

*Ohne Umwege  
zur Sprache...*



*... mit einer Sprachreise*

**von DIREKT**  
Sprachreisen



**Original-Infomaterial unserer Partnerschule!**



## Co-operative Education (Workplace Experience Program)

- Wide variety of job placements available
- Equal parts classroom study (Full-time Intensive Schedule) and volunteer job placement
- Practical English learning at a Canadian workplace
- One of the largest ESL Co-op Programs in the world
- Extensive counselling and support from dedicated Co-op staff during class study and while on placement

### Program Description

The ILSC Co-operative Education (Co-op) Program is an innovative model of enriched education combining your English and/or French language studies with experience in the Canadian workplace. The name "cooperative education" reflects the cooperative relationship between you, the school and the host company. Since the program began in 1994, it has grown to become one of ILSC's most popular programs, attracting students from all corners of the world. ILSC's Co-op Program is proud to be recognized as one of the world's most successful workplace experience programs, with close to 500 volunteer placements annually.

### Program Length

Minimum of 4 weeks of full-time intensive study plus 4 weeks of placement. The maximum length of the placement is 12 weeks and the study length always has to be equal to or longer than the placement length.

### Entry Requirement

Minimum ILSC Intermediate 3 Level at the time of the placement.

### Program Start Dates

Every Monday except the last week of a session.

### Program Overview

The first half of the program is a minimum of 4-week full-time intensive in-school English or French language instruction. The second half takes place on the job site, where you spend a minimum of 4 weeks in an industry that reflects your career interests.

### Full-time Intensive Study

You can choose courses from a variety of programs offered at the school - Academic Preparation, Test Preparation (TOEFL, TOEIC, Cambridge, etc.), Business English or French, Humanities, etc. Certain foundation courses apply depending on your background and experience in the workplace.

In addition to the full-time intensive study, you will attend an orientation, a workshop, and also attend regular meetings with your coordinator.

### Placement

We ask that you give us three different areas of interest because finding a placement in a specific field depends on your background and experience, how you perform in the interview, the willingness of that industry to accept volunteer students from non-English/non-French speaking countries, and the seasonal highs and lows of certain industries. The responsibilities are different for each placement and depend on your language ability at the time of placement, familiarity and experience in the chosen field, relevant educational background, amount of work available, and your attitude.



"Participating in the Co-op program has been a very good experience for me. I met wonderful people, discovered the Canadian way of business and improved my professional skills. Working in English provided me with a challenge and helped me gain self-confidence. I went above and beyond my objectives and I am glad I had this unforgettable experience".

Jennifer Tripana, Switzerland  
- VanCity Treasury, Credit & Risk Management

Although work is done on a voluntary basis, you are required to act professionally and responsibly. This includes wearing proper business attire for the interview and the work environment. We will do our best to find a placement according to your first choice. Be flexible! And be willing to accept a placement in any of the three areas you have selected. Some popular areas of interest are Banking, Computers, Engineering, Event Management, Finance/Investments, Hotels/Tourism, Human Resources, Marketing, Non-profit, and Sports/Recreation.

Although many businesses are located in the downtown area, a placement may be located at a greater distance due to availability and professional requirements.

### Registration

1. Complete an ILSC application form choosing the English, French or Bilingual Co-op program and send the necessary fees to the school.
2. Submit a Co-operative Education application form, a curriculum vitae (CV), and a cover letter. The CV should be neat and professional and include all relevant educational and work experience. (In Canada, personal information such as age and marital status should not be on a CV.) The cover letter should also state your placement goals.

### Program is available at:

English: ILSC - Vancouver, ILSC - Toronto, and ILSC - Montréal  
French & Bilingual: ILSC - Montréal



## Co-op Student Testimonials



For me, the Co-op was a good experience. I really liked to improve my English skills out of the school in a workplace environment. In the company (Red Cross), they were all really friendly and supportive and I felt from the beginning welcomed.

**Nicole Breitschmid, Switzerland – Canadian Red Cross Society**



It was a great experience that every student should have. It gives the capability to understand a little bit the Canadian labor world. It's up to you to take advantage of this and leave a memorable job in there. Thanks ILSC to make this experience real.

**Cristina Parra, Mexico – Burnaby Board of Trade**



I think doing Co-op was definitely the right decision. I got a very good insight in the field I want to work in later. Besides this, I made a lot of new friends and met many interesting people from all over the world. My opportunities to speak English were also perfect and people in my company were all so nice and friendly. So every working day was a pleasure and not just marking time. Thank you so much for finding such a great placement!

**Timo Förster, Germany – Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden**



To sum up my feelings about Co-op, I could firmly say that the most valuable experience I had during my placement was simply to be among Canadians and native speakers. Because the English you learn at school definitely is not the same English you speak on the streets and at the workplace environment. Furthermore, the new vocabulary you absorb is quite useful and in my case was extremely related to what I am studying in Brazil. So as long as I need to have a good English at my work, Co-op was very important and worth joining.

**Bruno Pamplona Polizo, Brazil – Co-op Radio**

## Company Testimonials who hired ILSC co-op students

Claudia brought a keen mind and inquisitive nature to the task of learning about the environmental consequences of transportation choice. Never having worked as a public interest advocate before, she quickly picked up the necessary skills. Her great sense of humour and collegial attitude quickly overcame any reluctance to speak English and before she left she had achieved a nearly perfect command of English idiom. We miss the fun we had with her, but keep in touch by email.

**Karen Wristen - SPEC**

The best part was getting to know someone from another country. It is fun to compare cultures. Also, it is a good feeling to help someone who is searching to mentor them and help them seek options. Alex was a delight – very friendly and popular with staff and clients!

**Jinny Rodrigo – Northshore Multicultural Society**

The best part would be getting to know Woo on a personal level. All the staff and members thoroughly enjoyed Woo's positive approach to life and the volunteer work here at Fit Stop. Woo is extremely conscientious and his willingness to please and to ensure that all members were happy while working out extended throughout the whole time Woo volunteered here. Woo is now working part time for the club. Thanks everybody at ILSC!!!

**Larry Leathem – Fit Stop**

## PORTFOLIO

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