

A woman with brown hair tied back, wearing a white lab coat, is focused on looking through a microscope. She is holding a white marker in her right hand and a piece of wood with a microscope stage on it. The wood has a bright light reflecting off its surface. In the background, there is a computer monitor displaying some data and a keyboard. The overall scene is a laboratory or office environment.

Faculty of Forestry

Co-op Programs

Hire Education



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Faculty of Forestry

UBC Forestry Co-op ...

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... your COMPETITIVE advantage



The UBC Faculty of Forestry is the largest forestry faculty in Canada and a world leader in education and research. With a degree from UBC Forestry, students pursue rewarding careers in areas such as environmental science, engineering, wood manufacturing, ecology and sustainable resource management. The Faculty offers six distinct undergraduate programs in Forest Bioeconomy Sciences & Technology, Natural Resources Conservation, Forestry, Wood Products Processing, Urban Forestry, and Forest Sciences.

Co-operative education (co-op) enables students to combine their classroom learning with practical and relevant work experience. Since its beginning in 1996, the UBC Forestry Co-op Program has secured work term opportunities for students locally, nationally and throughout the world.

BENEFITS to employers



Flexibility and Cost Effectiveness: Co-op is an excellent way to complement your staff team with access to a cost-effective resource for short-term opportunities, peak periods or special projects. Forestry Co-op students are available for four-, eight- or 12- month work terms beginning in January, May and September each year.

Quality Students: Employers regularly comment on the quality of Forestry Co-op students because of their academic excellence as well as their positive attitude. Our students are motivated and succeed because they choose to join co-op and go through a rigorous selection process based on their academic excellence, initiative and leadership potential.

Ease of Recruitment: The Forestry Co-op office is your recruitment partner. We work with you and support you through the hiring process and during the work term to ensure that our students meet your expectations.

Looking to the Future: Co-op is more than just recruiting students for short-term opportunities. Co-op is an investment in your future and an excellent opportunity to recruit, train and assess potential future employees. As an employer, you will have the opportunity to mentor the next generation of leaders in conservation, forestry and wood products.

Connections: With UBC Forestry's high level of forestry research funding, participating in co-op gives you access and connections to a network of leading-edge and internationally renowned faculty researchers.



How UBC Forestry Co-op works – the BASICS

At UBC Forestry Co-op, it is our goal to ensure that both employers and students gain as much as possible from their co-op experience. It all starts with the basics.

Employer

As a co-op employer, your responsibilities are the same as they would be for any employee. All co-op students, even the most qualified, require an appropriate level of supervision and direction. At the end of the co-op work term, employers complete an evaluation of the student's performance. Your feedback is critical to ensure students take away more than just a paycheck from their work terms. Your evaluation forms part of the overall grade students receive for their work term.

Student

Students participating in co-op have responsibilities they are expected to uphold; which include respecting and following all employer policies. As well, co-op students have academic responsibilities when on a co-op work term. Our employer partners regularly comment on the high degree of professionalism, enthusiasm and desire to learn that Forestry Co-op students bring to the workplace.

The Program

Even before you post a position, we are working hard with students; preparing them for your workplace. Prior to commencing their first co-op work term, all Forestry Co-op students complete a comprehensive series of career planning and management workshops to prepare them for the transition to the world of work. These workshops include job search techniques, interpersonal skills, ethics and workplace safety. We work closely with our students and get to know their skills and career aspirations. These working relationships enable us to find the most suitable students for your organization. Even after students are placed, we work with you to monitor their progress through ongoing support. A site visit during the work term helps to ensure that both students and employers are satisfied with their co-op experience. We are always just a phone call or e-mail away.



Program OVERVIEW

UBC Forestry Co-op features students in six diverse degree programs available for four-, eight- or 12- month work terms. Our students are skilled in fundamental field and laboratory techniques, various software applications, data collection and analysis, technical report writing and much more. Forestry Co-op students are working towards a degree in either:

Natural Resources Conservation: An interdisciplinary degree to prepare students for careers in environmental sustainability and resource management. It provides a solid background in natural and social sciences, teaches the use of technologically advanced tools and quantitative techniques and emphasizes communication skills.

