

10 REASONS TO CHOOSE THE PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE YEAR (PEY) INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

1 IT'S MORE THAN JUST A FOOT IN THE DOOR

You'll work for 12 to 16 months, giving you enough time to gain extensive experience applying your engineering skills to real industry challenges. As an intern, you are considered a full-time member of your employer's team. PEY interns sometimes train co-op students from other universities who are working at the same company for a shorter period of time.



6 YOU'LL HAVE A FULL RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES TO CHOOSE FROM IN CANADA AND ABROAD

PEY employers range from local startups to large international companies across every sector. Last year, 700 PEY students had more than 1,800 positions to choose from, many of which were outside of Canada. You will apply and interview for the positions you're most interested in, and accept the job offer that best aligns with your goals.



2 IT'S OPTIONAL

Most eligible engineering students — about 70 per cent — intern through the PEY program each year. You'll have the flexibility to pursue PEY after your second or third year of study. Those who choose not to participate often gain experience in other ways, through summer internships and research positions, or they shorten their time to graduation so they can pursue further graduate school, law or medicine.



7 PEY CAN HELP YOU GRADUATE DEBT-FREE

While on PEY, you are treated as a full-time employee with a starting salary to match. You can expect to earn an average annual salary of \$47,000. The highest salary in 2015 was \$84,000. Every PEY position is paid.



3 PEY FITS SEAMLESSLY INTO YOUR ACADEMIC JOURNEY

In the years leading up to your internship, you'll gain a better sense of your strengths and interests through courses, clubs and more — all of which will shape your PEY preferences. During your internship, you'll focus on your employer for 12 to 16 months and return to school with a fresh perspective on your future. For the remainder of your degree, you'll have ample time to explore your interests further, positioning you perfectly for whatever journey comes after graduation. This model allows you to focus on your studies, then focus on your professional experience, without juggling both at regular intervals.



8 TOP EMPLOYERS AND RECRUITERS COME TO YOU

The PEY program is nearly 40 years old and the most highly regarded optional paid internship program in the country. Some employers **only** hire interns through PEY because it's their best return on investment. PEY is also an excellent way for employers to preview and recruit future talent: more than 70 per cent of returning PEY students receive a confirmed or tentative job offer before they graduate.



4 YOU WILL GAIN PROFESSIONAL CONFIDENCE BEFORE STARTING YOUR INTERNSHIP

To give you the best shot at landing, and succeeding in, your dream internship, the PEY Office will work with you to ensure your resume and interview skills showcase your strengths. Career counselling and professional skills development are all important parts of the PEY process. Daily workshops and guidance on everything from telling your best story and building your network to negotiating salary will serve you well as you apply for PEY positions and well beyond graduation.



9 YOU'LL HAVE AN ADVANTAGE IN SALARY NEGOTIATIONS

Graduating with PEY experience puts you in a position to negotiate a starting salary that is — on average — 15 per cent higher than graduates without PEY experience.



5 YOU WILL HAVE THE MATURITY AND EXPERIENCE TO LEVERAGE PEY TO THE FULLEST

When you start PEY, you will have studied for at least two years at Canada's premier engineering school. Through your coursework and a range of co-curricular opportunities, you will have worked on successful teams, researched in world-class facilities, written reports and presented your ideas. This means you'll have an arsenal of engineering design skills, knowledge and experience to draw on — and build upon — during your internship.



10 YOU'LL GRADUATE ONE STEP CLOSER TO BECOMING A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER

You can apply your time as a PEY intern toward acquiring your P.Eng. designation from Professional Engineers Ontario. Your P.Eng. is your license to practice as a professional engineer.

