#### **Reason:**

Co-Op is an academic program with oversight provided by assigned Faculty Coordinators who serve as the Instructor for participating students. After each work session, the instructor assesses course outcomes via student evaluation of the work session, supervisor evaluation of the student's performance, and a technical report written by the student summarizing their experience. In the Flex Co-Op program, students must work for their first employer for a minimum of two work sessions, and then have the option to continue for one-to three additional work sessions; or, after completing two work sessions with the first employer, the student may elect to start with a second employer. If the student elects to change employers, they must notify their first employer and their Faculty Coordinator in writing at the conclusion of the second work session. The student must commit to work for the second Co-Op employer for a minimum of two work sessions.

#### **Description:**

Flex Co-Op is a new program to Purdue, and was developed in response to overwhelming evidence that students desire more flexibility in their work experience, specifically the ability to work for multiple employers during their Co-Op experience. A Strategic Doing team composed of a diverse mix of faculty, staff, students, and employers, worked closely over a period of eight months during the 2017-2017 academic year to develop this new Co-Op program option. A series of unique zero-credit courses is required to properly register and track participating students to ensure compliance with the program requirements and eligibility for earning a certificate. These courses, which will have a flat fee assessed by the Bursar's Office (currently \$400 per semester/summer), will provide full-time privileges while students are off campus on Co-Op work rotations

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Eric A. Nauman Director, Office of Professional Practice

TO: The Faculty of the College of EngineeringFROM: Office of Professional PracticeRE:New Undergraduate Courses ENGR 27199, 27299, 37399, 37499, 37599

The faculty of the Professional Practice Advisory Council (PP AC) have approved the following new courses. This action is now submitted to the Engineering Faculty with a recommendation for approval.

#### ENGR 27199

#### **Professional Practice Flex Co-Op I**

#### Semester: Fall, Spring, Summer; Schedule Type: Experiential; Credit: 0

Prerequisite: Student must be eligible to participate in the Cooperative Education (Co-Op) program, and have written documentation of valid work session with approved Co-Op employer.

#### ENGR 27299

#### Professional Practice Flex Co-Op II

#### Semester: Fall, Spring, Summer; Schedule Type: Experiential; Credit: 0

Prerequisite: Student must be eligible to participate in the Cooperative Education (Co-Op) program, and have written documentation of valid work session with approved Co-Op employer; and ENGR 27199.

#### ENGR 37399

#### **Professional Practice Flex Co-Op III**

#### Semester: Fall, Spring, Summer; Schedule Type: Experiential; Credit: 0

Prerequisite: Student must be eligible to participate in the Cooperative Education (Co-Op) program, and have written documentation of valid work session with approved Co-Op employer; and ENGR 27299.

#### ENGR 37499

#### **Professional Practice Flex Co-Op IV**

#### Semester: Fall, Spring, Summer; Schedule Type: Experiential; Credit: 0

Prerequisite: Student must be eligible to participate in the Cooperative Education (Co-Op) program, and have written documentation of valid work session with approved Co-Op employer; and ENGR 37399.

#### ENGR37599

#### **Professional Practice Flex Co-Op Semester IV**

#### Semester: Fall, Spring, Summer; Schedule Type: Experiential; Credit: 0

Prerequisite: Student must be eligible to participate in the Cooperative Education (Co-Op) program, and have written documentation of valid work session with approved Co-Op employer; and ENGR 37499.

Supporting Documentation Page 1 of 1

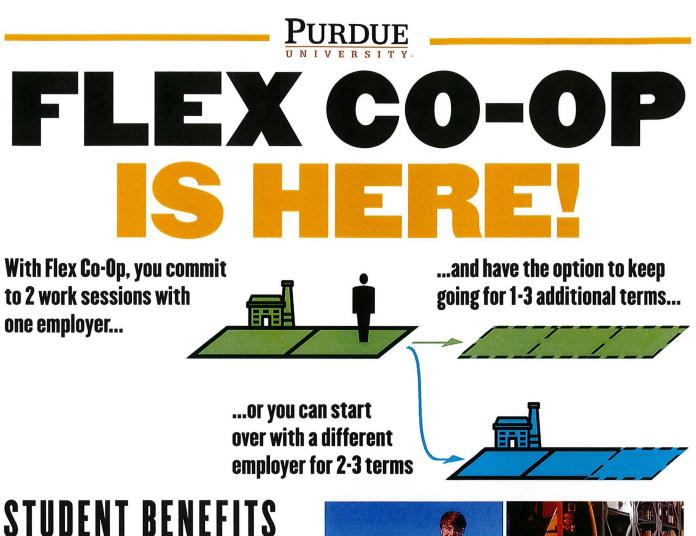
The following documents are attached:

- Flex Co-Op Schedule Options figure
- Flex Co-Op Student Flyer
- Flex Co-Op employer Flyer

Please refer to Curriculog under "2018-2019 Course Create New Undergraduate" for five (5) proposed courses.

