How to Find & Fund an International Internship

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U-M Global Internship Opportunities
An Overview
U-M Programs to Consider

» **Center for Global & Intercultural Study** - deadline February 1
  ◇ Drop-in Advising Session: January 30 - [register here](#)

» **College of Engineering International Programs in Engineering**
  ◇ **Entrepreneurship in Copenhagen, Denmark** (open to all undergraduates!) - deadline February 8

» **International Institute**
  ◇ **WCEE Internship Initiative** - internships in Europe and Eurasia (deadline February 4 - recently extended! )
  ◇ **Japan Internship Initiative** - deadline January 31
  ◇ **Summer in South Asia** (India) - deadline February 16

» **Global Health Design Initiative** (Ghana) - priority deadline passed; final deadline is Jan 19!

» **M-Compass**
GETTING CREDIT FOR YOUR INTERNSHIP

» LSA Course - ALA 225: Undergraduate Internship Course
  ◊ 1 credit; online
  ◊ Minimum 6 weeks @ 25 hours/week
  ◊ Must secure internship before enrolling
  ◊ Must enroll before your internship begins
  ◊ Must apply for an override before enrolling and before start of internship (July 1 deadline)

» You can also get credit by taking an Independent Study course
  ◊ Talk to your academic advisor!
  ◊ If you want the credit to count towards your major/minor, talk to your major/minor advisors.
Self-Arranged vs. Placement Programs

The Two Main Methods of Arranging Internships & Service Opportunities Abroad
WHAT IS A PLACEMENT PROGRAM?

» A company that streamlines the process of providing you with an internship, for a fee.

» Submit an app -> Accepted? -> Pay fee -> Matched to an internship abroad -> Interview with employer -> Go abroad
  ◊ Example: AIFS Global Experiences

» Some placement programs are better than others!
  Things to consider:
  ◊ Cost, level of in-country support, dates, duration, housing, etc.

» Credit vs. Non-for-Credit Internship Programs
EXAMPLE PROGRAMS

Programs in Partnership with CGIS

IES ABROAD

SAGE CORPS


CEA CAPA

omprakash

Boston University

Study Abroad

The Intern Group

Creating opportunities, inspiring success
BENEFITS OF A PLACEMENT PROGRAM

» Health & Safety
   ◊ Safe housing options, safety tips, local insights, emergency contact

» Orientation
   ◊ Pre-departure and/or in-country

» In-country Resources
   ◊ Help in case the host NGO or company is not fulfilling their responsibility to you
   ◊ In-country transportation
   ◊ Sometimes: local networking events

» Academic Component
   ◊ Some placement programs offer courses that complement your internship
   ◊ Some study abroad organizations have an internship embedded into their program
BENEFITS OF A PLACEMENT PROGRAM, Continued

» Group Support
  ◇ Structured Excursions
  ◇ Network of Peers and Potential Friends

However, don’t expect these positions to be paid! Most international internships are unpaid.
HOW TO FIND A PLACEMENT PROGRAM

» **Advising** at the International Center

» Opportunities through School or College
  ◊ Example: LSA CGIS or the International Institute

» Search engines, like [goabroad.com](http://goabroad.com)
  ◊ [go overseas.com](http://go overseas.com) for reviews!

» Future - Fall 2024: International Opportunities Fair
  ◊ (Part of the Fall Job & Internship Fair)
DETERMINING A PROGRAM’S LEGITIMACY

» Things to look for and consider:
△ 24/7 contact person on the ground
△ International Health Insurance
△ Airport pick-up
△ Housing (Do they provide it? Do they give an address ahead of time?)
△ Specific information on the internship/volunteer position (i.e. the organization name, location, etc.)
△ Do they have an internet presence (i.e. social media, website, etc.)?
△ Do they have reviews online? Be careful! Some reviews can be misleading.
△ Do they have an onsite orientation?
△ Do they have local partners and local people involved in the project?
△ Ethical considerations - especially if it’s a service-oriented internship
SELF-ARRANGED INTERNSHIPS

These are opportunities students find for themselves through:

» alumni associations,
» professional networking,
» family connections,
» faculty members,
» personal contacts,
» and websites like Idealist.org, Handshake, AngelList (start-ups), GoinGlobal.
THINGS TO CONSIDER IN A SELF-ARRANGED INTERNSHIP

» Legitimacy of the potential host organization
» Health & safety
» Expenses: airfare, lodging, transportation, food, visa, organization fees, other independent expenses
» Logistical arrangements: HOUSING
» The level of independence with which you’d be comfortable
» Potential complexities involved in obtaining a visa for an internship abroad (contact the International Center with questions!)
» Large, well-known corporation vs. small company
Health & Safety

U-M Travel Registry

- Once travel plans are confirmed, enter your travel dates, locations, and contact info in the Travel Registry
- U-M will get in touch in case of a local emergency/natural disaster!

