

All About Co-op

For Ted Rogers School Students

This report profiles Ted Rogers Co-op students who secured their Co-op positions by establishing relationships with potential employers via networking.

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Networking Success Stories

Meet Michael Franceschi, MKT Co-op Student

We had a conversation with [Michael Franceschi](#), a Marketing Management student in the Co-op program at the Ted Rogers School of Management.

Michael secured his Summer 2023 Co-op position as a Financial Analyst at Refine Group.

Refine Group helps small and medium-sized businesses reach their full potential by providing financial, operational and strategic leadership.



[Michael Franceschi](#)

Q: How Did You Hear About Your Co-op Role?

A: I have known Andrew Taylor, President of Refine Group, for a few years. We first met through my job at Copper Creek Golf Club. I would see Mr. Taylor every Saturday at the golf course at exactly 7 am and our conversations were always interesting- we talked about business and market trends.

He would take the time to share advice that helped me to well at work and in school.

I've always wanted to work for a small organization, one where I felt my contribution would be meaningful and have an immediate impact.

I understood that Mr. Taylor operated a very successful financial firm that was looking to hire someone to support one of their important clients.

Their firm was a close-knit team and after meeting with them in person, I realized aligned nicely with my interests. I started working for Refine Group the following week!

I would say that being personable and clear in communication style were the two most important factors in securing this role. The last thing to remember is to always be yourself and to know that there are others in the industry who are willing to teach the next generation.

Q: What Made You Decide to Join Refine Group?

A: I appreciated the strategic leadership of the team/owners of the firm. They were experienced professionals in the financial sector; their firm had acquired blue-chip clients and they were nice people.

Q: What Advice Would You Give to a Ted Rogers Student?

A: I recommend that students talk to as many employers as possible and communicate with fellow classmates because you never know who can provide a job in the future.

I would also suggest that students broaden their horizons and not be strictly limited to jobs revolving around their specific area of study. The majority of organizations today are looking for young professionals who can operate multiple systems involving several business functions- relating to finance, marketing, HR, etc.

The next thing I would recommend for TRSM students is to get out of their comfort zone by continuously reading and learning about industry trends within the job market.

Overall, being personable, energetic, positive, and a good communicator will position you well when applying for a Co-op position.

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Staff Contributor
Charmaine Kwong

Charmaine is a Co-op Coordinator who is a big believer in growth mindset. Her background in teaching and employment counseling allows her to build meaningful relationships with students and guide them as they #staygritty and #staycurious while navigating through their Co-op journeys.



Student Contributors
Katie Doan

Katie, a Global Management Studies student, holds the role of a Project Coordinator for Hub Insights during her 4th Co-op work term. As an active student leader, she supports several initiatives including AIESEC and Fit For Business, where she was a Mentor for 1st Year Students. Her career aspirations encompass Project Management, Supply Chain, and Logistics Management.