

Working Abroad

Things to Consider...

Do Your Research

- Assess your motivation and reasons for going abroad. What do you want to get out of your experience? What can you contribute?

-Think about what you want to do, where and when you want to go and how you are going to do it. Do you want to work for a foreign owned business or school, or an American business with international locations? What industry are you interested in? Find out what types of positions and opportunities exist before making plans to move!

-How are you going to finance your trip abroad? Create a budget and research funding.

-Research your options. Thoroughly look into programs and options available to you. This handout provides resources to help with this process.

Work Visa

Make sure to do research on the specific visa requirements of the country you are targeting. This process can take some time, so start well in advance. You also want to make sure you have an up to date passport and any work permits and immunizations you may need.

Choose an Industry

Just like job searching in the U.S., searching for a job abroad involves making a decision about the types of jobs and industries you are

searching for. Simply "working abroad" is too vague. You will need to narrow it down. Do you want to teach? A job in banking? Work as an au pair?

Job Search Tools

Although you may be used to the American style of resume writing and interviewing, other countries have their own guidelines. Make sure you have a resume or CV that is appropriate for the country and industry you are applying to. Think about cultural expectations regarding the interview process.

Language & Culture

The more familiar you are with the language and culture/customs of a country, the smoother your transition will be. Fluency in the language can be important if you are choosing a job in a non-English speaking country. Look into cultural norms and taboos, gender roles, dining etiquette and business culture.



This guide provides information on opportunities abroad including internships, short-term and long-term work, teaching English, and volunteering. Check out more resources for help with your search on the back page!

Types of Work Abroad

INTERNSHIPS

International internships can be a great way to connect with an international career. They are available in many different locations and industries.

Although paid internships are rare, many are available for academic credit and provide great experience.

AIESEC (www.aiesec.org), a student-run international organization, sponsors an international internship exchange program. Offers work abroad and trainee experiences in four areas: management, development, technical and education.

American-Scandinavian Foundation (www.amscan.org/) Web site lists both study and work programs. Nonprofit organization offers paid internships in Scandinavia in engineering, teaching English as a foreign language, business, and agricultural fields. ASF also assists with obtaining work permits for Scandinavia.

Association for International Practical Training (AIPT) (www.aipt.org/)

AIPT is a network of more than 70 countries that coordinates on-the-job training for students in technical fields such as engineering, computer science, mathematics, natural and physical sciences, architecture, and agricultural science.

The British Council (www.studyintheuk.org/) Internships/Work Experience in the U.K. Official information on work regulations and work-exchange programs.

Cross-Cultural Solutions

(www.crossculturalsolutions.org)

Recognized leader in volunteering abroad sending people to 12 countries year round.

Global Experiences

(www.globalexperiences.com) The world's leading international internship provider. Internships are customized according to academic background and career objectives.

Global Service Corps

(www.globalservicecorps.org/) Global Service Corps (GSC) is an organization that provides opportunities for people worldwide to live and work abroad in developing countries. The GSC international internship program is an excellent way to fulfill either internship or independent study requirements.

Global Vision International

(www.gviusa.com) Sets up conservation and humanitarian projects in countries all over the world.

HECUA

(www.hecua.org) Academic – Community Partnership for Social Change. Hands on experience through internships and field work, while getting credit. Experiences primarily concentrated in Bangladesh, Ecuador, Guatemala and Cuba, Northern Ireland and the USA.

IASTE

(www.iaeste.org) Coordinates international on-the-job training experiences.

Inter-American Development Bank

(www.iadb.org) Summer employment for undergraduate students.

International Cooperative Education Program

(www.icemenlo.com/)

ICE has placed more than 15,000 students in work/internship positions throughout Europe, Asia, and South America. ICEP offers paid summer internships for students with knowledge of foreign languages (German, French, Italian, Chinese, Japanese) in Europe and Asia.

LeapNow International Internship Program

(www.leapnow.org)

LEAPNow runs experiential international semesters for youth focusing on community service, language training, and personal development. They currently run semester programs in Central America (visiting Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Honduras), South America (Ecuador, Bolivia, and Peru), the South Pacific (Fiji, New Zealand, and Australia), India, and Southeast Asia (Bali, Thailand, and Cambodia).

Mountbatten Institute

(www.mountbatten.org) International business experience through year-long internships in London and a study program in Thailand.

Organization of American States

(http://www.oas.org/EN/PINFO/HR/gen_information.htm)

The OAS Student Intern Program is designed for junior, senior and graduate students at the university level to allow them to work within their fields of study.

World Health Organization Internship and Employment Opportunities

(<http://www.who.int/employment/internship/en/>)

The World Health Organization offers internship opportunities for graduate or post-graduate university students, generally in health-related programs.

WORK ABROAD

Typical types of short-term paid work abroad include restaurant work, temping, and childcare (au pair), but students can and do also find work of a professional nature abroad.

