

# Working & Volunteering Abroad

## INTRODUCTION

Working outside the United States can be incredibly rewarding for recent college graduates. Not only can it be a springboard for an international career and developing intercultural communication skills, it can help graduates gain professional experience, improve foreign language abilities, and become more self-reliant. And, of course, graduates who work outside the United States get to make friends in a new community and see the world!

## PRE-PLANNING CHECKLIST

Regardless of whether you are considering working abroad through an organization on this list or one that you find on your own, we urge you to be proactive in making sure the organization offers job placement and support services that suit your interests and needs, and that it is a legitimate operation. Off-Campus Studies provides the following list of organizations as a starting point for students seeking work abroad experiences. However, because student needs vary when seeking employment abroad and organizations/conditions abroad are constantly evolving, the inclusion of a particular organization on this list does not constitute an endorsement of the work opportunity or the organization by Whitman College. To gauge the quality of a work abroad organization, we suggest you start with the following:

- Contact the program directly and ask them detailed questions about what they offer.
- Ask the program to supply names and contact information of past participants whom you can contact and question about their experience on the program.
- Conduct an online Google search for reviews and blog posts from past participants of these programs about their experiences.
- Scrutinize all employment contracts carefully before signing, and ask your employer if you have any questions or concerns.
- Be sure you understand what support services the program provides, such as airport pick-up, housing, medical insurance, etc.
- Inquire with the program about whether you will need a work visa and if they help facilitate the processing of that visa. Make sure the position you are accepting is legal and that you enter the country with the proper visa.

<b>Whitman College Resources</b>	
<b>Off-Campus Studies</b> <a href="http://www.whitman.edu/off-campus-studies">www.whitman.edu/off-campus-studies</a> offcampusstudies@whitman.edu Phone: (509) 527-4992	<b>Fellowships and Grants</b> <a href="http://www.whitman.edu/after-whitman/fellowships-and-grants">www.whitman.edu/after-whitman/fellowships-and-grants</a> hernand2@whitman.edu Phone: (509) 527-5184

## Recommended Websites

- [www.transitionsabroad.com](http://www.transitionsabroad.com) – Portal for work abroad, study abroad, cultural travel, and living overseas.
- [www.overseasjobs.com](http://www.overseasjobs.com) – Overseas jobs, international contracts, employment opportunities, and resources.
- [www.idealists.org](http://www.idealists.org) – Interactive site where organizations and people can exchange resources and ideas and locate opportunities and supporters; mostly focuses on non-profit organizations.
- [www.goabroad.com](http://www.goabroad.com) – International education and experiential travel resource.
- [www.eslcafe.com](http://www.eslcafe.com) – Clearing house for ESL job postings in China, Korea, and other international locations. Also features other ESL resources.

## Work & Volunteer Abroad Opportunities – Worldwide

**BUNAC:** Website: [www.bunac.org](http://www.bunac.org) | Email: [enquiries@bunac.org](mailto:enquiries@bunac.org) | Phone: 1-332-330-3222

Short-term work and internship permits for Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe, North America and South America lasting 3-12 months depending on the destination. You must be a US citizen. Other eligibility requirements vary by destination. Fees are charged for the work permits. Participants find their own positions, but BUNAC offices in the US and overseas assist. There is an administrative fee for placement. **Deadline: Ongoing**

### Cambridge English Language Teaching Association (CELTA)

Website: [www.cambridgeenglish.org/teaching-english/teaching-qualifications/CELTA/](http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/teaching-english/teaching-qualifications/CELTA/)

This is a widely recognized certification program for teaching English as a second or foreign language. Some CELTA centers provide work abroad contacts to those who successfully complete the training program.

**Camp Counselors USA (CCUSA)** | Website: [www.ccusa.com](http://www.ccusa.com) | Phone: 1-888-449-3872

Work opportunities in summer camps in Canada and elsewhere. Work Adventures Down Under Program in Australia & New Zealand. Volunteer opportunities in Africa, Americas, Asia, Australasia, Caribbean and Europe. See website for details. There is an administrative fee for placement. **Deadline: Ongoing**

**CIEE Teach Abroad** | Website: [www.ciee.org/teach](http://www.ciee.org/teach) | Phone: 207-274-5783

CIEE Teach Abroad offers programs from 4-12 months in length in Chile, China, South Korea, Spain, and Thailand. Jobs in the Spanish-speaking world require the equivalent of 4 semesters of college Spanish. There is an administrative fee for placement. **Deadline: Varies by country**

**Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships** | Website: [us.fulbrightonline.org/thinking\\_teaching.html](http://us.fulbrightonline.org/thinking_teaching.html)

Contact: Jess Hernandez, Director of Fellowships/Grants, Email: [hernand2@whitman.edu](mailto:hernand2@whitman.edu) | Phone: 509-527-5184  
The Fulbright English Teaching Assistant programs place grantees in schools overseas to supplement local English language instruction and to provide a native speaker presence in the classrooms. Destinations include East Asia-Pacific, Europe, Middle East & North Africa, South & Central Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, and the Western Hemisphere. Applicants for ETA Programs can apply to only one country. The nature of the teaching responsibilities and level of competitiveness for positions varies from country to country.

### **International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience USA (IAESTE)**

Website: [www.iaesteunitedstates.org](http://www.iaesteunitedstates.org) | Phone: 212-497-3538

Paid internships (8-12 weeks in summer, also long-term) are available in industry, research institutes, universities, consulting firms, labs, and other work environments (technical focus) in more than 80 countries. Applicants must be full-time students at time of application. IAESTE will facilitate work permit paperwork for students. There is an administrative fee for placement.

### **International Schools Services (ISS) | Website: [www.iss.edu](http://www.iss.edu) | Phone: 609-452-0990**

ISS is a placement service for teachers with certification but without experience. Areas in special demand include math, science, computers, librarians and elementary teaching. Applicants must have a BA, teaching certification, experience living overseas and be willing to sign a two-year contract. Not limited to recent graduates. **Deadline: Ongoing (Fall/Winter is best time to apply)**

### **Peace Corps | Website: [www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov)**

The Peace Corps inspires by impact that is hands-on, grassroots-driven, and lasting. To learn about their mission visit their website or visit the Whitman Student Engagement Center, Phone: 509-527-5183 | Peace Corps Phone: 855-855-1961. Volunteer teaching and technical positions in developing countries. **Deadline: Ongoing**

### **Princeton in Africa | Website: [www.princetoninafrica.org](http://www.princetoninafrica.org) | Phone: 609-258-7215**

Contact: Jess Hernandez, Director of Fellowships/Grants, Email: [hernand2@whitman.edu](mailto:hernand2@whitman.edu) | Phone: 509-527-5184  
Princeton in Africa offers yearlong fellowships for service projects with organizations across the African continent. Fellows can find work in many fields such as public health, humanitarian aid, education, etc. There is an administrative fee for placement. **Deadline: Late October**

### **Princeton in Latin America | Website: [www.princeton.edu/~pila/](http://www.princeton.edu/~pila/) | Phone: 609-258-9200**

Contact: Jess Hernandez, Director of Fellowships/Grants, Email: [hernand2@whitman.edu](mailto:hernand2@whitman.edu) | Phone: 509-527-5184  
Princeton-in-Latin America offers yearlong fellowships at NGOs and community organizations across Latin America and the Caribbean. This is ideal for students interested in careers in international development. There is an administrative fee for placement. **Deadline: November**

### **SWAP Working Holidays | Website: [www.swap.ca](http://www.swap.ca) | Email: [info@swap.ca](mailto:info@swap.ca)**

For Canadian citizens, SWAP sends 18-35 year olds to other countries to experience them for up to 1-2 years, with an open work permit and no special requirements needed. SWAP offers working holidays in the UK, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Austria, and Japan. A working holiday is meant to be a way to experience a new country in a way a tourist cannot. Pay registration fee for help with work permit paperwork, support in job, and housing search. **Deadline: Varies by program**

### **US English Language Teaching Assistantship Program in Austria (Fulbright Program)**

Website: [www.usta-austria.at](http://www.usta-austria.at)

Contact: Jess Hernandez, Director of Fellowships/Grants, Email: [hernand2@whitman.edu](mailto:hernand2@whitman.edu) | Phone: 509-527-5184  
For decades, Fulbright Austria has worked with the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science, and Research (BMBWF) to bring qualified, motivated university graduates from the United States to teach English in Austria in secondary schools all across the country. As a teaching assistant, you help Austrian students develop the linguistic skills that will help them succeed as they grow up. You also serve as an informal cultural ambassador and promote mutual understanding between the peoples of the United States of America and the Republic of Austria.

