



How to Find & Fund an International Internship

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AGENDA



- » Introductions
 - » U-M International Internship Opportunities
 - » Self-arranged vs. Placement Programs
 - » Funding opportunities
 - » Q & A
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U-M Global Internship Opportunities

An Overview




U-M Programs to Consider for Summer

- » Center for Global & Intercultural Study - deadline February 1, 2025
 - » College of Engineering International Programs in Engineering
 - ◇ Entrepreneurship in Copenhagen, Denmark (*open to all undergraduates!*) - final application deadline - February 6, 2025
 - » International Institute
 - ◇ China Internship Initiative - internships in China - deadline February 15, 2025
 - ◇ WCEE Internship Initiative - internships in Europe and Eurasia - deadline January 31, 2025
 - ◇ Japan Internship Initiative - internships in Japan - deadline January 21, 2025
 - » 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 in the course and before you start your 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.
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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 Internships Abroad](#)
 - » 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
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EXAMPLE PROGRAMS



IAESTE



Programs in Partnership with CGIS



EDUCATION ABROAD



GLOBAL U
INTERNSHIPS



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 [goabroad.com](https://www.goabroad.com)
 - ◇ [gooverseas.com](https://www.gooverseas.com) or [studyabroad101.com](https://www.studyabroad101.com) for reviews!
 - » Future - Fall 2025: 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
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SELF-ARRANGED INTERNSHIPS

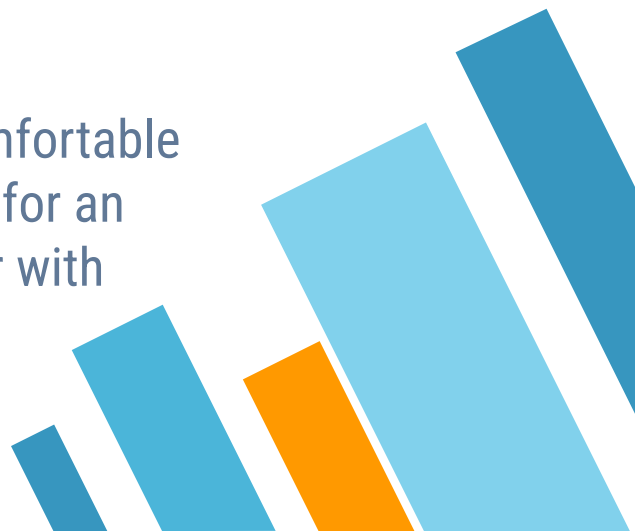
These are opportunities students find for themselves through:

- » alumni associations,
- » professional networking,
- » family connections,
- » faculty members,
- » personal contacts,
- » and websites like Idealist.org, Handshake, AngelList (start-ups), [GoinGlobal](#) and [Interstride](#)





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
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Health & Safety



Register Your Travel

Site Search



About ▾ Explore Opportunities Abroad ▾ Preparing for your Travel ▾ Travel Safety and Wellness ▾ International Collaborations ▾ News and Stories ▾



Preparing for your Travel / Register Your Travel

Register Your Travel

The University Travel Registry is a confidential and secure database for maintaining critical international travel information for faculty, staff, and students. This database's contents are kept per the University of Michigan's privacy notice, and information is gathered to locate and communicate with travelers, respond to emergencies, and serve as the central source of anonymous, aggregated travel abroad data for institutional reporting. The University does not share travel registry data outside of these stated business purposes.

Note: Per federal regulations, U-M personnel with security clearance must also report all international travel to the Facility Security Officer via ESO.Reports@umich.edu. Registering with the U-M Travel Registry does not fulfill this requirement.

Students

Register your international travel and find other important information at M-Compass.

[Student Registration](#)

Faculty & Staff

U-M faculty and staff — and individuals who are not U-M employees, but are traveling on University of Michigan-related business — may also use this registry.

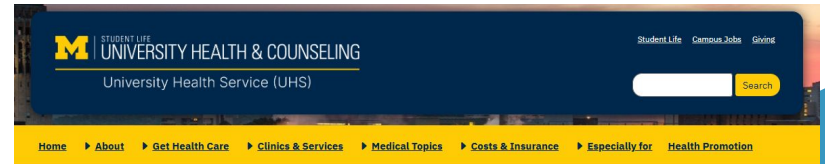
[Faculty & Staff Registration](#)

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 \$1.68 per day, plus a \$5 registration fee!
- HIGHLY COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE
- Also available for leisure travel!



2024-25 Travel Abroad Health Insurance

Traveling abroad? This inexpensive health insurance plan can provide peace of mind for travelers from all three U-M campuses.

