Co-op & Internship FAQ

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A CO-OP AND AN INTERNSHIP?
A co-op is a 3-term commitment with the same company while an internship is a 1-term commitment with a company.

TO WHAT MAJORS IS THE PROGRAM OPEN?
The program is open to all majors. Be sure to research companies that hire your major and speak with your academic advisor about your plans.

WHAT ARE THE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS?
As a freshman you must complete 2 semesters at MSU and have a minimum 2.5 GPA, as a transfer student you must complete 1 semester at MSU and have a minimum 2.5 GPA.

HOW DO I FIND AVAILABLE POSITIONS?
There are several ways to find positions. The best way to stay aware of positions you qualify for is to set up your Connections account in order to receive weekly email job blasts as well as checking job postings. CareerShift is another way to search for jobs, especially if you are interested in a specific industry or locations. You can access CareerShift in your Connections account under the Jobs tab.

HOW DO I FIND OUT WHO MY CO-OP COORDINATOR IS?
Check the Career Center website under Staff.

WHAT DO I DO IF I GET AN OFFER?
Once you have officially accepted an offer and have your offer letter you can set up an appointment with your coordinator by either calling 662-325-3823 or using the online booking system in your Connections account.

HOW DO I USE THE ONLINE BOOKING SYSTEM?
Once logged into your Career Center Connections account (using NetID and password), find the counseling appointment tab on the left margin. Click the tab, read the instructions in blue carefully, and follow the prompts to request an available appointment time. In the notes section, please specify Co-op (3 work term commitment) or Internship (1 work term). If you are not sure, please contact the company hiring manager to confirm.

WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT MY OFFER OR START DATE?
Since things are a little uncertain right now confirm your start date with your hiring manager and make sure your offer is still valid. If your employer is unable to confirm your offer you may choose to register for classes for the Fall semester until you have confirmation. You can drop classes once you receive confirmation and enroll in the appropriate co-op or internship course.

DO I NEED TO LET ANY OTHER UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS KNOW ABOUT MY CO-OP/INTERNSHIP?
Yes! You will need to let any of the following departments that apply to you know: your academic advisor, financial aid, scholarships, housing, and meal plans. This information can also be found on your checklist provided by your coordinator.