<http://www.idealists.org/en/career/workingabroad.html>

BUNAC (www.bunac.org). Available to current students or recent grads, these programs exchange with Great Britain, Ireland, Australia, France, Germany, New Zealand, Canada, and South Africa.

CDS International (<http://www.cdsintl.org/>)
A non-profit organization committed to international practical training opportunities for young adults.

CIEE Work Abroad Programs (www.ciee.org)
CIEE is a nonprofit organization provides a work permit and job-hunting assistance in Australia, Canada, Ireland, and New Zealand, and teaching in China and Thailand.

Crewseekers International (www.crewseekers.net)
Professional work on yachts including paid positions, hared contribution voyages and working passage trips.

Cultural Embrace (www.culturalembrace.com)
Pre-arranges and guarantees placements for meaningful travel experiences. Customized programs to fit schedule, budget and interests.

Cultural Homestay International (www.chinet.org/)
Travel and work abroad in Taiwan, China, Spain, etc.

InterExchange (www.interexchange.org)
Arranges cultural and work exchange programs for students.

International Tour Management Institute
(www.itmisf.com)
Become an ITMI Certified Tour Director to travel the world and get paid for it.

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering abroad usually consists of a group of volunteers working with every day citizens. The type of work can be anything from education to working with businesses. Although these experiences are unpaid, they are great preparation for those interested in international careers.

Visit *Idealist.org International Volunteerism Resource Center (IVRC)*
<http://www.idealist.org/en/ivrc>

African Conservation Experience
(www.ConservationAfrica.net)
Voluntary work placements in wildlife and conservation in Southern Africa.

Amigos de las Americas (www.amigoslink.org)
5-8 week programs in Latin America to strengthen Spanish skills and collaborate on sustainable development projects.

Amizade Global Service Learning and Volunteer Programs (www.amizade.org)
Make a difference through community-driven service.

Anir Foundation (www.anirfoundation.org)
Concentrates on volunteer projects in Southern Africa that focus on global and local community issues such as housing, poverty, HIV/AIDS, cultural heritage preservation, and appreciating the environment.

ArtCorps (www.artcorp.org)
Places artists in nine- to twelve-month projects within a nonprofit organization in Central America. Applicants are expected to be fluent in Spanish.

Azafady (www.madagascar.co.uk)
Volunteer in Madagascar with sustainable development, health and education or study wild lemurs.

Catholic Network of Volunteer Service (CNVS)
(www.cnvs.org)
Serves as a clearinghouse for long- and short-term volunteer service projects of CNVS member organizations around the world.

CommonThreadz (www.commonthreadz.org/)
volunteertrips)
A nonprofit organization working to better the lives of orphans and vulnerable children in South Africa and other nations.

Cosmic Volunteers (www.cosmicvolunteers.org)
Volunteer to work on humanitarian projects in non-western cultures.

Cultivating Communities EcoAgriCulture Program
(www.ccecoagriculture.com)
Two week program focusing on organic and sustainable agriculture in Costa Rica.

Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children (FIMRC) (www.fimrc.org/missions)
Offers opportunities to volunteer for one or more weeks at primary care medical clinics in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Peru, and Uganda.

Gap Year Programs (CIEE)
(www.ciee.org/hsabroad/gap/index.html)
Sponsors short-term, team oriented projects.

Global Humanitarian Expeditions
(www.humanitariantours.com)
Work with local communities in Asia and Central America to provide dental care, education and community development.

Global Volunteers (www.globalvolunteers.org)
Places individuals in one- to three-week service projects in 20 countries around the world.

Global Volunteer Network (www.volunteer.org.nz/programs2.php)
The Global Volunteer Network offers volunteer opportunities in community projects throughout the world.

i to i (www.i-to-i.com)

Offers a wide variety of volunteer experiences throughout the world, along with quality TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) training. They have projects looking for willing workers from as little as one week, to 12 weeks and beyond.

Iracambi Rainforest Program (www.iracambi.com)

Join international researchers and volunteers in Brazil protecting one of the world's biodiversity hotspots.

International Volunteer Programs Association

(www.volunteerinternational.org) list internships, volunteer positions and apprenticeships worldwide.

Marhaba: Volunteers in the Middle East

(www.gomarhaba.org)

Offers service-learning programs in Cairo, Egypt to encourage cross-cultural understanding between the U.S. and the Arab world while providing meaningful service to communities in the Middle East.

Peace Corps (<http://www.peacecorps.gov>), one of the best-known international volunteer programs, is a 2-year experience with stipend. Shorter experiences are available through work camps many of which are 2-3 weeks in length and occur during the summer.

ProWorld Service Corps (www.myproworld.org)

Work side-by-side with community members on hands-on sustainable development projects in Belize, India, Mexico, Peru or Thailand.

