The Employers Guide to Summer Arch

Summer Arch is a distinctive approach to student development and growth that prepares students to meet the multifaceted challenges of the 21st century. The Summer Arch will augment academic and experiential programs, and provide an even more robust—and transformative—educational experience for undergraduate students.

SUMMER ARCH

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute has launched the Summer Arch, a distinctive approach to student development and growth that prepares students to meet the multifaceted challenges of the 21st century.

The Summer Arch is a restructuring of the Rensselaer academic calendar that creates additional opportunities for experiential learning to complement our robust curricular and co-curricular offerings.

The Summer Arch semester and junior “away” semester will add flexibility to the undergraduate curriculum to create The New Polytechnic graduate: a global, multicultural, and self-aware leader; a critical and creative thinker; an exceptional communicator; and an inventive and enterprising problem solver who is prepared to lead in addressing the challenges and opportunities of society.

As The New Polytechnic, Rensselaer is educating the next generation of leaders for depth in their specific domains—as well as for the breadth that allows them to perceive the connections among domains that initially appear unrelated. These connections cross disciplinary boundaries that link even more strongly the humanities, arts, and social sciences, architecture, and business, with our roots in science and engineering.

SUMMER ARCH FOR EMPLOYERS

Rensselaer values its relationships with companies and organizations. The Center for Career and Professional Development (CCPD) supports this by helping to develop relationships between students and employers for a wide range of employment opportunities including internships, summer jobs, co-op, and full-time positions.

We welcome participation from all employers—from medium size and large Fortune 500 companies, to entrepreneurs and small start-up ventures. Each year, hundreds of employers visit campus to interview our students for full-time, co-op, summer jobs and internships. Annually, over 150 companies attend the CCPD Spring Career Fair, typically held in late January or early February.

The CCPD will continue to provide services to aid first-year and sophomore students in career preparation and finding industry-based “away” semester opportunities.

“The distinctive Rensselaer Summer Arch aligns with, and prepares students to meet, the multifaceted challenges of the 21st century. We are educating the kind of graduates that the world needs: global, multicultural, and self-aware leaders; critical and creative thinkers; exceptional communicators; and inventive and enterprising problem solvers prepared to address great challenges, and to seize great opportunities.”

— PRESIDENT SHIRLEY ANN JACKSON

www.rpi.edu/summerarch
WHEN WILL STUDENTS BE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN SUMMER ARCH?

Students in the Class of 2021 will be required to participate in the Summer Arch program in summer 2019. For students in the Classes of 2019 and 2020, the Summer Arch program will be optional.

Class of 2019:
- Optional for students in the School of Engineering and Lally School of Management.
- Students must have minimum 3.0 GPA and be on track for graduation.

Class of 2020:
- Optional for students in all schools.
- GPA requirements will depend on school; students must be on track for graduation.

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE SUMMER ARCH PILOT PROGRAMS?

Fall and Spring of First Year
Students take courses on campus.

Summer after First Year
Students pursue typical summer activities (work, classes, travel, etc.).

Fall of Sophomore Year
Students elect to participate in Summer Arch and prepare for internships and co-ops and other experiential learning opportunities.

Spring of Sophomore Year
Students continue course work and register for summer classes, and continue to prepare for internships and co-ops.

Summer after Sophomore Year
Students remain on campus and take junior- level course work.

Fall and Spring of Junior Year
Students remain on campus for course work or participate in semester away activities.

Summer after Junior Year
Students pursue typical summer activities (work, classes, travel, etc.)

Fall of Senior Year
Students can remain on campus for courses, or pursue study abroad or additional work.

Spring of Senior Year
Students complete courses on campus.

MY ORGANIZATION ONLY OFFERS SUMMER INTERNSHIPS. HOW CAN WE PARTNER WITH RENSSELAER AND STILL BUILD A PIPELINE OF TALENT?

Students will remain available for summer internships following both their first year and junior year at Rensselaer, so summer internships are still a viable option. Additionally, employers can partner with faculty on research as well as serve as guest lecturers for classes and provide input on curriculum development. Employers are encouraged to partner with the Center for Career and Professional Development to serve as sponsors and presenters of professional development programming. Employers are encouraged to partner with the Center for Career and Professional Development to serve as sponsors and presenters of professional development programming. Employers are encouraged to partner with the Center for Career and Professional Development to serve as sponsors and presenters of professional development programming. Employers are encouraged to partner with the Center for Career and Professional Development to serve as sponsors and presenters of professional development programming. Employers are encouraged to partner with the Center for Career and Professional Development to serve as sponsors and presenters of professional development programming.

WHAT IS THE ADVANTAGE TO HIRING STUDENTS AFTER THEY COMPLETE THEIR SUMMER ARCH SEMESTER?

Students starting internships or co-ops after their Summer Arch semester will have completed first-semester junior year courses during the summer, and therefore will be more prepared to tackle discipline-specific projects during the “away” semester.

HOW DOES THE SUMMER ARCH IMPACT THE RENSSELAER COOPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM?

The co-op program at Rensselaer will not change. Undergraduate students who participate in the co-op program will continue to be required to have a work experience that spans one semester and one summer; these terms do not have to be consecutive. For example,
- Spring-Summer Co-op (January through August);
- Summer-Fall Co-op (June through December);
- or
- Fall Co-op; Spring Classes; Summer Co-op (or similar arrangement)

WILL IT TAKE STUDENTS MORE THAN FOUR YEARS TO GRADUATE?

With the exception of students in the five-year Bachelor of Architecture program, students are expected to maintain satisfactory progress and graduate in eight terms at Rensselaer. To accelerate academic progress, students may take classes elsewhere prior to enrollment at Rensselaer, obtain AP/IB credit from high school, complete summer courses in subsequent summers, or some combination of these options.

Academic Semester Experience

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>FALL</th>
<th>SPRING</th>
<th>SUMMER</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshman</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
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<td>*</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Graduate</td>
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*Option for “away” semester