**Deadline: Complete applications accepted between November 15 and January 15.**

**US State Department** | Website: [www.careers.state.gov/intern/student-programs](http://www.careers.state.gov/intern/student-programs)

Spring, summer or fall internships with the State Department in any one of a number of bureaus (i.e. Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs). Some students work in Washington DC while others have the opportunity to work at an embassy overseas. Must currently be a US citizen and currently a junior, senior, or graduate student at an accredited college or university. These are unpaid internships. **Deadline: Varies by program**

## Work & Volunteer Abroad Opportunities – Europe

**Cultural Vistas** | Website: [www.culturalvistas.org](http://www.culturalvistas.org) | Phone: 212-497-3500 | Email: [info@culturalvistas.org](mailto:info@culturalvistas.org)

Cultural Vistas offers a number of exchange programs and professional work internships, including 3-month internships in Germany, Brazil, Ireland, France, Switzerland, Spain, Russia, Singapore, and Argentina, as well as work abroad opportunities and fellowships in Germany and Switzerland. All programs require some language skills of applicants and prior work experience. Organization will allow work authorization process for up to 18 months in Germany and Switzerland. There is an administrative fee for placement.

**Deadline: Varies by country**

### Central European Teaching Program (CETP)

Website: [www.cetp.info](http://www.cetp.info) | Contact: Mary Rose, Phone: 503-287-4977 | Email: [mary.cetp@gmail.com](mailto:mary.cetp@gmail.com)

English-language teaching positions for six or ten months in Hungary. Applicants must be a native speaker of English, have a bachelor's degree, complete TESL or education course before departure, and must complete at least 20 hours of teaching experience before departure. There is an administrative placement fee. Payment consistent with Hungarian colleagues. **Deadline: Accepting applications year-round, but earlier is better**

**German Marshall Fund Internship** | Website: [www.gmfus.org](http://www.gmfus.org) | Phone: 202-683-2650 | Email: [info@gmfus.org](mailto:info@gmfus.org)

Graduates with German fluency and interest in US-German relations may apply for 9-month internships. There is no application form, so please inquire with the German Marshall Fund. **Deadline: Rolling**

**InterExchange** | Website: [www.interexchange.org/working-abroad](http://www.interexchange.org/working-abroad)

Phone: 212-924-0446 | Email: [info@interexchange.org](mailto:info@interexchange.org) or [workabroad@interexchange.org](mailto:workabroad@interexchange.org)

InterExchange offers work & travel jobs, international internships, au pair/childcare, informal teaching and farm worker programs around the world. Countries vary depending on demand, but have included Argentina, Canada, Costa Rica, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Spain, and the United States. Durations range from a couple months to full year. **Deadline: Two months in advance of desired start**

**Teaching Assistant Program in France** | Website: <https://frenchhighereducation.org/teaching-assistant-program>

Contact: Celina Jaffe, French Embassy in Washington, DC | Email: [celina.jaffe@frenchculture.org](mailto:celina.jaffe@frenchculture.org)

The French Ministry of Education has approximately 1500 positions available each year for Americans to teach in primary and secondary schools and teaching colleges in all parts of France for seven months. Participants must be US citizens or permanent residents, between 20 and 30 years old, be at least in your fourth year of college or have attained college degree, and be proficient in French. **Deadlines: January 31**

## Teaching Assistant Program in Spain

Website: <https://www.educacionyfp.gob.es/eeuu/convocatorias-programas/convocatorias-eeuu/nalcap.html>

Contact: Jess Hernandez, Director of Fellowships and Grants, Email: [hernand2@whitman.edu](mailto:hernand2@whitman.edu) | Phone: 509-527-5184

The Spanish Ministry of Education has over 2000 positions available each year for citizens from English speaking countries (US, Canada, Australia, England, New Zealand) to be language assistants in primary, secondary or teaching colleges in all parts of Spain. Participants must have a B.A. or B.S. or be a junior or senior working towards a B.A. or B.S. before starting the program. Placements are based on order of application and fulfillment of application requirements. Must have a basic level of Spanish. **Open for applications: late January- early April**

## Work & Volunteer Abroad Opportunities – Asia & Oceania

**JET (Japan Exchange and Teaching Program)** | Website: <https://jetprogramusa.org/contact-us/>

Contact: Jess Hernandez, Director of Fellowships and Grants, Email: [hernand2@whitman.edu](mailto:hernand2@whitman.edu) | Phone: 509-527-5184

