

Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education May Spotlight

Work-Integrated Learning

“Work-integrated learning is a benefit to the student and the employer. Real-world work experiences that support both academic outcomes and boost employment prospects is a win for everyone.”

- Dr. Sonia Ben Jaafar, Chief Executive Officer, Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education



What is work-integrated learning?

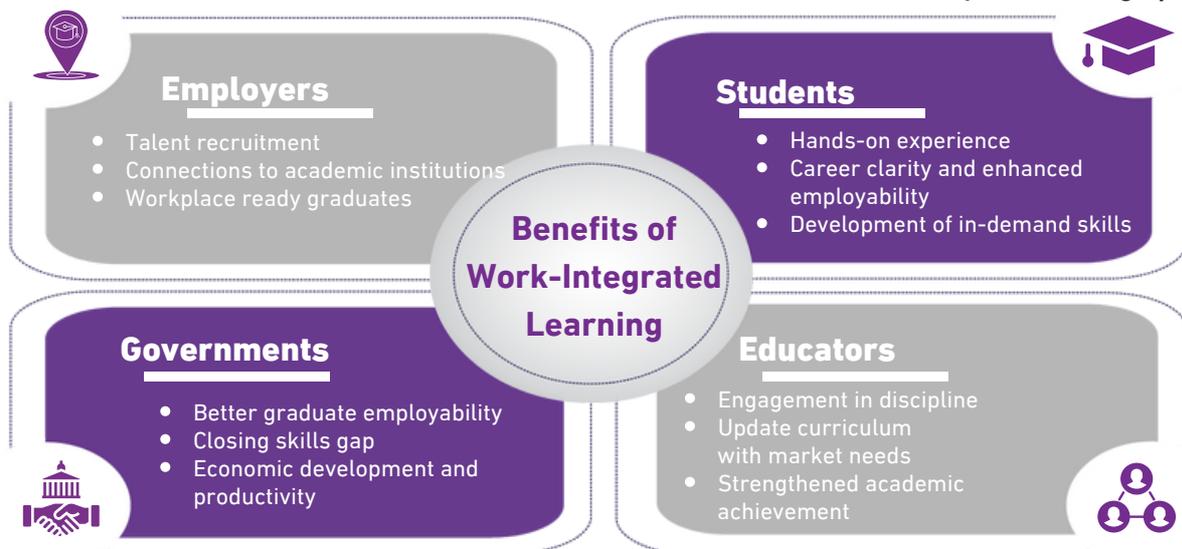
Work-integrated learning (WIL) is a program that provides students with the opportunity to apply their academic learning to a relevant professional work experience. WIL programs make industry connections and establish communities of stakeholders that are essential in producing work-ready graduates. ([CEWIL Canada](#)) Some examples of WIL programs include internships, cooperative education (co-op), service learning, and apprenticeships.

Benefits of WIL

Studies confirm that WIL programs are essential in a student's development.

- Co-op programs improve self-esteem and motivation
- Internship programs increase job offers by 16%
- Service learning positively influences student learning outcomes

WIL programs also benefit other stakeholders



Adapted from: [University of Waterloo](#)

“Work-integrated learning has made such a difference to students and industry actors, but only because government, industry, and academia decided to work together for the benefit of all.”

- Judene Pretti, Ph.D., Director, Business Services, Co-operative and Experiential Education, University of Waterloo