United Planet (www.unitedplanet.org)

is the nonprofit U.S. partner of the ICYE and is devoted to building cross-cultural understanding and friendship around the world.

Visions in Action Volunteers in International Development

(www.visionsinaction.org)

Implements grass-roots community programs and seeks volunteers interested in education, human rights, public health, HIV/AIDS and community development.

Volunteers for International Partnership

(www.partnershipvolunteers.org)

Opportunities to do international community service in health, social services, environment and education.

Volunteers for Peace (<http://www.vfp.org>)

Offers short-term international voluntary service programs. They currently provide volunteer programs through partner organizations in Alaska, China, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ghana, India, Nepal, New Zealand, Romania, Russia, South Africa, Thailand, Uganda and Vietnam.

World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms (WWOOF)

(www.wwoof.org)

Global network to connect volunteers with organic farms.

TEACHING ENGLISH ABROAD

Teaching English abroad is a great way to work abroad. Jobs are typically in Africa, Asia, Europe, or Latin America and a college degree is required by most programs. Most programs last for at least a year, but some can be shorter or longer.

AEON (www.aeonet.com)

Teach English to adults and/or children in Japan.

Burma Volunteer Program (BVP)

(www.geocities.com/maesotbvp/index.html)

Typically, volunteers work with political groups, ethnic activists, women's groups, youth associations, news organizations, and various campaigners.

Dave's ESL Cafe (www.eslcafe.com)

ESL job postings and other extensive information.

EF English First (www.englishfirst.com/trt/index.html)

Teach English in China. Experience required.

Gaba Corporation

(www.careers.gaba.co.jp/overseas/index.html)

Teach private English lessons to business professionals in Japan.

Global Routes

(http://www.globalroutes.org/college_main.html)

College level teaching internships in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Hess Educational Organization (www.hess.com.tw)

Teach English in Taiwan, TEFL training provided.

JET (<http://www.us.emb-japan.go.jp/JET/>)

A well established 1-year program for teaching English in Japan.

Language Corps (www.languagecorps.com/)

Teach Intensive English Abroad

Search Associates (www.search-associates.com)

International teaching opportunities.

TEFL International (<http://www.teflintl.com/>)

TEFL/TESOL certificate course provider.

Thai-Experience.org (www.thai-experience.org)

Volunteers teach English or computer skills, or use other special skills, bridging the gap while gaining valuable knowledge and a cross-cultural experience in rural Thailand.

Travel-to-Teach (www.travel-to-teach.org)

A nonprofit organization that aims to transmit knowledge of English from wealthier nations to poorer ones by way of volunteers.

World Teach (www.worldteach.org)

Teach English in developing countries that are unable to afford or locate qualified teachers.

Helpful Resources

Helpful Websites

www.transitionsabroad.com

Jobs, Internships, Teaching and Volunteer Opportunities.

www.jobsbazaar.com

www.overseasdigest.com

www.overseasjobs.com

www.rileyguide.com/internat.html

University of Michigan's Work Abroad Overview

(www.internationalcenter.umich.edu/swt/work/)

Provides a good overview of student work abroad options.

International Jobs, University of Texas at Austin

(www.utexas.edu/cola/lacs/international_jobs/)

International Opportunities Program: Univ. of California, Irvine

(www.cie.uci.edu/iop/index.html)

International Resources: Job Web Library

(www.jobweb.com/Resources/Library/International)

Web Guide to International Employment: Dickinson College

(www.dickinson.edu/career/student/international.html)

Books in the Career Resource Center

The Big Guide to Living and Working Overseas

Directory of Jobs & Careers Abroad

How to Get a Job in Europe

International Jobs Directory

Country Information

AllSafeTravels.com (www.allsafetravels.com)

Informs travelers who want to know the latest risks involved with traveling to any country or region of the world.

[Country at a Glance](#)

(www.cyberschoolbus.un.org/infonation/index.asp)

United Nations Cyber School Bus, includes a world map, country maps, and key indicators.

[Country Background Notes](#) (www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn)

U.S. government publications that include a brief history and a variety of facts about different countries.

[Country Briefing](#) (www.economist.com/countries)

Obtain news, forecasts, and statistics for countries from this business and current events magazine.

[NationMaster.com](#) (www.nationmaster.com)

This website compiles statistical indicators and basic facts about countries around the world, offering a number of ways to sort and display the data.

[The World Factbook](#)

(www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/)

From the U.S. intelligence agency, these reports contain a variety of information about countries and locations around the world.



Going Global

Going Global Career Guides are the ultimate international job seeker's guide! Packed with country-specific information, this massive research tool contains more than 10,000 resources for finding international employment. Each country segment contains recommended web sites, detailed resource descriptions, insider tips and professional advice.

To login simply find [Going Global](#) on <http://career.utk.edu> and use your netid and password.