# Q&A about the pilot program modification to permit an enriched work term experience through Extended Work Terms

This modified program is not a faculty-wide change. Each program has made its own decisions to offer the best program experience to its students. Only the Mechanical, Process, and Civil Engineering programs are participating in this pilot program.

## Why?

The only intention of this pilot of a modified program is to provide an enrichment of the student's experience and further work integrated learning opportunities not currently available to MUN students.

#### What?

In the participating programs, students are permitted to take up to 12 months of work term experience immediately after Academic Term 6 and return to Academic Term 8 with their original cohort. They will complete Academic Term 7 immediately after, thus graduating 4 months after their original cohort.

#### When?

Beginning in Winter 2020, following Academic Term 6 (Fall 2019) students have the opportunity to take up to 12 months of work experience.

### How long is this pilot project for?

This pilot began for the Winter 2020 semester. It will end after the Winter 2024 work term for students who completed Academic Term 6 in Fall 2023. It permits extended work terms during the 2020-2024 calendar years.

#### Why only after Academic Term 6?

This modified program is only available in the time period after term 6. This is due to the relatively flexible nature of Terms 7 and 8 in participating programs and the limited number of pre-requisites between courses in Terms 7 and 8. Taking courses out of sequence is not possible earlier in the program due to the greater number of course prerequisites.

#### Do I have to take an extended work term?

No. This modified program is completely optional.

## When can I express interest in an extended work term?

Students can express an interest any time during the Academic Term 6 job competition, until the last day to drop courses without academic penalty during the following Winter Work Term.

#### How do I express interest?

You should first speak to an ASM-CE in the Co-op office and then complete the <u>Extended Work Term Program Opt-In Request Form</u> and submit it to your Department Office.

# What about course prerequisites?

Departments may have prerequisites for courses in term 8 that require courses in term 7. Taking the semesters out of order may result in not being able to take certain courses. Consult your department office for specific details.

#### How are the work terms counted?

Each 4 month block will typically be counted as a separate work term and registration, and all work term deliverables will be required. Students who are completing their 6<sup>th</sup> work term in the spring semester who stay on for the fall will count that block as a single 8 month work term, and only require one registration and set of deliverables.

## What about other co-op regulations?

All other co-op regulations in the university Calendar and the Student Handbook remain the same. This means that students working for co-op employers must be on a registered work term.

## Will the co-op office post longer work terms?

ECEO will post opportunities for extended work terms if they are offered by employers for positions starting in the Winter.

# Can I change employers during the 12 months?

The benefits of this modified program comes from the enriched experiences that a student will receive from lengthening the stay at a particular employer; however, as each 4 month block is considered separate, changing employers may be possible.

As this enriched experience from the extended work experience is the primary goal of the programme ECEO encourages students on Extended Work Terms to complete 12 months with a single employer. Students completing only 8 month Extended Work Terms are permitted to seek a separate employer, but will not be permitted back into the job competition.

# What about the Iron Ring Ceremony?

The Iron Ring Ceremony is outside the control of the ECEO or the faculty. Students should direct questions about it to their student society.