

PRIVATE & THIRD PARTY AGENCIES

International Internships

POINTS TO CONSIDER

Some students choose to work with a private organization to help them locate an international internship. If this is the path you choose to follow, consider the following questions and conduct extensive research on the companies. Also of note, credit is not usually awarded when students intern through private agencies or other schools.

1

About the Agency

- When and why did the agency begin?
- How did it choose the countries where they have their programs?
- Are any of the countries on a US Watch List?
- Is security needed and if so, what is the level of security is offered?
- Is the organization affiliated with a University – either in the US or abroad?
 - If yes, are the schools accredited?
- Is the organization US based? If not, what resources are in the US?
- Are there satellite offices or partners in the country where interning?
- Can you talk to any students who used their program in the past?
 - Are any from UConn?
- What are the fees and how are they applied?
 - Are any fees refundable?
 - Are scholarships or financial aid offered?

2

Student Support

- In what ways does the organization assist with international rules and paperwork procedures?
- Where do the students live and how does the organization assist with housing and/or other basic amenities? What are the living arrangements like?
- What is the level of support – both in the application process and after arrival in the country?
- How quickly is the agency replying to messages - phone and email?
- Does the agency arrange for travel? Meet you in the destination to help you acclimate?
- What type of orientation is offered in the country of choice?
- What is the agency's role with your acquiring an internship?
 - More questions related to the internship on the next page

3

Student Perspective

- Will you be interning and taking courses or just interning?
- Have students from UConn used their services? Ask if can get participant references?
- Have there been unhappy or dissatisfied students/participants? What happened?
- Parent inclusion - does the organization welcome you having your parents contact them?
- Did you arrange for Abroad Insurance-does the agency provide it? UConn has certain requirements.

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4

The Internship - Preparing

- Be very clear about your reasons for wanting to intern in another country.
- Research the culture, customs, language, and the company so know how to properly apply and if selected, talk to co-workers and supervisors.
- How does the student locate the internship?
 - Does the student apply directly to the site or does the agency facilitate the process?
 - Does the agency place students in an internship?
 - How does the agency choose which intern sites it has an affiliation? How do they vet the internship site to ensure legitimacy and quality?
- When was the last time your organization conducted a site visit?
- Is there an interview process and if so, who conducts it?
- When do you find out where you will be working?
- Who selects the intern – the employer or the agency?
- How will the staff mentor and supervise you and your work?
- What type of work will you be doing?

5

The Internship - Ongoing

- Did the internship site ask you what you want to do and your goals for working there?
- What type of orientation is offered?
- What is the support level with the agency after the internship starts?
- How do you stay in touch with the agency once the internship is underway?
- Should you get hurt, how are you going to be protected?
- Is there an agency representative located near the internship site?

Additional Resources

Career Center Internship Page	https://career.uconn.edu/internships-and-coops/
UConn Education Abroad	https://abroad.uconn.edu/
Travel Jobs Guide	https://www.youmutravel.com/international-jobs/
GoinGlobal	https://career.uconn.edu/resources/find-jobs-and-internships-abroad/