What is the U of T iSchool Master of Information (MI) Co-op Option?

It is a choice to:
- Alternate periods of academic study with periods of work experience
- Complete 2 consecutive 12-week work terms in a full-time, paid role
- Apply knowledge in a real world situation and gain academic credit for it

Why should I choose the iSchool Co-op Option?

It is an opportunity to:
- Gain full-time, paid, relevant work experience in your area(s) of study
- Further develop and apply the knowledge and expertise acquired during your coursework
- Increase the potential for employment upon graduation

Am I eligible to apply?

To apply, a candidate has to:
- Be a current full-time first year MI student who is a Canadian citizen, permanent resident of Canada, or international student
- Be an MI student in a concentration only path; all 7 concentrations are included. Students completing a thesis are not eligible for co-op.
- Be enrolled in or completed a minimum of two required courses in (each of) your declared concentration(s)
- Have received minimum A- cumulative average on classes completed in the first term (Fall 2015)
- Complete an interview with the Co-op Director and/or the Co-op Coordinator

How do I apply?

If you wish to pursue this option, you will need to complete an on-line application and submit:
- Letter of interest: approximately 500 words explaining why you want to enroll the co-op, your career objectives and how enrolling in the co-op will support these objectives
- Current resume
- Permission to see previous transcripts and U of T academic record
- $50 non-refundable application fee

When do I apply?

All applicants will be interviewed by the Co-op Director and/or the Co-op Coordinator, once the application has been received. For 2015, a maximum of 30 students will be accepted into the co-op option.

Timeline

- Co-op information session
  - September (TBA), 2015
- Career workshops
  - September 15 – October 3, 2015
- Applications accepted
  - November (TBA), 2015
- Interviews with applicants
  - November (TBA), 2015
- Co-op candidates selected
- Career workshops
  - January 4 – 29, 2016
- Co-op positions posted
  - January – March, 2016
- Co-op interviews
  - January – April, 2016
- Co-op work terms
  - May – August 2016
  - September – December 2016
What are the co-op fees?

- One-time $50 non-refundable co-op application fee to apply to the option
- $1200 auxiliary fee paid in two installments, i.e. $600 per co-op work term

Will I get academic credit for the co-op work terms?

Yes! Each work term is considered a course. Once accepted into the co-op, you will enroll in two co-op courses, each worth 0.5 (FCE) credits. These courses will be graded “credit/non-credit” and will appear on your transcript. Also, the Director and/or the Coordinator of the Co-op will make a site visit and meet with the employer during your work term.

What is the co-op schedule?

All co-op students will need to attempt to find their first co-op position for the Summer 2016 term. In case you have not secured one, you will be provided further support and apply for positions starting in Fall 2016.

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<th>Fall 2015</th>
<th>Winter 2016</th>
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<td>Academic term</td>
<td>WORK TERM</td>
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Are work terms guaranteed?

No. You will be provided support during this process, but it is your responsibility to apply for and obtain a co-op position. The Director and the Co-op Coordinator will be available to assist you and provide guidance. The Co-op Coordinator will be posting available co-op opportunities for all co-op students. This is a common practice among the co-op programs in Ontario and Canada.

Questions?

For more information about the co-op option, please send an email to: ischool.coop@utoronto.ca