

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 <u>register here!</u>
- » College of Engineering International Programs in Engineering
 - Entrepreneurship in Copenhagen, Denmark (open to all undergraduates!) deadline February 8
- » International Institute
 - <u>WCEE Internship Initiative</u> 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 <u>ALA 225: Undergraduate Internship Course</u>
 - ♦ 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





Top Students. Global Startups. Elite Network.



EDUCATIO | ABROAD















Boston University Study Abroad





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 <u>goabroad.com</u>
 - gooverseas.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

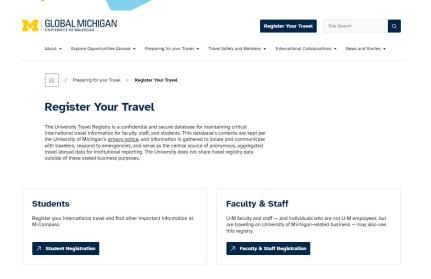
These are opportunities students find for themselves through:

- » alumni associations,
- » professional networking,
- » family connections,
- » faculty members,
- » personal contacts,
- » and websites like Idealist.org, Handshake, AngelList (start-ups), <u>GoinGlobal</u>.

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

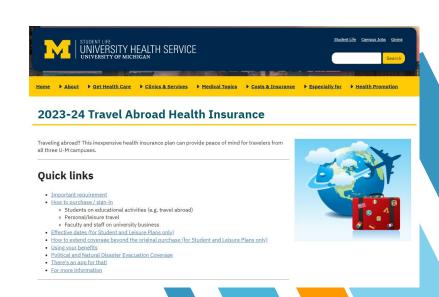


U-M Travel Registry

- 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 an 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:
 - o **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!)
- 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: <u>CJS Undergraduate Internship Scholarship</u>

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: <u>LRCCS Summer Research-Internship Fellowships</u>
- » Undergraduate Students: <u>Undergraduate Internship Scholarship</u>

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!



- » <u>Series of events</u> 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!



TEMPLATE CREDITS:

- Presentation template by SlidesCarnival
- Photographs by <u>Unsplash</u>

IHANKS!Any questions?

You can reach us at

- » <u>ic-abroad@umich.edu</u>
- » Virtual advising hours

