scientific research. For more than two decades, the culminating event for undergraduate research is the Undergraduate Research Symposium. Students from all of RIT’s colleges are eligible to participate. The annual symposium includes speakers, presentations, and poster sessions, and is the showcase for undergraduate research at RIT.

**Office of Career Services and Cooperative Education**

- Ranked by The Princeton Review in the Top 10 for career services, the office provides centralized “one-stop” career services for RIT students and alumni.
- Nearly 600 employers participate in career fair programs and nearly 400 participate in on-campus interviewing each year.
- More than 10,000 positions are posted through the office and nearly 6,000 on-campus interviews are conducted annually.
- More than 2,200 employers partner with the office to access the more than 3,000 graduates and 4,300 co-op students that are produced each year.
- The office utilizes cutting-edge technology to make its services and critical career-related content available to students and alumni at their convenience.
Nicholas Barlow

Major: Computer Engineering  
Minors: Computer Science, Chinese Language and Culture  
Activities: National Society for Black Engineers  
Co-op Placements: Rockwell Collins, Phillips Medical Devices; Cisco Systems; Microsoft

Nicholas Barlow as always loved tinkering with electronics. It’s what drew him to computer engineering. "Computers are one of the most important inventions in the last 100 years. The fact that we can accomplish so much more with the use of computers is what really got me interested." Completing four co-ops, all at mid- to large-size companies, has taught Barlow the power of teamwork. "What struck me is how large companies and teams of 20 to 100 people can collaborate and work to make something that would take several lifetimes for one person to do."

Dianne McShane

Major: International Hospitality and Service Management  
Co-op Placement: Cape May Café, Walt Disney World (Disney College Program)

Working for eight months at Cape May Café at the Beach Club Resort at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida, gave Dianne McShane an immersive experience in customer service with one of the most respected companies in the world. "The customer service and guest service skills I learned at Disney I don’t think I could learn anywhere else. The way they solve problems, interact with customers, and go above and beyond is just remarkable," she says. She is hoping to co-op at Disney again, this time with the Disney Professional Internships program, where she would like to work in hotel management or park operations.

Carrington plans to attend veterinary school during migratory periods. They shared their results in a paper Carrington co-authored. "We had the cow cut open and that was it for me. It was pretty much the coolest thing I’ve ever seen," he says of the experience, which influenced his decision to pursue veterinary school. With Dr. Susan Smith Pagano, an assistant professor in the School of Life Sciences, Carrington is conducting migratory bird research, specifically the nutritional analysis of the fruits they consume during fall migration to determine which native fruits should be conserved during migratory periods. They shared their results in a paper Carrington co-authored. Carrington plans to attend veterinary school while continuing to conduct research.

Calvin Carrington

Major: Biology  
Activities: President, Pre-Vet Club  
Research: Avian Nutritional Ecology with Dr. Susan Smith Pagano

After his freshman year of college Calvin Carrington worked at a family friend’s dairy farm, where a cow developed a displaced abomasum. "We had the cow cut open and that was it for me. It was pretty much the coolest thing I’ve ever seen," he says of the experience, which influenced his decision to pursue veterinary school. With Dr. Susan Smith Pagano, an assistant professor in the School of Life Sciences, Carrington is conducting migratory bird research, specifically the nutritional analysis of the fruits they consume during fall migration to determine which native fruits should be conserved during migratory periods. They shared their results in a paper Carrington co-authored. Carrington plans to attend veterinary school while continuing to conduct research.

Tianna Manon

Majors: Journalism and political science  
Co-op Placements: The Hill newspaper, Democrat and Chronicle newspaper

Activities: Invited Speaker, “Future Leaders” panel at RIT’s annual Expressions of King’s Legacy celebration

When Tianna Manon worked at The Hill newspaper in Washington, D.C., as a student in the Institute on Political Journalism, she covered congressional hearings and events, and contributed to feature stories covering news on Capitol Hill. Manon’s favorite project was a lengthy feature on Congressman Rick Nolan (D-Minn.), who returned to the U.S. House of Representatives after spending more than 32 years working in domestic and international business and community affairs. "When it was done," says Manon, "Rep. Nolan had it framed and put in his office."

Dianne McShane

Major: International Hospitality and Service Management  
Co-op Placement: Cape May Café, Walt Disney World (Disney College Program)

Working for eight months at Cape May Café at the Beach Club Resort at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida, gave Dianne McShane an immersive experience in customer service with one of the most respected companies in the world. "The customer service and guest service skills I learned at Disney I don’t think I could learn anywhere else. The way they solve problems, interact with customers, and go above and beyond is just remarkable," she says. She is hoping to co-op at Disney again, this time with the Disney Professional Internships program, where she would like to work in hotel management or park operations.

A sampling of our employer partners that hire for co-ops, internships, and permanent placement includes:

- 1st Playable Productions, LLC
- Amazon
- Anheuser-Busch
- Apple Computer
- BAE
- Bendix
- Boeing
- Bosch
- Bose
- Carestream Health
- CENG
- CIA
- Cisco Systems
- Deloitte & Touche
- Delphi
- Ernst & Young
- Fidelity Investments
- Fisher Price
- General Dynamics
- General Electric
- GM Components
- Google
- Harris Corporation
- Hasbro
- The Hershey Company
- Honda
- Iberdrola
- IBM
- Intel
- Intuit
- ITT Corporation
- Johnson & Johnson
- JPMorgan Chase
- L-3 Communications
- Lockheed Martin
- Microsoft
- MIT Lincoln Laboratory
- MOOG
- NASA
- Northrop Grumman
- NSA
- Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics
- Paychex
- PCC
- Philips North America
- Qualcomm
- SpaceX
- Thomson/Reuters
- Toyota
- Unilever
- United Technologies
- University of Rochester
- Walt Disney World
- Wegmans Food Markets
- Welch Allyn
- Xerox

A sample of the graduate schools attended by our recent alumni:

- Boston University
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Cornell University
- Drexel University
- Duke University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Harvard University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- New York University
- Ohio State University
- Penn State
- Rhode Island School of Design
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- School of Visual Arts
- Syracuse University
- University at Buffalo
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of Maryland
- University of Michigan
- University of Rochester
- University of Virginia
- Virginia Tech
Rochester Institute of Technology
Undergraduate Admissions Office
Bausch & Lomb Center
60 Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, NY 14623-5604

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EXPERIENCE MATTERS

Your successful career begins with us at RIT!

RIT does not discriminate. RIT promotes and values diversity within its workforce and provides equal opportunity to all qualified individuals regardless of race, color, creed, age, marital status, sex, gender, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, veteran status, or disability.