

Computer Science at Trent

Society is in the midst of a technology revolution, which is fueled by the advancement of knowledge in computing. The study of computer science is central to our understanding of how the world processes, manages, and communicates information. It is a field which impacts all disciplines and has redefined how we work, interact, and conduct our day-to-day lives. The ability to create, manipulate, and speak the language of technology have become some of the most valued skills applicable to almost every industry.

When you study Computer Science, you will bring the tech of tomorrow to life as you design, implement and integrate software applications for devices from supercomputers to gaming devices. This degree prepares you for a career that blends technology like databases, networks, and telecommunications, with elements of ethics, law and culture in the ever-changing tech sector. These explorations can take place both in the classroom and beyond – through the Computer Science Co-op program, you can put skills to action across three paid work terms in professional settings.

Computer Science Co-op

Co-op is an opportunity for students to gain work-integrated experiential learning that will help them get a head start on their career. The Computer Science Co-op assists graduating students in achieving a competitive edge while generating experience within a wide range of sectors. Specifically, co-op gives the students a chance to obtain 12 months of practical experience on the job, develop or enhance technical skills, explore career options, network with a variety of individuals and organizations, learn from mentors, enhance communication and presentation skills, and develop technical writing skills.

Computer Science Co-op is a competitive direct-entry program with a limited number of spaces.

Program Requirements for Admittance into Co-op:

- Minimum 80% cumulative average
- MHF4U or MCV4U with a minimum of 70%
- ENG4U with a minimum of 60%

To remain in the co-op, students must:

- Maintain a minimum 75% cumulative average throughout their study terms
- Successfully complete the required Co-op course (COOP 2000H) with a grade of 75%+
- Complete three co-op work terms (COOP 2100P, 3100P, 4100P) or a single 12-month co-op work term
- Receive satisfactory evaluations during each of their work terms

Students complete either three 4-month work terms (alternating model) or one 12-month work term with a single employer (continuing model).

Computer Science Co-op Work Term Schedules

	Fall	Winter	Summer
Year 1	Study Term 1	Study Term 2	Study Term 3
Year 2	Study Term 4	Work Term 1	Work Term 2
Year 3	Study Term 5	Study Term 6	Work Term 3
Year 4	Study Term 7	Study Term 8	

	Fall	Winter	Summer
Year 1	Study Term 1	Study Term 2	OFF
Year 2	Study Term 3	Study Term 4	OFF
Year 3	Study Term 5	Study Term 6	Work Term 1
Year 4	Work Term 2	Work Term 3	OFF
Year 5	Study Term 7	Study Term 8	

All co-op students are encouraged to meet with an Academic Advisor for degree mapping and to ensure they are meeting all their program requirements. You can book an appointment on the Student Experience Portal (trentu.ca/sep) or by calling (705) 748-1011 ext. 1488.

Please Note: Co-op is meant to prepare students for the real-world job application process and as such, the co-op process is competitive and dependent upon many factors including market conditions, the student's efforts to secure a work term, and the academic performance of a student. Every effort is made to find suitable co-op work terms for students, but a work term opportunity cannot be guaranteed for every student. Co-op students will secure positions through successful participation in the co-op interview process and/or their own job search activities. It is preferred that no more than two of the three work terms are with the same employer. Withdrawal from the co-op program will not normally be approved while a student is on a work term.

Students who are unable to obtain a suitable co-op opportunity in an upcoming work term are expected to continue with their academic program on a full-time basis. A missed work term can be made up. If a co-op student is unable to complete three work terms yet otherwise fulfills degree requirements, they will be awarded an Honours Bachelor of Science in Computer Science.

Students do not pay tuition during each work term. Students are required to pay co-op fees plus ancillary fees and levies. The Co-op Assistance Program is available to support students in financial need with co-op expenses. For more information, please reach out to coop@trentu.ca.

International Students As of April 1, 2026, international post-secondary students no longer need a co-op work permit to participate in a mandatory work component of their study program. To be eligible for student work placements, you must have a valid study permit that includes authorization to work on campus. For full eligibility requirements and updates on working in Canada as an international student, visit [Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada](https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/immigration-citizenship/working-in-canada.html).

Students with Disabilities are strongly encouraged to register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Please contact sas@trentu.ca for more support.

Sample Work Term Areas for Computer Science:

- Software Development
- QA Testing
- Software Engineering
- Telecommunications
- Data Analysis

Potential Career Paths for a Computer Science Graduate:

- Mobile App Developer
- Database Administrator
- Full Stack / Web Developer
- Software Systems Developer
- Network Systems Administrator

