

WA S H I N G T O N C O L L E G E

# INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIPS

## Overview

Interning in another country is an exciting and invaluable experience that enables you to develop workforce-ready and intercultural skillsets. However, finding an internship in another country can be time consuming and challenging. As a way to ensure our students have access to quality international internships, Washington College offers and/or partners with a number of organizations through which WAC students can intern internationally during the summer months or over winter break Our partners include: CISabroad, IFSA-Butler and their affiliate the Alliance for Global Education, Creative Learning and the Hansard Scholars Programme. Please note, the Hansard Scholars Programme is also an option for an academic semester. The rest are only summer or winter term options.

## Costs

Summer and winter term internship program costs range in price from $3,500 to $10,000 based on the location and duration of the program. Airfare is not included in the program fee. You and your family should review the cost information provided by each organization and ensure that you understand the breakdown of the program fee. You can review the scholarship funds available for internships by going to: http://www.washcqll.edu/offices/careerdevelopment/internships/internship-funding-sources.php. While scholarships are available, they rarely cover the total cost of the program.

## Academic Credits

We encourage students to consider either doing an international internship for academic credit or solely for the experience. If you wish to receive academic credit, you will first meet with the Associate Dean for Academic Initiatives, Dr. Andrea Lange (alange2@washcoll.edu), to review the required procedures and forms. For more details on internships for academic credit visit: htÿps://wyw.washcoll.edu/offices/career-development/internships/index.php.

International Insurance

All students are encouraged to understand how their individual or family's health insurance policy will cover them abroad If your medical insurance does not cover you overseas, we encourage you to purchase short-term travel insurance. Students receiving academic credit and/or funding from Washington College for their internship experience will be eligible for emergency medical insurance.

## On Campus Assistance

Members of the Global Education Office Team, are happy to talk with you about partner organization programs. Please keep in mind that while we review the information with you, the final decision on which organization or co-partner you choose, the application process, and the pre-departure legwork will be your responsibility. To schedule an appointment with a member of the GEO Team, please email [geo@washcoll.edu](mailto:geo@washcoll.edu)

Interning abroad is a valuable way to learn more about another culture, develop cross-cultural competencies, perfect a second (or third) language, make professional contacts in other countries, and strengthen your resume for a future job or graduate/professional programs. The aforementioned things that make international internships beneficial and exciting are the same things that can be challenges. As you consider an international internship, ask yourself the following questions.

* I have the appropriate language-level to intern and/or live in my country of interest?
* Am J prepared to adapt to and integrate into a new culture and office environment at the same time?
* Am I flexible in what my work-schedule and work-week may look like?
* Am I willing to live in housing temporarily that might mean a host family stay or roommates?
* Is commuting to work via public transportation something I'm willing to do?

If you answered "yes" to most of these questions, you are in good stead to apply for an international internship. If you answered "no" to the majority of the questions, take some time to reflect on how your expectations for the experience mesh with what some of the realities may be in regards to interning abroad.

## Washington College Faculty Facilitated International Internships

Washington College faculty is continuously creating learning opportunities for you that include internship experiences overseas! Currently there is a summer, international internships offered through Washington College to Tanzania. The Education Department offers a teaching internship with the St. Thomas School, and Dr. Tahir Shad works with students to arrange development focused internships through Terrawatu following his short-term program. Please contact Dr. Tahir Shad, Professor of International Studies and Political Science, for additional program details.

## WC Affiliated Internship Partners

Whether you are looking for a Business internship in Sydney, Australia; a chance to intern with a member of the UK parliament in London, England; an opportunity to work alongside physicians at a health clinic in Costa Rica; an experience teaching English to children in Ifrane, Morocco; or an internship at the Edinburgh Arts Festival in Scotland, Washington College and our partner organizations will work with you in achieving those dreams.

The College has reviewed the services provided by international internship vendors and recommends that you consider summer and winter internship offerings from, CISabroad, Creative Learning- Bayanihan Program, IFSA-Butler and the Hansard Scholars Internship Programme. Each organization will work closely with you to provide a quality internship experience while also broadening your world view to the customs and culture of your host country.

CISabroad: https://www.cisabroad.com/

CISabroad operates internship programs around the globe and partners with you and the College to identify an internship placement most suited for your major and career aspirations. CISabroad offers internships in:

Australia, China, Costa Rica, Ecuador, England, France, Ireland, Mexico, Scotland and Spain. Their offerings are highly customizable, and their program offices around the world offer unique cultural programming for you during your time abroad. Some sites do require prior language training.

Creative Learning: http://creativelearning.org/what-we-do/gei/bayanihan-internship-program-in-the-philippines2/

Creative Learning offers a summer internship program located in Manila, Philippines. Students intern with grass

roots organizations for 8 weeks. The program is affiliated with De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde and is

administered through their Center for Social Action.

Hansard Scholars Internship Programme: https://www.hansardscholars.uk/

The Hansard Scholars Programme (HSP) is a prestigious organization with close affiliation to the London School of Economics. I-ISP offers internships to students with a Member of Parliament, Member of the House of Lords, media organization, law firm, public affairs or government relations consultancy, NGO, or think-tank. The access students have to esteemed politicians and government officials is extraordinary. During this 8-week summer experience, students intern and take two credit-bearing classes. Visits to the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh, Oxford University, and special invited lectures are also components to the program. f you seek academic credit for this experience, please make sure to meet with Dr. Melissa Deckman in the Political Science Department prior to applying.