U-M Travel Abroad Health Insurance

- Only $1.62 per day, plus a $5 registration fee!
- HIGHLY COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE
- Also available for leisure travel!
A Student’s Perspective!
Internship vs. Experiential Studying

- **Name:** Val Malashevich
- **Organizations:**
  - IES Abroad Berlin: Moabit hilft e.V.
  - SFS — Turks and Caicos
  - SFS — Paro, Bhutan
- **Internship:**
  - Can combine study abroad classes with internship experience
  - Tailored internship seminar
  - Program restrictions
- **Experiential studying:**
  - Hands-on research with faculty
  - Volunteer service and community bonding
  - Qualifies for academic credit, but not necessarily work experience (but on my resume nonetheless!)
Funding for Internships Abroad
FACT

Most international internships are unpaid.
SO, HOW DO I FUND THIS?

**Merit-based funding vs. Need-based funding**

» Numerous U-M funding opportunities (**M-Compass**)!
  ◦ International Institute (several!)
  ◦ LSA Internship Scholarship (need-based)
  ◦ Mark & Myra Sorensen International Travel Scholarship
  ◦ Summer in South Asia (India)

» External Funding
  ◦ **Gilman Scholarship** (Pell Grant Recipients - Deadline: Thurs, March 7)
  ◦ **Boren Fellowship** (Graduate student funding for academic internships, research - UM application support available!)
  ◦ **Fund for Education Abroad** (Deadline: Weds, Feb 7)
  ◦ Scholarships offered through Provider Placement Programs

**Helpful U-M Websites**
- International Center
- M-Compass
- Global Michigan
- Rackham Database
International Institute Student Fellowships
Application Due February 15, 2024

Eligibility:
» U-M Ann Arbor students at all levels regardless of citizenship or major
» Recipients must return to degree program for at least one term
» Project between May 1, 2024 and May 31, 2025*
» At least 30 days outside 50 states and US territories
» Amount: Up to $5,000 (varies by award)

Details:
» https://ii.umich.edu/ii/funding/iisf.html for application components
» Upcoming Info Sessions: 1/26, 1/31, 2/8

Awards for Internships:
» Global Individual Grant (GIG)
» African Studies Center Funding for Research or Internship Support in Africa
» Center for Armenian Studies Summer Research Grants
» Weiser Center for Europe & Eurasia Summer Grants for Research and Internships in Europe & Eurasia
» Boyce Family Caribbean Studies Grant
II Center Scholarships & Fellowships

Center for Japanese Studies
» Graduate Students: CJS Summer Research/Internship Fellowships
» Undergraduate Students: CJS Undergraduate Internship Scholarship

Center for South Asian Studies
» Summer in South Asia Undergraduate Fellowship

Center for Southeast Asian Studies
» Graduate Students: Thai Studies Graduate Student Grants
» Undergraduate Students: Thai Studies Internship Scholarship

Lieberthal-Rogel Center for Chinese Studies
» Graduate Students: LRCCS Summer Research-Internship Fellowships
» Undergraduate Students: Undergraduate Internship Scholarship
TIPS FOR PUTTING A FUNDING PROPOSAL TOGETHER

» Do your **research**: Check that you meet the **eligibility requirements**
» Prepare a **proposal statement**
  ◊ Read and follow instructions: topics to address, length, formatting
  ◊ Relevance to academics and career; what do you hope to learn?
  ◊ Why you? Skills, preparation
  ◊ Writing quality matters!
» Put together a **budget**
  ◊ Airfare, housing, food, insurance, daily commuting, etc.
  ◊ Use a reasonable estimate; ask people with experience
  ◊ Stick to this budget while you’re abroad!
» Obtain a letter/email **confirming your application or acceptance to the program/internship**
» **Recommendation** from **someone who knows you well**
  ◊ Give recommender ample time to write recommendation
DON’T GIVE UP!

» Applying for funding is **not easy**. You should plan to try to apply for as much as possible, and as early as possible (and that takes a lot of work)!

» **Do your own research.** You may find a very unique opportunity that suits you, just by googling or consulting your networks.

» Apply **even if you don’t have a confirmed internship position**. Many awards have deadlines well before positions are finalized, and waiting until you have a confirmed internship may be too late.

» You may not find out about the results of funding opportunities until late in the Winter semester. Make sure you **plan accordingly.**

» Don’t be afraid to **hit submit!** You never know what you’ll get.

» Have a **backup plan** and start saving now!
IC Global Wolverines

» **Series of events** to prepare students for international internships over the summer.

» Peer Support Group Option:
  ◇ Gatherings with dinner provided
  ◇ 1/23 from 6 - 7 PM
  ◇ Work on internship/funding apps
  ◇ Chat about your travel plans
  ◇ Led by IC Graduate Peer Advisor
  ◇ **Complete this form to register!**
THANKS!

Any questions?

You can reach us at

» ic-abroad@umich.edu
» Virtual advising hours