

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

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By alternating or paralleling study with paid work experience in their intended fields, students in the cooperative education program have an opportunity to apply principles learned in the classroom to real work situations. Cooperative education is an academic partnership arrangement among its three partners: the school, the student, and the employer. The student may join an employer in industry, government, or social agencies.

Vocational exploration confirms academic and career objectives and enhances development of self-confidence. Skills in human relations are realized. Courses assume greater meaning, employment options increase, and educational expenses are partially offset.

Comprehensive guidelines govern the program. A minimum of two alternating or three parallel work terms is required, but each work term earns academic credit and pays a salary. The program is also available at the master's degree level. Application should be made as early as the first semester of a student's junior year. In the case of transfer students and graduate students, application is encouraged the first semester on campus. Applications must be made prior to the last two remaining semesters at UWF. At the graduate level, the student must be enrolled in graduate courses prior to applying for cooperative education positions.