Institute for Study Abroad: Butler University (IFSA-Butler) & affiliate the Alliance for Global Education: http://www.ifsa-butler.org/

IFSA Butler; and their affiliate institution the Alliance for Global Education (AGE), offer a handful of select summer internship opportunities with specialized foci. They offer two exciting internship options in Scotland – Business in the Arts Edinburgh Festival and University of Edinburgh Parliamentary Internship Program. IFSA Butler also has a summer internship offering in Dublin, Ireland. Through their affiliate organization, they cosponsor two offerings in China, one focused on business and the other on politics and change, and a summer internship in India regarding development, the environment, and public health.

## Other Internship & Volunteer Organizations

There are many organizations and companies running internship and volunteer programs abroad. Please keep in mind that internship or volunteer experiences are typically summer or winter term options. Web based organizations such as Transitions Abroad http://www.transitionsabroad.com and GoAbroad http://www.goabroad.com have helpful information on pursuing either of these opportunities.

Disclaimer: Below is information on international internship and volunteer organizations that do NOT have any affiliation with Washington College. Program information is posted here for your personal use. Washington College cannot guarantee the level of service, safety, or reliability of any of the organizations posted below. The use of the information on this website is solely the responsibility of the user.

* BUNAC: http://www.bunac.org/usa/intemabroad
* Colaborers International: http://colaborersinternational.com
* Cross-Cultural Solutions: http://www.crossculturalsolutions.org
* Cultural Vistas: http://culturalvistas.org
* Global Volunteers: http://www.globalvolunteers.org
* Massai Children Education: http://www.maasaichildreneducation.org United Planet: <http://www.unitedplanet.org/>
* World Endeavors: http://worldendeavors.com

## Important Questions to Ask When Volunteering/Interning Abroad

There are thousands of organizations that provide internship and volunteer opportunities. If you opt to go through an organization not affiliated with Washington College, be prepared to take time to read their materials thoroughly and to ask lots of questions! The International Volunteers Program Association has a list of questions to ask when volunteering abroad (see <http://volunteerinternational.org/volunteer-stories/questions-to-ask/)>

The NAFSA Best Practices on Vetting Partners & Developing Opportunities (Work, Internship, and/or Volunteer) Abroad guide also useful questions to ask prior to enrolling with an internship or volunteer organization abroad, Useful questions from the guide include:

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| * What arrangements are necessary for the appropriate immigration paperwork? Is the employer able to provide support in this process? * What language level is required of the student intern? * What skills, qualification and/or academic background is the employer seeking in interns? What meaningful projects is the student intern able to complete? * What are the estimated costs of the internship? * What is the cost of living? * Is there a supervisor available to the intern? * What is the duration of internship? Is it fulltime internship or part-time internship? * Is company housing available? If not, can the employer arrange a home-stay or apartment? | * How are those vetted? * Has the company worked with other interns in the past? * Can you please describe the environment that the student will be working in (to make sure that it is a safe working/living environment)? * What is the location and contact details for nearest clinic/hospital? Are there emergency contact details for the employer? * What is the organizational culture like (i.e. dress code, hours of work)? |

## Visas and Work Authorizations

Many countries will allow entrance to U.S. citizen visitors for a maximum of three months. However, if you wish to earn money during this time, or plan on staying longer than three months, a visa may be necessary. You will have to research the visa and any other internship authorization required of your host country. Identifying the proper paperwork needed to work legally in another country will require time and research. If you have secured a position in a country not represented by one of the aforementioned organizations, you should contact the company that has made you an offer, as well as that nation's embassy. You will need to work with those two entities in securing the required paperwork and documentation to obtain a visa and work authorization.

Why do 1 have to PAY for an UNPAID internship?

Some students and their families ask why internships abroad are costly and are unpaid. Mark Cappelletti addresses this question in his piece 5 Important Points to Understanding Internships Abroad The following excerpt from the IIE Passport website provides some guidance here.

One of the most frequent questions asked by students is, "Why do I have to PAY for an UNPAID internship?" Mark Cappelletti addresses this question quite thoroughly in his piece 5 Important Points to Understanding Internships Abroad. Cappelletti offers some insight to assist you in processing the differences between international and domestic internships. Below is a segment on why there are fees associated with international internships.

"Paying for an Unpaid Internship: Internships abroad are not free; and because of visa restrictions, they aren't really paid either. But before you walk away altogether, I'd like to give you a sense of what you're paying for.... Barring personal connections with companies abroad, international internships are nearly impossible to find on your own. The majority of interns choose to go through agencies with international placement partners. This generally offers the best customer service and coordination, as scheduling your program with a US coordinator is much easier than going through international channels (think time zones, language barriers, etc...), The valuable services and components included with reputable programs include predeparture preparation and information, language lessons, internship coordination and search, interview assistance, on the ground support, and accommodations. Consider also that most international internship programs with language training cost considerably less than University run opportunities - just be sure to look into credit transfers ahead of time. The real compensation for the experience - emotional gratification, personal development, and differentiation in the global marketplace" (M. Cappelletti, http://www.gointernabroad.com/artiçIes-from-çhe-field/item/204-the-vaIueof-international-internships-in-global-workforce-development).

International Internships are coordinated by the Global Education Office in collaboration with the Associate Provost for Academic Initiatives & Career Development

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