Co-Op Schedules Eligibility Semester	Summer	Year 1 Fall	Spring 2	Summer	Year 2 Fall 3	Spring	Summer	Year 3 Fall 5	Spring 6	Summer	Year 4 Fall 7	Spring 8	Summer	Year 5 Fall 9	Spring 10																
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3-Session Co-Op																															
Eligibility		1	2		3	4		5	6																						
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Flex Co-Op Schedules\_spw\_rev3\_032818



- Increased flexibility
- Multiple employer option
- Broader industry experience
- Fewer scheduling restrictions
- Traditional 3- and 5-session co-ops still available

Flex Co-Op currently available for BME, ECE, and ME students only.

## Contact your co-op coordinator:

#### **Biomedical Engineering**



**Corey Linkel** linkel@purdue.edu 765-494-7871



**Kimberly McClish** kmcclish@purdue.edu 765-494-3390

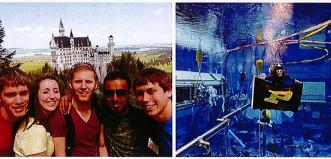
**Electrical & Computer Engineering** 

#### **Mechanical Engineering**



**Julia King** juliaking@purdue.edu 765-494-5702







With Flex Co-Op, you commit to 2 work sessions with a student...

...and have the option to keep going for 1-3 additional terms...

...or you can select a different experienced student for 2-3 additional terms

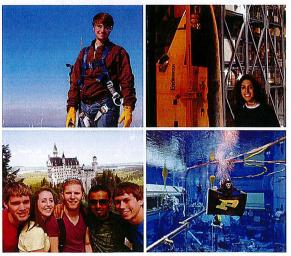
# **EMPLOYER BENEFITS**

- Increased flexibility •
- Co-Op students are a greater return on your • recruiting investment than interns
- Co-Op students commit to at least 2 sessions, • reducing your overall recruiting effort
- Students want to work for • Flex Co-Op companies! Don't miss out!

### Sign up by January 30 with Purdue's Office of Professional Practice to hire the best and brightest this year!

Contact Barb Albrecht: balbrech@purdue.edu • (765) 494-0211





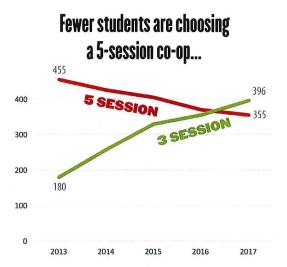
Currently available for Biomedical Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering students. See Frequently Asked Questions on next page.



# FLEX CO-OP FAQS

#### Q: What brought about this change?

A: Participation in the 5-session co-ops has steadily declined, and the completion rate of 5-session co-ops is poor. The demand for greater flexibility has led universities and employers nationwide to adopt the "flex" concept.



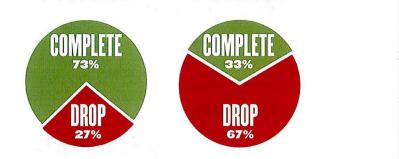
#### Q: What remains the same, and what is new?



Students make commitments to your company to work multiple sessions



- You get students who are dedicated, motivated, and want to work
- You get more out of co-op students than interns
- Traditional 3-session and 5-session co-ops are still available



**5** SESSION

...and they're not sticking with it

**3 SESSION** 

- Schedule flexibility: students have greater ability to work for you in back-to-back terms
- At the end of 2 sessions, you and the student can decide to continue or to part ways
- If a student stays, you get an even greater return on your investment
- You now have the opportunity to recruit students who already have work experience at another company
- Students who try another company might be more convinced to return to yours full-time

#### Q: Why should I register my company for Flex Co-Op at Purdue?

Students are clearly looking for employers that offer more flexible work schedules. By offering the Flex Co-Op (alongside the 3- and 5-session options), your company will stand out at Purdue recruiting events, and will attract the best and brightest students that seek out Co-Ops.

# Purdue University Office of Professional Practice Contact Barb Albrecht: balbrech@purdue.edu • (765) 494-0211