Yearlong positions to teach English in Japan at various levels. Coordinator for International Relations positions and Sports Exchange Advisors positions are also available. Interest in Japan is required, but language proficiency is not a requirement. JET participants are expected to learn as much Japanese as possible before and during their time in Japan. **Deadline: Late November**

**Princeton in Asia** | Website: [piaweb.princeton.edu](http://piaweb.princeton.edu)

Contact: Jess Hernandez, Director of Fellowships and Grants, Email: [hernand2@whitman.edu](mailto:hernand2@whitman.edu) | Phone: 509-527-5184

Approximately 150 fellowships (business, NGOs, media) and English teaching positions in Cambodia, China, Hong Kong S.A.R., Macau S.A.R., Taiwan, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam. TEFL experience (minimum of 20 hours) required of teacher applicants; language experience not required for most positions. **Deadline: August to October**

## Volunteer Abroad - Worldwide

**International Volunteer Programs Association (IVPA)** | Website: [www.volunteerinternational.org](http://www.volunteerinternational.org)

Phone: 469-389-1024 | Email: [info@volunteerinternational.org](mailto:info@volunteerinternational.org)

Lists NGOs and PVOs where you may find volunteer or internship opportunities. Excellent starting point. **Deadline: Varies by program**

**Jesuit Volunteer Corps** | Website: [www.jesuitvolunteers.org](http://www.jesuitvolunteers.org) | Phone: 410-244-173 |

Email: [info@jesuitvolunteers.org](mailto:info@jesuitvolunteers.org)

Volunteers with Christian motivation are placed in teaching, nursing and community service positions. Volunteers pay for transportation to the worksite. Room, board, small stipend, and transportation to and from work provided. **Deadline: Rolling**

**United Nations Volunteers** | Website: [www.unv.org](http://www.unv.org)

Visit this site to connect to a number of long-term volunteer opportunities through the UN. Can search for jobs by country of origin, topic area, or country of interest. Must be at least 25 years old with at least 2 years of work experience. Travel costs and small stipend provided. Some resettlement costs are covered as well. **Deadline: Ongoing**

**USAID Volunteer Student Intern Program** | Website: [www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov)

USAID is the international development agency and a catalytic actor driving development results. USAID's work advances U.S. national security and economic prosperity, demonstrates American generosity, and promotes a path to recipient self-reliance and resilience. Internships are fairly scarce and will be listed on the website as they come available. **Deadline: Ongoing**

**Volunteers in Asia (VIA)** | Website: [www.viaprograms.org](http://www.viaprograms.org) | Phone: 415-904-8033 | Email: [info@viaprograms.org](mailto:info@viaprograms.org)

The Global Community Fellowship is a 13-15 month program for recent university graduates. Fellows work at NGOs, schools, universities, and social enterprises across Asia to support community development, capacity building, and education. By working directly with communities, fellows get hands-on experience learning how organizations in Asia are using creative and innovative methods to address critical social challenges. **Deadline: rolling**

**Volunteer Services Overseas (VSO)** | Website: [www.vso.org.uk](http://www.vso.org.uk) | Email: [enquiry@vsoint.org](mailto:enquiry@vsoint.org)

A UK/Canada version of the Peace Corps with 6-month to 2-year opportunities in over 40 countries around the globe. Traditional teaching jobs as well as opportunities for more skilled individuals. Lodging, some travel expenses, and a small living allowance are covered. **Deadline: Ongoing**

**Volunteer for Peace (VFP)** | Website: [www.vfp.org](http://www.vfp.org) | Phone: 802-598-0052 | Email: [vfp@vfp.org](mailto:vfp@vfp.org)

Two to three week work camps in 100 countries around the world (3400 programs). Food and lodging are provided; participants are responsible for their own travel expenses. Most camps run between June and September; volunteers may sign up for multiple camps in the same or different countries. Must be a US resident (or American citizen living overseas). Registration and placement fees apply. Additional fees for volunteers serving in developing countries. **Deadline: Register as soon as possible to ensure placement in preferred projects**

**World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms (WWOOF)** | Website: <https://wwooof.net/destinations/>

Organization that provides information about organic farms around the world where people can volunteer to work in exchange for room and board. Participants arrange and pay for their own travel, placement, work permits, etc. **Deadline: Apply at least one month before desired departure**