



Intern Abroad

**Do you want to intern abroad?
Here's what you should know!**

Skills Gained From International Work Experience

Interning abroad will help you develop skills that will make you more competitive in the job market as well as enrich your life:

- **Adaptability** – Employers like to hire professionals who are able to quickly adjust to workplace change and new challenges.
- **Communication Skills** – Knowing how to express yourself precisely and clearly is difficult to master in any culture or language, but mastering these skills in a foreign culture will be a huge boost to your overall communication skills.
- **Cross-Cultural Sensitivity and Interpersonal Ability** – You will have the opportunity to learn how to befriend and share with people from all over the world. Knowing what topics and conversations are appropriate in an international community is a unique and important skill that will boost your ability to network and build strong professional and personal connections.
- **Problem-Solving** – The ability to find creative solutions to problems is a crucial skill for any career, and living abroad will give you the opportunity to think creatively and solve problems every day.
- **Multicultural Awareness** – With international integration and globalization ever on the rise, understanding and respecting varied world views, customs and cultures is an increasingly important attribute. An internship abroad will help you open up your perspective on the world, making you more sensitive and attune to global issues.



Finding an Internship Abroad

Finding internships abroad can be achieved in several different ways, though it is important to note that many international internships will be unpaid:

- **Visit SPEA Student Service Offices** – Start your search in SPEA! We can connect you to multiple opportunities, including positions with the Mae Fah Luang Foundation in Bangkok, Thailand, ACCT International in Uganda, and the Seoul Metropolitan Government Internship in Seoul, South Korea. Visit the SPEA Career Development Office or the SPEA International Office to learn more.
- **Talk With Your Professors** – Sometimes professors will have contacts overseas who are looking to hire students for the summer.
- **Check Out Multi-National Corporations** – Many corporations have branches of their business overseas and hire people all around the world for temporary employment throughout the year.
- **Search International Job Forums** – Websites such as euroguidance.net, europages.com, and ec.europa.eu/eures regularly publish job listings and employment opportunities.
- **Pay to Play** – There are numerous organizations online that will happily set you up with an international internship, though they often charge you a fee. Check out globalplacement.com, gooverseas.com, transitionsabroad.com, studentsgoabroad.com, and goabroad.com. Work closely with the SPEA Career Development Office to vet these programs.
- **Talk to Your Fellow SPEA Students** – Find out which SPEA students have interned abroad in the past and where they worked. Gather specific details about how to apply for the same internship.

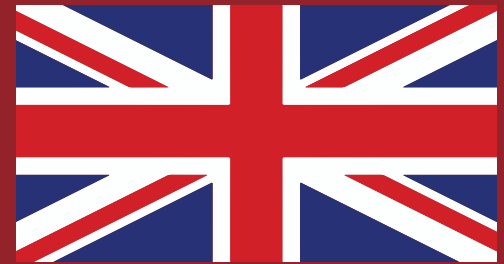
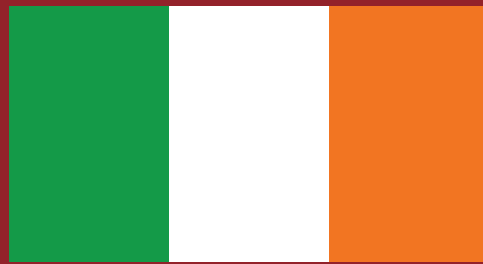
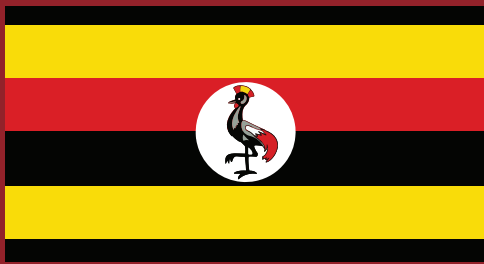
Seoul Metropolitan Government



Each summer, the SMG takes up to five SPEA students for internships in various government departments.

Quick Tip

Pair your internship abroad with a SPEA Abroad program. Over 20+ study abroad locations to choose from!



Quick Tip

Make sure you have the correct visa needed to enter and live in the country in which you will be working.

ACCT International in Uganda



Each summer, select IU students complete 8-week long internships at community based NGOs in Uganda.

Visa Requirements

Before you can start interning or possibly even arrive in your new country, you will need to have the correct visa:

- **Europe** – If you hold a U.S. passport and your internship is unpaid, you can remain in Europe for 90 days without applying for a work visa. However, if your internship is paid and/or you need to stay for more than 90 days, you will need to go through the process to obtain a work visa.
- **Australia** – U.S. passport holders can apply for the Australian Work & Holiday Visa that will allow you to spend a year working in Australia.
- **China** – U.S. passport holders must obtain a work visa in order to enter and intern in China.

Make sure to check your destination country's specific visa requirements for working there before you commit to interning abroad.

Career Development Office

Get free and valuable help from the Career Development Office (CDO):

- Interview preparation and advice on your resume and cover letter from a career advisor.
- Register your internship – If you are hoping to gain internship credit towards graduation, make sure you get it approved by the CDO before you commit to your internship.
- Visit speacareers.indiana.edu to schedule an advising appointment, find internship postings, or register your internship.

Walk-in advising is available:

- Monday-Thursday, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

The CDO is located in SPEA 200, adjacent to the Tavis Smiley Atrium.

Finding Housing Abroad

Once you've secured your internship and visa, you will need a place to live while abroad:

- **Student Housing** – If you are interning during the summer, check for available housing with a nearby university. Many schools offer housing options for students interning abroad, even if you are not a student at that particular university.
- **Utilize University Housing Resources** – If a local university does not offer student housing or if you would rather live somewhere off-campus, check out that university's online housing resources. Many university websites will include information regarding off-campus housing, neighborhoods, and other important tips.
- **Airbnb** – You can find great deals on long-term housing with Airbnb. If you are unable to find accommodations for your entire stay, you may have better luck splitting your time between Airbnb properties.
- **Go Hosteling** – If you really want to gain an in-depth, full experience of your internship's country, try hostels! They are a great way to meet people and learn about your host country. Some hostels even offer free accommodation in exchange for light chores or help around the property. The best way to arrange housing with hostels is to email them directly.

Miscellaneous Tips and Tricks

- **Combine An Internship With Study Abroad** – Earn credits towards graduation and gain valuable work experience all in one summer or semester. Stop by the SPEA International Office in SPEA 201 or check out speaabroad.indiana.edu to see how you can schedule an internship before or after a SPEA study abroad program.
- **Make Sure Your Internship is Legitimate** – Be sure to read reviews of your internship program, and note that if it looks too good to be true, it probably is.
- **Communicate With Your Bank** – Let your bank know that you will be working in a different country for an extended period of time, and set up direct deposit capabilities if applicable.
- **Have a Contingency Plan** – Have a plan for various different circumstances that might occur while abroad. Possible scenarios include running out of money, having troubles with your employer, becoming ill (travel insurance is a necessity!) and needing to extend or limit your time abroad.



SCHOOL OF
**PUBLIC AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**
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Questions?

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