Quick links

- [Important requirement](#)
- [How to purchase / sign-in](#)
 - Students on educational activities (e.g. travel abroad)
 - Personal/leisure travel
 - Faculty and staff on university business
- [Effective dates \(for Student and Leisure Plans only\)](#)
- [How to extend coverage beyond the original purchase \(for Student and Leisure Plans only\)](#)
- [Using your benefits](#)
- [Political and Natural Disaster Evacuation Coverage](#)
- [There's an app for that!](#)
- [For more information](#)





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)
 - ◇ Rackham Funding (several!)
 - ◇ Mark & Myra Sorensen International Travel Scholarship
 - ◇ Summer in South Asia (India) - *deadline passed for Summer 2025*
 - ◇ Inquire about funding with your U-M academic unit
- 




SO, HOW DO I FUND THIS?, continued

» External Funding Sources

- ◇ [Gilman Scholarship](#) - Pell Grant Recipients - Deadline: Thurs, March 6, 2025
 - ◇ [Boren Awards](#) - academic internships/research - UM application support available - campus deadline passed, national deadline: January 29, 2025)
 - ◇ [Boren Fellowship](#) (Graduate students)
 - ◇ [Boren Scholarship](#) (Undergraduate students)
 - ◇ [Fund for Education Abroad](#) Deadline: Weds, February 5, 2025
 - ◇ Scholarships offered through Provider Placement Programs (need- & merit-based)
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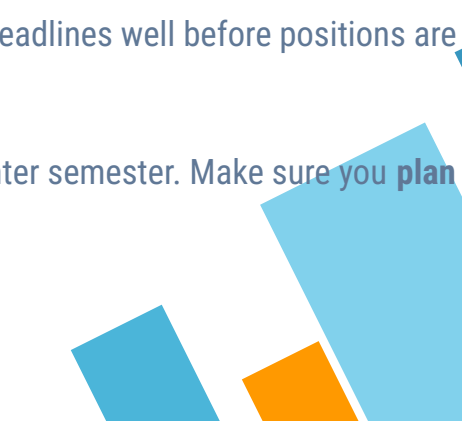


TIPS FOR PUTTING A FUNDING PROPOSAL TOGETHER

- » 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!

- » **Plan ahead.** Apply for as many funding opportunities as you are eligible for. Start early, as this can be time-consuming!
 - » **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!
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TIMELINE

- **Applying for Internships**
 - **U-M Internships:** Early deadlines starting in November/December through February
 - **External (“non-UM”) Options:** Rolling through the end of the Winter term
 - **Applying for Funding**
 - Deadlines range from February 15th through the end of the term
 - Note: Often, you apply for funding AFTER you secure an internship.
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IC Global Wolverines

- » Series of events to prepare students for international internships over the summer.
- » Upcoming events:
 - ◇ Booking International Flights on a Budget (2/5)
 - ◇ Staying Safe and Healthy While Abroad (late March)
 - ◇ Survival Language and Culture (TBD)
 - ◇ Essential Travel Logistics for Students (TBD)





Upcoming Events

INTERN IN ASIA OR EUROPE THIS SUMMER!

CHINA



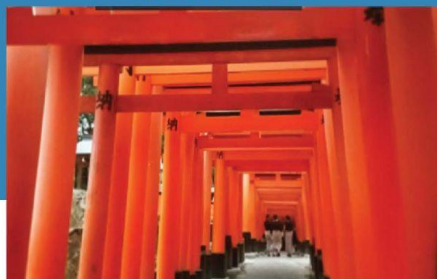
China Internship Initiative

Intern with companies in a variety of sectors, develop your language skills and in-country experience, grow your connections and network with U-M alumni in the Great China area.

Deadline: Feb 15

ii.umich.edu/lrccs | china.internships@umich.edu

JAPAN



Japan Internship Initiative

The Japan Internship Initiative connects U-M students of all majors with summer internships at companies and organizations in Japan and the Ann Arbor area.

Deadline: Jan 31

ii.umich.edu/cjs | cjs.internships@umich.edu

EUROPE



WCEE Internship Initiative

Apply to vetted opportunities sourced and supported by the Weiser Center for Europe & Eurasia (WCEE).

Internships available in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Germany, Poland, Slovakia, and more.

Deadline: Jan 31

ii.umich.edu/wcee | wcee.internship.info@umich.edu

Gain valuable work experience and develop cross-cultural connections. Open to returning LSA students. Funding available!

2025 II International Internships Info Session

Friday, January 17

4:30 - 6:00 PM

Weiser Hall, 10th Floor

Light refreshments will be provided

Scan here to RSVP

or visit myumi.ch/wyx7J



Booking International Flights on a Budget

Learn useful tips about booking flights for your international experience!



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5
4:00 - 5:00 PM
VIRTUAL



[Register Here!](#)



TEMPLATE CREDITS:

- » Presentation template by [SlidesCarnival](#)
- » Photographs by [Unsplash](#)

THANKS!

Any questions?

You can reach us at

- » ic-abroad@umich.edu
- » Virtual [advising hours](#)

