

International Job Opportunities and Working Abroad:

Working abroad is a unique way to experience life in a different culture. Here are some very good reasons to consider working abroad:

- It's a great way to prepare for an international career
- You can gain an in-depth knowledge of another culture.
- You can improve your foreign language skills.
- It is an adventure!
- Working abroad can help you offset the costs of living abroad.
- Working abroad after you graduate can help "recharge" your battery before starting graduate school.
- International experience can make you more attractive to potential employers.

For adventurous students who want to immerse themselves in another culture, working abroad during the summer or for a year after graduation is an excellent option. In an increasingly global job market, international experience can work to your advantage. While the bulk of your "marketability" should be based on your skills and working knowledge, international experience provides the chance to back up your skills with proven examples of problem solving, flexibility and adaptability to new situations, independence, and awareness of cultural differences. Stepping outside of your "comfort zone" and taking a chance in another environment demonstrates your ability to accept a challenge. Employers also like candidates who are comfortable in diverse job settings, and who can deal with a cross-cultural environment.

A wide variety of international work opportunities exists around the world. If you are interested in finding overseas employment, where do you begin?

Before you go, do your research!

If you are planning to work abroad, there are many details that you will need to consider prior to departure. Preparation and careful planning will go a long way to ensure a safe and successful international work experience. The Government of Canada has a website dedicated to giving you the information you need: http://www.voyage.gc.ca/main/living/working_abroad-en.asp

“**The Complete Guide to Living and Working Overseas**” is the authoritative guide on international careers for university students and young professionals. At a whopping 1,600 pages (including CD-ROM), The Big Guide contains expert advice on gaining experience through study and internships, succeeding and adapting to overseas living, career planning, job searching, international resumes, international interviews, specific professions abroad and 3,045 carefully researched organizations offering professional jobs and international career resources. Available on-line and in print, the Fourth Edition of the Big Guide is your ticket to success and adventure.

Borrow a copy of this book from the Management Library, or check out their website at: http://www.workingoverseas.com/free_top_100_job2#p1

What is Your International IQ?

An international employers' assessment of candidates for overseas work generally has two components:

- The professional component.

- The “**international IQ**” component, which measures your level of international and intercultural awareness.

It is possible to acquire this type of cultural and international knowledge without actually working overseas. Your international IQ is made up of your awareness and ability in four areas:

- Political, economic and geographical knowledge
- Knowledge about the international aspects of your field
- Cross-cultural knowledge and skills
- Personal coping and adapting skills

Characteristics for Overseas Workers:

This list of characteristics will help you assess your suitability for overseas work and assist you in preparing to live in a foreign environment. Self-knowledge is power in today’s job market. When you understand your skills and job objectives, when you have a professional self-assessment of your cross-cultural work skills, you can be much more effective and focused in your international job search.

- **General traits:** enjoyment of change, desire for challenge, street smarts, sense of adventure, open mind, patience and curiosity
- **Adaptation and coping skills:** emotional stability and ability to deal with stress, understanding of culture shock, receptivity, flexibility, humour and self-knowledge
- **Intercultural communication skills:** tolerance, sensitivity, listening and observing skills, nonverbal communication skills and second language speaking skills.
- **Overseas work effectiveness traits and skills:** independence self-discipline, training experience, resourcefulness, versatility in work, persistence, organizational and people skills, verbal communication skills, diligence and dedication loyalty, diplomacy and tact, philosophical commitment to field of work

*Adapted from “The Big Guide to Living and Working Overseas”, 4th edition
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Just finished University and not sure what to do next?

- ❖ Want to use your skills to help others less fortunate?
- ❖ Want to travel the world but require funds to get you around?
- ❖ Want to explore your career options

Visit the Work Abroad Association(**WYSE Work Abroad**)

http://www.wyseworkabroad.org/Docs/Work_and_Travel/Work_and_Travel.php4

The following is a list of job sites featuring international job opportunities:

Canadian Foreign Service - A career in the Canadian foreign service means being part of a team that vigorously promotes Canada's international interests and objectives, and serves as a key centre of international knowledge and expertise.

http://www.international.gc.ca/about-a_propos/jobs-emplois/categories.aspx

CIDA - People choose a career in international development for different reasons: to develop a stimulating professional life; to travel; to teach and to learn; and to make a difference by contributing to change. Learn more about opportunities with CIDA at: <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cidaweb/acdicida.nsf/En/Home>

Cool Works® is about you finding a seasonal job or career in some of the greatest places on Earth. Get a summer job in Yellowstone, Yosemite, or another national park. Find a summer job as a camp counselor. Ski resorts, ranches, theme parks, tour companies and more are waiting for you.

