



Drexel Co-op

Experience the Difference



Consider the meaning of this word: Experience.

When you graduate from college, your chances of realizing your professional dreams are far greater if you've taken the time to gain work experience as an undergraduate.

Our prestigious Drexel Co-op program has prepared countless bright and ambitious students for the challenges and rigors of the professional world. Many of our students go on to leadership positions with Fortune 500 companies, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations, providing strong evidence of the lasting benefits of co-operative education.

With Drexel Co-op, knowledge and experience converge, giving students unprecedented insight into their future career field before they ever receive a diploma. We have made it our mission to unlock the potential inside every student and, with the help of Drexel Co-op, we have met with extraordinary success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joan McDonald". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joan McDonald

Senior Vice President, Enrollment Management



Drexel Co-op • Employer: NASA

Fundamentals

Drexel University prides itself on a highly innovative curriculum, world-renowned faculty members, and state-of-the-art teaching facilities. Our students are constantly inspired to test their limits and discover their academic potential. At Drexel, classroom learning, research, projects, papers, and exams are all critical to academic pursuits. But to set them apart from other graduates, students must also gain experience in their chosen field.

Drexel Co-op provides that experience. Through Drexel Co-op, students test their skills in the professional world and network for future opportunities. What makes Drexel Co-op unique?

- By graduation, students may gain up to 18 months of professional experience and list up to three positions on their résumé.
- Students can choose from 1,212 co-op employers located in 28 states and 25 international locations.
- Drexel Co-op is based on professional experience in practical, major-related positions consistent with the interests, abilities, and aptitudes of the students; only a small percentage of students accept unpaid co-ops.
- Co-op students are entrusted with projects vital to the day-to-day functioning of the workplace.
- Students interview with major corporations such as GlaxoSmithKline, Unisys Corporation, Microsoft, Lockheed Martin, and Comcast.
- Drexel's Steinbright Career Development Center (SCDC) provides students with invaluable resources, including career counseling, workshops, job fairs, and résumé reviews.

Top Co-op Employers

- Ace USA
- Arkema Inc.
- BlackRock
- Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
- Comcast Corporation
- Drexel University*
- E. I. duPont deNemours & Co.
- GlaxoSmithKline
- Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania
- Johnson & Johnson
- Lockheed Martin
- Merck
- Microsoft Corporation
- PECO Energy
- Pennoni Associates, Inc.
- Philadelphia Housing Authority
- Philadelphia School District
- PJM Interconnection LLC
- Rohm and Haas
- SAP America
- Siemens
- Sunoco, Inc.
- Susquehanna Int'l Group LLP
- Synthes
- Thomas Jefferson University Hospital
- Traffic Planning and Design, Inc.
- Unisys Corporation
- University of Pennsylvania

**Drexel hires mostly research-related co-op students.*



Drexel Co-op • Employer: Michael Kors

Preparation

Armed with the knowledge and confidence they've accrued in the classroom, students prepare to take their first steps into the world of full-time employment. The Steinbright Career Development Center (SCDC) offers many services to ensure that students are prepared for their co-op interviews and career placement activities.

Co-op 101

All students participating in Drexel Co-op must take Co-op 101, a class specifically designed to introduce students to the co-op process and prepare them for a professional environment. Students learn:

- How to use the online job system
- Résumé composition
- Interviewing techniques
- Independent job searching
- Business etiquette

Co-op Coordinators

Co-op coordinators assist and guide students throughout their co-op experiences. Coordinators in SCDC:

- Pre-register new students for co-op eligibility
- Help students write résumés, cover letters, and professional correspondence

- Update students on deadlines and special events
- Assist students in conducting independent job searches

Co-op Workshops

The SCDC holds career fairs and job search workshops for co-op students. Independent job search workshops are provided by the career services librarian. Workshop topics include:

- Résumé Repair
- Speed Interviewing
- Conquering the Cover Letter
- How to Answer the Tough Interview Questions

Options

Depending on their choice of major, students may engage in up to three Drexel Co-ops by the time they graduate. The one co-op option takes four years to complete with a co-op experience in the student's third year of studies; the three co-op option takes five years to complete with co-op experiences in years two, three, and four of the student's studies. The chart below represents a fall/winter co-op cycle; however, students may have a spring/summer co-op cycle.



