CO-OP Application Questions

Aside from gaining work experience, why are you applying to Co-op (200 words)?

Aside from gaining work experience, by applying to Co-op, I also would like to embrace more opportunities for my career, specifically, networking opportunities, personal growth opportunities, and life opportunities in general.

Firstly, I will have more networking opportunities. I am willing to building social connections with more people in relevant domains. Working as an intern, I will have chances to meet professional people with similar interests, passions, and even dreams. I would be really delighted if I could meet some lifelong friends during work.

Secondly, I am always a person seeking for personal growth. Working in industries will provide me this opportunity. Especially, it will help a lot to develop my teamwork skills, communication skills, and critical thinking skills.

Besides all these opportunities mentioned, I found Co-op would help me to fulfill my life. I have been always thinking about my current situation and future career. I have been continuously asking myself the question of “what kind of person I would like to be in the future”. Up to now, I still did not find a satisfying answer for this question. However, I believe Co-op can open new areas of my life for me to explore and experience.

What types of skills would you like to gain by participating in Co-op (200 words)?

First and foremost, I would like to develop my abilities in applying my theoretical knowledge of computer science into practical use. UBC has provided a great platform for me to learn conceptualized knowledge. However, I am going into relevant industries after graduation. With only this academic knowledge will not get me well-prepared for my future job. Therefore, I would like an opportunity to expose myself in the industries, develop my practical skills, and gain working experience.

Secondly, I would like to practice my social skills during Co-op. As mentioned above, I believe I will meet various people when working at a company. I need to interact, communicate, and collaborate with them. Therefore, I am sure that my social skills will be enhanced during this process. Therefore, I expect to further develop my social skills by participating in Co-op.

Finally, I am willing to further develop my critical thinking and problem-solving skills. As a future software engineer, I would face lots of challenges and problems in my job. Therefore, having well-developed critical thinking and problem-solving skills would help me a lot to overcome them. Co-op provides a wonderful opportunity to practice these skills in real industries in advance to get me prepared for my future career.

Think of the skills and abilities and employer would look for in an ideal employee. Describe how your previous experience will ensure that you will be an ideal employee for our Co-op employers? (200 words)

Academically speaking, learning at UBC has prepared me with professional knowledge for computer science. I have taken many computer science courses and have been taught for much theoretical computer science knowledge.

Concerning my previous working experiences, either as a freelancer and as a back-end developer at a local IT company, I am prepared to work in industry, and I can adapt myself into a new working circumstance quickly. In those two positions, I learned many modern software development frameworks, such as Springboot, PyQt5, Vue, etc. These practical skills of mine will make me an ideal employee to work in the technology industry.

Personally speaking, I am a person with leadership, innovation, and critical thinking. During my high school, I used to serve as the president of the student union. My job was organizing various events, such as new year galas, math competitions, and anniversary ceremonies for the entire school (about 300 people including both teachers and students). Working as this role, I learned a lot about how to effectively communicate with people, innovatively complete tasks, and creatively overcome challenges as a team.

Therefore, my previous experience had not only prepared me as a developer in the industry, but also set me ready to embrace teamwork, challenges, and innovation at work.