CONDUCTING A GLOBAL JOB SEARCH

The Wasserman Center for Career Development is dedicated to preparing NYU students and alumni for the workforce in both the U.S. and abroad. This guide serves to introduce considerations for domestic students job searching outside the U.S. and international students job searching in a country other than their home country or the U.S. We encourage you to schedule a career coaching appointment through NYU CareerNet to discuss your global job search in more detail.

GETTING STARTED

Prior to making a commitment to working abroad you need to carefully research the countries you are considering. Check the U.S. State Department’s website, www.state.gov, for the latest information on all countries including any health or safety concerns. Consider the country’s local economy, visa requirements, unemployment rate, languages, housing market and your local network in that country.

SELF-ASSESSMENT

Political and Cultural Knowledge: Do you read international publications? Can you speak articulately about social and political issues abroad? Do you have a high level of cultural sensitivity as exhibited through previous work with diverse backgrounds, language fluency or previous international travel?

Industry Knowledge: Are you familiar with international trends within the industry that you are pursuing? How will work abroad affect your career long-term in this industry? Do you know the work hours and benefits for this industry in the countries you are considering? Check out www.eurograduate.com for insights on European industry trends.

Adaptation and Coping Skills: Have you previously traveled abroad or studied away? Are you comfortable with adapting to new scenarios? Are you independent and able to problem-solve effectively? Do you speak the language?

TOPICS TO CONSIDER

Timeline: You will need time to research opportunities, apply, interview, obtain visa/work authorization and relocate. You’ll most likely want to start the process two semesters before graduation, especially for companies such as banks and consulting firms which typically tend to know their hiring needs early.

Work Authorization: You will need a work permit to be legally employed and each country has its own policy regarding work permits. Your employer may assist you in securing the work permit. Contact the country embassy or consulate to obtain additional information. Some visas require that you have a certain amount of money in savings. Current NYU students can utilize GlobalChek Plus, an immigration tool, from their NYU Home page. This service is offered by NYU Office of Global Services (OGS) and will help you understand immigration requirements by country. OGS can also answer visa questions in person at their office, www.nyu.edu/ogs

Resumes and Cover Letters: Most countries utilize a Curriculum Vitae (CV), which is different from most U.S. resumes. CVs tend to be longer and include information about all experiences and skills. Review sample CV, resume and cover letter expectations in the countries you are considering and format your documents accordingly. You may need to add additional demographic information and/or a professional photo. Always highlight your language skills, your study away experiences, service trips abroad and any research projects on global topics.

Interviewing: To prepare, research the company, position and region where you would be working. Your first interview may be by phone or virtual. Legal interview questions vary by country, for example, you may be asked about marital status or age in other countries. For in-person interviews know the proper way to greet your interviewer, utilize www.culturecrossing.net for basic cultural norms and business practices and www.sinojobs.com for resources specific to China. Understand their education system so that you can speak to how your GPA and degree compare. Explain why you want to move abroad, how you plan to handle relocation and ask about relocation assistance. Attend an NYU Wasserman Center seminar such as “Telling Your Global Story” to help you prepare.
Sample of Traditional Global Career Paths

- Working for the U.S. Government as a Foreign Service Officer: www.state.gov and www.afsa.org
- Journalism as a Foreign Correspondent
- Teaching, especially English teacher: www.teachabroad.com
- Global companies, consider working for a domestic company that sponsors multinational transfers for its employees

Sample of Alternative Global Career Path Opportunities

Volunteer

- Peace Corps: Immerse in an international community while participating in service: www.peacecorps.gov
- GoAbroad: www.volunteerabroad.com
- Global Volunteers: www.globalvolunteers.org

Fellowship or Grant

- Fulbright Scholarship: Offers grants for educational international exchange: www.us.fulbrightonline.org
- Marshall Scholarship: Funds U.S. students in grad studies in the UK: www.marshallscholarship.org

Language Training Programs: Offers an intensive opportunity to learn a host country’s language while abroad

Global Networking

Professional Conferences overseas provide a space to network within your industry and make global connections, search for the international association equivalents to the professional organizations you are involved in

Department Study Tours offered for current NYU students are often associated with a research department

NYU Alumni Clubs and LinkedIn Groups exist in various countries including France, Greece, Italy, Russia, Spain, China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Australia, Mexico, Brazil, Chile and Nigeria

Employer Presentations by global companies can be found on your NYU CareerNet homepage

NYU Wasserman Center Global Virtual Career Fair: Internship and job opportunities in the U.S. and abroad

Global Job Search Resources

GoinGlobal: Current NYU students can utilize this tool from their NYU CareerNet homepage. GoinGlobal offers country-specific career and employment information including resume writing guidelines and examples by country, employment trends, salary ranges, networking groups and cultural/interviewing advice. Global job openings, internship listings and corporate profiles are also included.


Your Network: Conduct informational interviews with anyone in your network including NYU faculty, family, friends, classmates and NYU alumni who have worked abroad.

Additional Resources:

- Consular and Foreign Ministry websites
- Expatriate information: www.expatinfodesk.com
- Passport to Trade: www.businessculture.org
- Overseas Jobs: www.overseasjobs.com