Experiential education, also known as internship, field experience, work-based learning, and cooperative work-experience education or co-op is designed to allow MiraCosta College students to gain workplace experience and develop skills under the instruction of a faculty member and the supervision of an employer.

Experiential education offers business, industry, and organizations the talents and energy of students who contribute to workforce development and strengthen the link between the educational and business communities.

A plan is developed and submitted to the Chancellor’s Office, which includes:

A. A statement that the district has officially adopted the plan, subject to approval by the State Chancellor.

B. A specific description of the respective responsibilities of college, student, employer, and other cooperating agencies in the operation of the program.

C. A specific description for each type of experiential education program.

D. A description of how the district will:

1. Provide guidance services for students during enrollment in experiential education courses.

2. Assign a sufficient number of qualified academic personnel as stipulated in the district plan to direct the program and to assure district services required in Education Code §55255.

3. Assure that students’ workplace-learning experiences are documented with written measurable learning objectives.

4. With the assistance of employers, evaluate students’ workplace-learning experiences.

5. Describe the basis for awarding grades and credit.

6. Provide adequate clerical and instructional services.

The plan is developed, reviewed annually, and revised by the Director of Career Studies and Services and is submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval prior to being
submitted to the Chancellor’s Office. The district plan includes this administrative procedure, as well as information on the maintenance of records, type and units of experiential education, and evaluation of student performance.