2018–19 BY THE NUMBERS

- **95%** Employment Rate
- **993** Students
- **1289** Work Terms Completed
- **$13 million** Total Student Earnings
- **14%** Increase in Total Student Earnings
- **$1.5M** Total Funding Secured by Our Employers
- **394** Employers Hired Students in 2018–19
- **130** New Employers
- **2190** Jobs Posted
- **687** Interviews Coordinated
- **360** Engineering
- **305** Computer Science
- **70** Science
- **97%** of Students Received Positive Performance Evaluations
- **69%** Male, **31%** Female

**NEW CO-OP STUDENTS IN 2018/19**
- 360 Engineering
- 305 Computer Science
- 70 Science
WHERE OUR STUDENTS WORK

30% find work outside the province of Nova Scotia

TOP INDUSTRIES
- Manufacturing: 33%
- Information & Communications Technology: 17%
- Government: 17%
- Consulting: 14%
- Education & Training: 10%
- Oil & Gas: 9%
Putting co-op on the provincial map
For the second year, Dalhousie SITE Co-op co-organized the Nova Scotia Co-operative Education Summit in partnership with the provincial government and all post-secondary institutions across the province.

A sold-out event, this year’s Summit included keynotes from Sandra Greer (NSBI, Nova Scotia Power, IORE/COVE) and Jeremie Saunders (SickBoy Podcast), along with a full day of professional development and networking opportunities for co-op students, employers, and other partners.

Celebrating success
The third annual Dalhousie Top Co-op Awards was held during National Co-op and WIL Week 2018. The event recognized employers who were nominated for their incredible contributions to co-op education at Dal, and shared the stories of our co-op students of the year.
Computer Science
Amelia Stead
Bachelor of Computer Science
Looking for a co-op experience at a smaller company, Amelia sought out a job with local firm Analyze Re. Her strong performance led to her term being extended to eight-months, which gave her the chance to work on both the customer service and development sides of the company's business. Amelia admits that the co-op experience challenged her to grow in new ways and she has already accepted a full-time position with Analyze Re after she graduates.

Engineering
David Idemudia
Bachelor of Engineering (Civil)
During his co-op with the Port of Halifax, David took ownership of the design and construction of a stairway and fire escape for the large grain elevator located in Halifax's south end. He developed the preliminary design, prepared the project for construction tender, responded to questions from bidding contractors, and ultimately selected the winning bidder to construct the project. The successful bidding contractors, Harbourside Geotechnical Consultants, were so impressed with his work, they offered him an eight-month co-op position on their team.

Science
Claire Attridge
Bachelor of Science (Marine Biology)
Claire has reflected on her time with Bamfield as a perfect culmination of her academic journey, and one that helped her live out her childhood dream. She took her academic skills as well as those she learned at her previous co-op jobs and combined them into “the perfect smorgasbord of an opportunity,” coordinating the same types of field trips that she experienced there in high school.
Enhanced co-op curriculum

Together, we worked with the Computer Science Curriculum Committee to introduce updated work term report curriculum incorporating new reflective assignments tied to graduate attributes and employability skills.

Connecting industry partners with our students

In coordination with the faculty, a first-of-its-kind Computer Science networking event was held in March 2019. Current and prospective co-op students took in a co-op panel discussion and structured networking with organizations interested in hiring our students.

Revitalizing an organization through work-integrated learning

“Students bring a fresh perspective and energy to their work with the CRA. They help the teams they work with stay current on trends and technologies, and enable the CRA to work with the workforce of tomorrow, today.”

– Brian Duffy, Canada Revenue Agency

Where will Dal Computer Science Co-op take you?

“The experience is more than just a line on your resume. It’s so impactful and so valuable.”

– Samara Burton, Applied Computer Science

READ MORE

WATCH VIDEO
Making his move

Gerald Petrash was in his late forties and living with his family in Japan when he decided to make a major life change. Now, he’s graduated with a Dal Engineering degree and three co-op work terms under his belt.

“I’m very happy with my decision to go back to school — and the co-op program was integral to my success.”

ACOA funding partnership helps NS manufacturing employers scale-up with co-op

“I’ve heard that getting the first co-op job is generally harder, because we don’t have the work experience. ACOA’s support means the funding will come together and more employers will be able to hire. It makes me feel more optimistic. This will benefit both [the student and the employer].”

– Claudia Torres Pisco, Industrial Engineering

Where will Dal Engineering Co-op take you?

“I always wanted to be an engineer, and with co-op, I feel like I’m already becoming one.”

– Jordan Kamga, Mechanical Engineering

Networking full house

With a larger-than-average summer job search cohort, our Engineering Co-op students participated in a networking event this March and had the opportunity to network with industry partners interested in hiring for summer.

Co-op curriculum progress

In partnership with the Engineering Co-op committee, our team has made progress on developing an enhanced Engineering Co-op work term curriculum and look forward to the changes coming this fall.

Girl on fire

Chemical Engineering grad Cathleen Lupien’s time at Dal is coming to a close, but she’s just getting started on pursuing her passion of fire safety.

“The co-op program is what brought me here. Getting experience is everything.”

#DALGRAD PROFILES
Positive additions: meet our new Math & Stats co-op students

The launch of a brand new co-op program, Math & Stats, provided the opportunity to profile our co-op students in a new way. To help create awareness for the program we interviewed our summer Math & Stats students to boost their individual profiles and encourage employers to hire.

Where will Dal Science Co-op take you?

"You don’t even feel like a student anymore. You feel like you’re in the real world and that you’re making a difference."
– Taylor Watts, Marine Biology

Science co-op renewal

In support of the faculty’s initiative to increase participation in the Science Co-op program, a number of initiatives were completed this year, including:

- New collateral, including employer- and student-targeted pieces
- Release of new student recruitment video
- Addition of Science Co-op to Dal’s Studley Campus tours for prospective students
- Targeted visits to first year classes

- Presentations to undergraduate societies
- Interactive Science Co-op pop-up events
- Addition of new temporary Science Co-op satellite office on Studley Campus
- Science Co-op recruitment event and application station
- Math & Stats Co-op launch networking event