For full details on the Programme, please visit:
www3.ul.ie/coop/employerrole.shtml

Or contact us for more information:
Cooperative Education & Careers Division
University of Limerick, Ireland.
Phone: +353 61 20 20 44
Email: coop.info@ul.ie
Active engagement with industry and empowerment through employability are founding principles of the University of Limerick. All students, regardless of discipline, undertake a Cooperative Education (Coop) placement as a formal and academically accredited component of their undergraduate degrees.

The placement component is of six to eight months in duration and is usually undertaken in second or third year of the degree programme. In the semester prior to placement, students can participate in a series of employability programmes, ensuring that they are ready to make the transition to the workplace. The Cooperative Education programme harnesses all the significant benefits of increased collaboration between employers, the University and students.

The programme is centrally managed by the Cooperative Education & Careers Division. The Division provides a structured service from the point of application to placement. This programme is designed to provide employers with the definitive ‘frontdoor’ to top talent.
KEY BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAMME

- Cost effective staff resource for on-going work, new projects or temporary needs.
- Build a sound strategy that will support your ongoing and future graduate recruitment needs.
- Cluster of highly skilled, mobile and work-ready students across all sectors.
- Single point of contact offering a structured recruitment process on behalf of 1700 students at an early stage in career planning.
- Increase your Employer branding on campus.
- Establish and expand links with University of Limerick academics and research activities.

STUDENT PREPARATION

A year prior to undertaking their placements, students participate in a series of Employability Programmes and Career Development Workshops, including mock interviews, CV reviews and bespoke information sessions. Students can opt for an international assignment eight months prior to going on placement.

Each year, the programme facilitates the placement of over 1,700 students across a network of 800 employers in 32 countries across all major sectors of the economy and community.
RECRUITMENT & SELECTION

- **JULY**
  - Employer expresses interest in the programme via an online platform.
  - Employer provides the job description for the role.

- **SEPT onwards**
  - Employer receives CVs matching the role.
  - CECD liaises with Employer to schedule interviews on campus or remotely for international placements.
  - Employer notifies CECD of interview results.

- **DEC**
  - Employer prepares for arrival of the student, assigns a supervisor and schedules an induction.
  - Student starts placement.
  - Employer sets clear objectives for the placement period.

- **JAN or JUN**
  - Employer provides contract detailing start and finish dates as well as other terms and conditions of employment.

EVALUATION PROCESS

The Cooperative Education placement is academically assessed and successful completion is a requirement for graduation. The employer plays an important role in the evaluation process including:

- Complete an online evaluation form for each student.
- Review and sign off on the Cooperative Education Report - a detailed, reflective report completed by each student.
- Facilitate a visit or phone meeting by a member of faculty with the student and supervisor during the course of the placement.
- If appropriate, give a special commendation by nominating the student for the annual Cooperative Education Award.
11,636 applications were circulated to employer network

1,627 students placed in total

20% of placements are international

363 employers visited UL Campus last year

4,000 students attended 170 employability events
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