

St. Michael's

Inspired Care. Inspiring Science.

Co-op Program Outline

Overview

Co-operative Education (Co-op) Program is a planned learning experience that provides practical experiences in the workplace. This educational program is based on a partnership between the school and the Hospital. It involves participation of students, teachers, placement supervisors and Volunteer Services. The Co-op program also operates within the structure of the hospital's volunteer program, and all co-op students are also student volunteers. Therefore, they are subject to the terms and conditions of volunteering as outlined in the interview, orientation and the Volunteer Services Handbook.

Learning Objectives

There are three goals for the SMH Co-op program:

1. to improve workplace skills and develop the positive attitudes necessary to work successfully
2. to explore the varied careers within a hospital setting
3. to understand the science and technology used in modern healthcare

The achievement of these learning objectives will be supported by the day-to-day work of the co-op student, as well as by the specific workshops and assignments described below.

Orientation

All co-op students will complete an online orientation prior to starting, a one day onsite orientation at the start of the placement and additional unit based training as necessary.

Placement Duties

Each co-op student will be assigned to specific area of the hospital and will undertake their day-to-day work activities under the guidance of a placement supervisor. These activities comprise the majority of the co-op time.

Assignments

Co-op students will be required to complete 5 mandatory assignments during the program.

- Assignment #1 Placement Orientation*
- Assignment #2 Research Report on your Placement*
- Assignment #3 Educational Tours*
- Assignment #4 Hospital Career "Field Trip"*
- Assignment #5 Poster Presentation*

Evaluation and Feedback

The formal grading of the co-op program is performed by the co-op teacher and the components of the grading are determined by the school. The co-op teacher will assess and evaluate the student's progress through regular workplace monitoring visits. Teachers are also provided with copies of the assignments listed above. Both the placement supervisor and the Student Volunteer Coordinator provide informal feedback to the co-op teacher and to the co-op student on a regular basis. This feedback may also include the addressing of issues related to attendance, attitude or conduct.