Background
The Forestry and Forest Engineering Professional Programs

In our Forestry and Forest Engineering academic programs each student has an academic focus broadly applicable to a diversity of career options. It begins with pre-professional school coursework (the first 2 years) and, by demonstrating a level of mastery that will allow the student to be successful, culminates in the Professional Program (a.k.a. “Pro School”, the 3rd, 4th, and sometimes 5th years of our curricula). Coursework and training in Pro School ultimately match with forestry career paths and prepare students for real-world career applications.

All College of Forestry Pro School students are required to have at least 6 months of pertinent work experience prior to graduation, but they are encouraged to participate in our new Cooperative Education (Coop Ed) program in order to gain extensive internship experience with on-the-job training.

The Coop Ed program is about highly structured mentored work experiences within partnering companies that provide real-world experience that develops technical skills (like GIS applications), essential skills (like work ethic), and that provides fast-track connections to employers. Each Coop Ed student will complete two 6-month internships during fall-winter terms of their junior and senior years. Internship experiences like these will undoubtedly be among the most formative experiences in a student’s undergraduate career, and are valued as integral to partnering companies’ recruitment and business practices.

We invite you to join us in this coordinated effort to offer our students internships that best serve both our students and your organization.

For more information on our Cooperative Education Program, please visit our web page:

http://coop-ed.forestry.oregonstate.edu
How It Works

• Pro School is designed to attract the best and brightest students to the 6-month Coop Ed Internships, scheduled for June-December each year.

• All-College 3-Month Summer Internships may fit better into your company calendar and your target student workers'/interns' academic programs.

• A Summer Work position fills a company’s need for technically capable “temps” during the field season.

1. You can decide by January how many of each type of employee you would like to hire for the June-August and June-December employment periods.

2. Next, talk with us to set up a recruiting plan.

3. We’ll work with you to submit a position announcement that explains the opportunity and attracts the desired, qualified candidate pool.

4. Plan to join us at the annual Forestry Job Fair in February (but we can assist in identifying candidates and setting up on-campus interviews at any time).

5. Finally, hire our students! By participating in this process you are helping to ensure the viability of forestry allied professions for the long term. We (and I mean the global “we”) can’t do it without you.

INTERNSHIPS CAN TAKE MANY FORMS

1. Professional Forestry Cooperative Education 6-Month Internships
   • Student applicant pool limited to those juniors-seniors accepted into Pro School.
   • Follows our internship model with structured internship goals, learning objectives, and professional performance expectations.
   • Gain early access to a pool of well-trained potential employees and a 6-month individual preview of potential employees.
   • Have improved ability to do succession planning within work force.
   • Help shape the future of forestry by helping educate new professionals.
   • Bring new, fresh ideas/technology into organization and address projects/issues current staff don’t have time for.
   • Extend summer-term assignments an additional 3 months – get most out of investment.

   Benefits to the Student
   • Real work experience in unique company environments that complements academic program.
   • Clarifies best-fit careers.
   • Enhances job placement after graduation.
   • Allows valuable professional connections.

2. All-College 3-Month Summer Internships
   • Focus on pre-professional students and Pro School candidates who prefer to work during summer in 3-month positions.
   • Follows our internship model with structured internship goals, learning objectives, and professional performance expectations.
   • Provides hands-on experience in a variety of professional areas.
   • Fits well with companies who have internal internship programs.

3. Summer Work
   • “Starter” positions for younger students and older students new to forestry.
   • Provides hands-on experience in the field and/or office.
   • May lead to a more structured internship next year.
   • Typically a 3-month summer position but could be ongoing throughout year if close to campus.