Forestry: This degree integrates science and technology to advance the understanding and practice of sustainable forest management. It enables graduates to become a Registered Professional Forester (RPF). Students can choose one of two majors: Forest Operations or Forest Resources Management.

Wood Products Processing: This award winning program is a fusion of science, engineering and business which prepares students for a career in the wood products sector and other related fields. Students gain a comprehensive understanding of wood science, advanced manufacturing and business operations.

Forest Sciences: This program encompasses multiple scientific disciplines in understanding our biologically diverse forests and other ecosystems. Students learn about the function and components of our natural environment and they focus their studies on a specific subject area of their choice.

Urban Forestry: This program examines the pressing issues of climate change, rapid urban development, green space fragmentation and biodiversity loss. Students gain transferable skills in smart data, modeling and visualization, planning and design methods, community engagement and communications, governance, policy and economics.

Forest Bioeconomy Sciences and Technology: This program combines molecular, biological and ecological approaches with systems thinking and policy planning to move towards a greener future. Students look at tackling environmental challenges such as decarbonizing society, managing sustainable land use, and implementing long-term policies.

Competencies of Forestry students include:

- Knowledge of forest plant biology and forest ecology
- Understanding of integrated forestry issues: ecological principles, conservation policy, protected areas, species protection, sustainability and land use management
- Experience with research, data analysis, report writing, product R&D
- Engagement with Aboriginal communities
- Familiarity with silviculture systems, stand dynamics and inventories
- Use of technology – GIS, GPS, ArcView, ArcMap, GENUS, CENGA, RoadEng, Remote Sensing
- Experience with developing QA programs, plant layout changes, work flow improvements





Hiring a UBC Forestry Co-op student – four simple steps

1

Contact us – post a job

Contact our office. E-mail your job description to forestry.coop@ubc.ca to commence the hiring process.

2

Review applications and schedule interviews

Review the applications and select the co-op students you wish to interview. We will take care of the rest and coordinate your interviews. You may conduct your interviews at your office, at UBC or remotely via telephone or Skype.

3

Make an offer

Select your co-op student and make an offer. We will assist you with the rest.

4

Make it official

Once your co-op student has accepted their offer, a formal letter of offer should be sent to the Forestry Co-op office.



Our GLOBAL reach – at home and abroad

Forestry Co-op students work locally, nationally and internationally on their co-op work terms. Close to home, Forestry Co-op students are found throughout the Greater Vancouver area, elsewhere in British Columbia and across Canada.

International co-op work terms provide students with the added value of gaining relevant and unique work experience as well as being the first step in becoming engaged global citizens. You may find Forestry Co-op students working on forest harvesting research projects in South Africa, community development projects in rural Costa Rica, or conducting wood adhesive research in Germany. The Forestry Co-op office works closely with international employers in the hiring process, including work visa applications and relocation assistance.

A sample of our employer PARTNERS

- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Alex Fraser Research Forest
- Bartlett Tree Experts
- BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
- Canadian Forest Service
- CANFOR
- Chartwell Resources Group
- City of Port Moody
- City of Surrey
- Davey Tree
- Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Euro- Rite Cabinets
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- FP Innovations
- Galiano Conservancy Association
- Gilbert Smith Forest Products
- Government of Saskatchewan
- Hitec
- Icon Global Supply
- Lower North Thompson Community Forest
- Merit Kitchens
- Metro Vancouver
- Ministry of Agriculture and Food
- Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
- Mosaic Forest Management
- Natural Resources Canada (Pacific Forestry Centre)
- Nature Trust of British Columbia
- Parks Canada
- Performance BioFilaments
- Spectrum Resource Group Inc.
- Strategic Natural Resource Consultants
- Structurlam Products Ltd.
- Surrey's Natural Areas Partnership
- Teck Resources Limited
- Tolko Industries Ltd.
- Triple M Housing
- University of British Columbia
- Vancouver Botanical Gardens Association
- West Fraser Mills Ltd.
- Weyerhaeuser

Quality students, quality service and satisfied employers – this is Forestry Co-op. Our program provides you with high caliber, talented and professional-minded students to help move your organization forward. This working partnership can ensure the hands-on training and development of tomorrow's leaders in conservation, forestry and wood products.

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a place of mind

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