<http://www.coolworks.com/>

CUSO – Canadian University Service Overseas - CUSO was founded in 1961 as *Canadian University Service Overseas*. Most of its early volunteers were recruited from university campuses, but by the 1970s many of the Canadians venturing abroad were professionals with a wide variety of skills and experiences. In 1981 the not-for-profit organization became known simply as *CUSO*.

http://www.cuso.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=12&Itemid=97#top

Desired-Careers.com is the online job search engine that compliments the ever changing global job market. <http://www.desired-careers.com/>

EscapeArtist.com is a website that shows you how to restart your life abroad. With thousands of articles, contacts, resources, relocation reports, products, links and tools for finding overseas real estate, international employment, hidden enclaves, artist havens, unique destinations, offshore investments, retirement havens and the requirements for living an international lifestyle. <http://www.escapeartist.com/>

Interamerican Development Bank - The IDB seeks to hire and retain bright and dedicated professionals from its 47 member countries to work at its Washington headquarters and in its 28 Country Offices in Latin America, the Caribbean, France and Japan. Its employment opportunities include junior professionals and diversity junior professionals for those with a Master's.

<http://www.iadb.org/aboutus/V/index.cfm?language=English>

Monster's international job posting website: <http://international.monster.ca/>

New Zealand and Australia job opportunities: <http://www.kiwicareers.govt.nz/>
<http://www.careerone.com.au/>

OverseasJobs.com features overseas and international job opportunities for professionals, expatriates and adventure seekers. <http://www.overseasjobs.com/>

International Accounting opportunities: www.big4careers.com is a dedicated website which handles global opportunities in the accounting profession. <http://www.big4careers.com/>

iHipo is the High Potential network dedicated to empowering international careers:

<http://www.ihipo.com/>

Long and short term work abroad:

<http://www.transitionsabroad.com/listings/work/resources/internationaljoblistings.shtml>

One Small Planet is a website featuring International opportunities broken down into five categories: International Business Jobs Overseas, Temporary (1 year or less) or Low-Skill Employment, Government Jobs and Internships.

<http://www.onesmallplanet.com/geninfo.htm>

Pan-European job site - <http://www.eurojobs.com/>

Multi award winning **Season Workers** covers all aspects of working travel and seasonal recruitment. Processing over 8000 applications each month and with over 200,000 visitors and 2 million page views per month Season Workers is certainly one of, but more probably the busiest site of its kind in the UK. <http://www.seasonworkers.com/>

SWAP offers programs for Canadians who want to go abroad to work and travel. <http://www.swap.ca/>

International **Tip Top Job** site. This is the online recruitment resource for jobseekers to search jobs and recruiters to advertise jobs & vacancies. <http://www.tiptopjob.com/>

UK and Abroad - jobs in science, research, academic & related employment: <http://www.jobs.ac.uk/>

United Nations - International opportunities at the United Nations:
<http://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/examin/exam.htm>

The World Bank Group works to reduce poverty and contribute to sustainable development more aggressively than ever before. But, to succeed, it will take the commitment of the brightest, most talented people in the world. Read more about what it means to be working at the Bank at:
<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTHRJOBS/0,,menuPK:64262360~pagePK:64262398~piPK:64262365~theSitePK:1058433,00.html>

World Vision International Job vacancies: <https://jobs.wvi.org/webjobs.nsf/webjobshome?openform>

WUSC recruits and places professionals on long term and short-term contracts for various overseas assignments, responding to the needs of its partners in developing countries in Africa, Asia and South America. http://www.wusc.ca/en/about/working_at_wusc