Drexel Co-op Abroad

Drexel's Co-op Abroad program provides opportunities for students to live and work in foreign countries. Students who have participated in Co-op Abroad have come from a variety of majors and worked on nearly every continent. Through Co-op Abroad, students:

- Gain meaningful experience in international commerce and industry
- Improve foreign language skills
- Develop greater understanding of foreign cultures
- Develop significant insights into their own characters

Drexel Co-op Nearby

The Greater Philadelphia area is a nexus of businesses virtually unmatched in scope, scale, and specialty. Some of the nation's top biotechnology and pharmaceutical firms, hospitals and health care centers, Fortune 500 companies, and individually owned start-ups call Philadelphia home.

Geographic Distribution of Co-op Students Employed

Co-op employers are located in 28 states and 25 international locations. Many corporations eagerly embrace and nurture the fresh perspectives, drive, and dedication that are typical of a Drexel student. This chart illustrates the location distribution of last year's students.

Pennsylvania	3,034
New Jersey	409
Delaware	114
New York	127
Maryland	45
California	27
Other States	98
Other Countries	61
<i>(Such as Brazil, China, Greece, Ireland, India, and Japan)</i>	

Results

The benefits of Drexel Co-op are obvious, and nothing shows this more than the numbers. This past year's statistics showcase the undeniable advantage Drexel Co-op gives to our graduates.

Average Gross Six-Month Co-op Salary by College/School*

Drexel Co-op students are on the job eight hours a day, five days a week. Students are given real jobs with real responsibilities, and student earnings from last year reflect just that.

Arts and Sciences.....	\$14,273
Biomedical Engineering, Science, and Health Systems	\$16,415
Business	\$15,231
Education	\$11,711
Engineering	\$17,213
Information Science and Technology	\$17,460
Media Arts & Design	\$12,417
Nursing and Health Professions	\$13,971
Professional Studies	\$15,032

**Does not include volunteer co-op positions or co-op students receiving stipends.*

After Graduation

A real job with full-time hours and genuine paychecks has a powerful impact. Armed with real-life experience and a solid foundation of classroom learning, Drexel students emerge ready to make their mark on the world.

Median Annual Starting Salary

Drexel graduates typically receive a higher starting salary because of their co-op experience. Below are the average starting salaries from last year.

College/School	Drexel Graduates
Arts and Sciences	\$37,874
Biomedical Engineering	\$51,886
Business	\$47,186
Education	\$39,100
Engineering	\$58,584
Information Science and Technology	\$58,686
Media Arts & Design	\$36,483
Nursing and Health Professions	\$55,688
Professional Studies	\$55,639

**National Association of Colleges and Employers*

Graduate Study

Many Drexel students choose to continue their education in graduate, law, or medical school, and nothing looks better on an admission application than a Drexel Co-op experience. Schools that have accepted Drexel students include:

Graduate Schools

- Dartmouth
- Harvard
- MIT
- Princeton
- University of Pennsylvania

Law Schools

- Duke University
- New York University
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of Chicago
- University of Pennsylvania

Medical Schools

- Drexel University College of Medicine
- Jefferson Medical College
- New Jersey Medical School (UMDNJ)
- Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Temple University School of Medicine

Drexel Co-op in Action

The list of success stories is a long one. While each story is unique, most share a common thread: the edge, the confidence, the advantage that our graduates gain from their co-op experiences.

Want to know more? Watch Drexel Co-op students in action at www.drexel.edu/em/ug.

An Invaluable Experience

Ask Drexel alum Nicole Cashman '94 about her Drexel Co-op experiences, and you'll get an emphatic response. "I owe everything to my co-op experiences. You can't imagine what an advantage it is to graduate with a résumé that lists genuine, tangible work experience."

Drawing on the wealth of knowledge she had been accruing since her Drexel days, Nicole took a gamble and started her own PR firm. By all accounts, that chance paid off; today, Cashman & Associates is Philadelphia's public relations and event-planning powerhouse.

From *Esquire* magazine to Tiffany & Co. to the Chase Utleigh All-Star Animals charity benefit, the firm's client list is an impressive roster of movers and shakers. And Cashman isn't the only Drexel graduate on the payroll. Several of her co-op students now work for the company full-time.

"I give my co-op students real jobs with real responsibilities," she stresses. "They aren't sitting at a desk returning calls all day. They are out at our events, and they interact with our clients. They are as vital to this business as any employee."



Nicole Cashman
President, Cashman & Associates
Drexel Alumna: 1994

Admissions

Drexel University
3141 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-2876



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