Overview

UBC’s Faculty of Applied Science and the Clean Energy Research Centre (CERC) offers a unique Master’s degree in Clean Energy Engineering—the only one of its kind in Canada and one of a handful worldwide.

Students in the Master of Engineering - Clean Energy Engineering (M. Eng. Clean Energy) program have an undergraduate degree in engineering or similar background. The students are interested in advanced training related to energy efficiency and conservation (EE&C), including energy-efficient technologies that will help meet the global need for energy while reducing natural gas consumption, as well as greenhouse gases and other ecological impacts.

The program focuses on the supply-and-demand side of energy, including: energy conservation; social change concepts; efficient use of electricity and natural gas; energy supply; and, methods for comparing and evaluating alternative energy scenarios. Attention is also devoted to sustainable energy sources such as biomass, solar, wind, and small-scale hydro.

The M. Eng Clean Energy Program is comprised of coursework, a project and optional four- or eight-month co-op work terms. From the core courses and broad range of electives offered, students acquire new skills and build on their knowledge base to advance their career goals. Unlike research-focused graduate degrees, this professional degree program concentrates on areas such as business, management and leadership, as well as other aspects of the EE&C sectors.

Through a partnership involving the UBC Sustainability Office, the UBC Faculty of Applied Science and FortisBC the program has a focus on EE&C, expertise, as well as co-funding of approved Engineering Co-op work terms within industry related to these areas.

FortisBC Salary Subsidy for Co-op Work Terms

The objective of FortisBC in co-funding approved M.Eng. Clean Energy Co-op work terms is to provide opportunities for M.Eng. Clean Energy co-op students to gain experience in the application of natural gas EE&C skills and concepts in the commercial and industrial sectors within British Columbia. FortisBC will provide a limited number of salary subsidies to assist BC employers in hiring M. Eng. Clean Energy co-op students. In return, employers will provide relevant, paid co-op work opportunities in compatible areas of EE&C for the students.

| Funding* | • Fifty per cent (50%) and up to $5,500 of co-op salary subsidy per 4-month work term |
| Application Deadline | • On-going, commencing January 2nd until available funds are disbursed to eligible co-op positions and/or students are matched. Positions are reviewed bi-weekly on first-come, first served qualified basis. • Apply early to take advantage of a larger pool of candidates, and to ensure your co-op position, if eligible, receives funding. |
| Work Term(s) | May to August and/or September to December |
| Employment Details | • Full-time hours (35 to 40 hours per week) • Minimum of 12 consecutive weeks, to a maximum total of 32 weeks |
| Eligible Students | Current UBC Master of Engineering Clean Energy Co-op Program only |
| Co-op Contact | Daria Hucal, UBC Engineering Co-op Program 604.822.4280 or daria.huca@ubc.ca |

* Only employers located in British Columbia may be considered for this salary subsidy.

Salary Subsidy Eligibility

Co-op work experiences should focus on the application of EE&C on the demand side of the energy system. For a position to be eligible for a salary subsidy the majority of the job duties would be required to be spent in the application of EE&C skills, include a substantial component focused on natural gas energy savings, and apply concepts in one or more of the following areas:

- Research and development of new, demand-side technologies that save natural gas
- Analysis, energy modeling, or design of new/existing homes, commercial buildings, and industrial facility energy use
- Testing, energy audits/studies, and measurement of energy performance technologies and facilities
• Monitoring, Targeting, & Reporting (MT&R) and Measurement & Verification (M&V) methods
• Energy management or energy coaching, including operation and maintenance in support of efficiency
• Energy economics, decision-making, and behaviour in homes or businesses
• Local government programs that induce the efficient use of natural gas
• Conservation programs for natural gas
• Natural gas energy efficiency business case development and financial analysis

Please note: Applications to the supply side, such as resource extraction, transformation, or transmission systems for the supply of conventional or renewable energy are not eligible for a salary subsidy.

Co-op Salary Subsidy Application

To be considered for the FortisBC salary subsidy, proposed co-op positions must be reviewed and approved. Please follow these steps below to apply for this co-op subsidy:

1. Identify a suitable co-op position/area of work: Contact Daria Hucal, Co-op Coordinator at 604.822.4280 or daria.hucal@ubc.ca if you have questions regarding the eligibility of your co-op position/area of work.

2. Submit formal subsidy request for review: To begin the assessment process for a potential salary subsidy through the UBC M. Eng Clean Energy Co-op Program, send your completed formal request to Daria Hucal, Co-op Coordinator at daria.hucal@ubc.ca. The request must include:
   • Outline of proposed projects for the co-op work term
   • Detailed work plan including deliverables
   • Names and position titles of individuals submitting proposal and direct supervisor(s) for proposed Co-op position
   • Proposed period of Co-op position (i.e. four or eight months) and proposed start date
   • Salary

3. Confirmation of subsidy eligibility: Subsidy awards are made jointly by representatives from UBC Engineering Co-op, M. Eng. Clean Energy faculty, and FortisBC. Confirmation of the salary subsidy is normally provided within two weeks.

Co-op Job Description Details

Employers are expected to match the salary subsidy received, and encouraged to further supplement salaries beyond the matched value. Co-op salaries are determined by the employer; information about salary averages and competitive salary amounts are available at www.ubcengineeringcoop.com. Co-op students in the M.Eng. Clean Energy program have received salaries in the range of $2,800 to $4,500 monthly.

Co-op Salaries

During the work term, representatives from UBC Engineering Co-op, UBC Clean Energy program faculty and FortisBC will conduct a mid-term site visit to assess the progress of the work term and to ensure it is a positive experience for all parties and a fit for the M. Eng. Clean Energy curriculum. At the end of each work term, the supervisor will evaluate the student’s performance using the UBC Engineering Co-op online performance assessment form.

Students are required to complete a formal, analytical engineering report or presentation for each four-month period of co-op employment. In addition, a report on progress towards deliverables as outlined in the job description and subsidy application may be required by FortisBC.

Contact Details

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