

## SUMMER WORK/TRAVEL

The Summer Work Travel program enables *college and university students from around the world* to share their culture and ideas with the people of the United States through temporary work and travel opportunities.



### HOW TO APPLY

The Summer Work/Travel Program is operated by U.S. Department of State-designated program sponsors. Visit a list of these [designated program sponsors](#).

### TYPES OF JOBS

There is a broad range of work opportunities for Summer Work Travel program participants. Entry level service positions in resorts, hotels, restaurants, and amusement parks are common.

### JOBS THAT ARE NOT ALLOWED

U.S. sponsors may not place you in any position in the adult entertainment industry; (2) in positions that are substantially commission-based and thus do not guarantee that you will be paid minimum wage in accordance with federal and state standards for all hours worked; (3) in sales positions that require you to purchase inventory that they must sell in order to support themselves; (4) in domestic help positions in private homes (e.g., child care, elder care, gardener, chauffeur); (5) as pedicab or rolling chair drivers or operators; (6) as operators of vehicles or vessels that carry passengers for hire and/or for which commercial drivers licenses are required; (7) in any position related to clinical care that involves patient contact; or (8) in any position that could bring notoriety or disrepute to the Exchange Visitor Program.

## J-1 VISA SUMMER WORK/TRAVEL CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

### Informational Brochure



U.S. Department of State  
Bureau of Educational and  
Cultural Affairs  
2200 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20522

[exchanges.state.gov/jexchanges](http://exchanges.state.gov/jexchanges)

[jvisas@state.gov](mailto:jvisas@state.gov)

To have a safe and successful cultural exchange program, the following information may be helpful:

### ***YOUR STAY IN THE UNITED STATES***

- Upon arrival in the United States, you must check in with your U.S. Sponsor who will ensure that your U.S. address is accurately reflected in the Student Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS). The SEVIS system shows that your visa is current, and that you are lawfully present in the United States and authorized to work. If you move while in the United States to another housing location, you should contact your sponsor so that your address can be updated in SEVIS. This is important as it ensures that you remain in valid status with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service during your stay.
- The name of your U.S. sponsor is printed on your DS-2019 form. Your U.S. sponsor is required to monitor your progress and welfare while you are in the United States. Your Sponsor has provided you with a telephone number that allows you to contact them.
- If any problems arise while you are in the United States, your Sponsor should be your first point of contact. If you are having difficulty in resolving any issue with your Sponsor, please contact the U.S. Department of State's toll free help line number: 1-866-283-9090 or send an email to: [jvisas@state.gov](mailto:jvisas@state.gov).
- If you are ever in immediate danger, dial 911 from any phone to be connected with local emergency assistance. If you are concerned that someone may be taking advantage of you at any time, please call your Sponsor for assistance.
- All employers in the United States must abide by state and federal labor laws that specify how much you must be paid, the hours that you may work and how your employer should treat you. If you have any problems at your workplace, please contact your Sponsor for assistance.
- Summer Work Travel participants are expected to have suitable living accommodations while in the United States. If you are concerned about your accommodations, please contact your Sponsor for advice.
- It is important that you have safe and reliable transportation to your job. If you have concerns about the safety of your commute, please contact your Sponsor.
- Medical insurance that is provided by or through your Sponsor has very specific rules that must be followed in order to assure payment of medical bills. Make sure you understand your insurance coverage. Notify your Sponsor immediately if you have a medical emergency or if you need assistance with your insurance.



### **PREPARATION IS THE KEY FOR A SUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCE**

Before you enter the United States, make a very specific plan for your stay. Before you leave home, you should:

- Contact your employer to ensure the job is ready for your arrival.
- Know what time you will arrive in the United States and notify the employer and your U.S. Sponsor of your arrival time.
- Ensure that you have transportation arranged from the port of entry (e.g. airport) to your destination.
- Have adequate financial resources as instructed by your U.S. Sponsor for expenses.
- Read and understand the pre-arrival material provided by the Sponsor and if you need clarification, contact the Sponsor.
- Research the internet to learn about the area in which you will be placed in the United States and what that area has to offer in the way of safe and affordable housing, transportation, medical facilities, banks, etc.

If you follow the guidelines listed above and those provided by your Sponsor, you should have a very safe and successful experience in the United States with memories to treasure for a lifetime.

If you have any questions, concerns or need help of any sort while in the United States, we encourage you to contact your Sponsor for assistance.