ACCELERATE Ontario - Ontario’s Graduate Research Internship Program connects Ontario companies with the high-quality expertise within the province’s universities.

What is ACCELERATE Ontario?
- A unique program which connects the up-and-coming generation of Ontario’s highly-skilled researchers – graduate students and post-doctoral fellows – with Ontario companies through four-month, applied research projects

How does it work?
- A four-month research project is identified which is of interest to a Ontario company, a graduate student or post doc intern and his/her supervising professor
- Over the four months, the intern undertakes research on the identified issue under the supervision of the professor, all the time remaining a student at his/her university
- Approximately ½ of the intern’s time is spent on site with the partner company, researching the identified issue, collecting data and gaining an in depth understanding of the business challenge
- The balance of the intern’s time is spent back at the university, further advancing the research under the guidance of the professor and developing an innovative tool, model, technology or solution to the company’s challenge

What is the cost?
- For each four month internship, the partner company contributes $7.5K
- This amount is matched dollar-for-dollar by ACCELERATE Ontario, through the support of the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities and the Government of Canada, doubling the company’s investment
- The result is a $15K research grant to the intern’s supervising professor; the intern receives a minimum of $10K for the 4-month period

What are the benefits to graduate students and post-docs?
- Provides the opportunity to gain exposure, and apply skills, to exciting, industrially-relevant research
- Way to connect with potential future employers in Ontario

What are the benefits to companies?
- Provides access to innovative research, methods and developments that are on the horizon
- Connects companies with the next generation of highly-skilled, up-and-coming researchers & future employees
- Facilitates the development of valuable relationships with Ontario universities

What is MITACS role?
- The ACCELERATE Ontario program is administered by MITACS on behalf of Ontario’s universities
- MITACS business development experts are available to assist with the preparation of an internship proposal, help the parties define a internship research project and match companies with the appropriate expertise

For more information, visit www.acceleratecanada.ca; or contact Alison Lee at alee@mitacs.ca.