



# Northeastern University

## University Career Services

### Finding a job or internship overseas

#### *Job Search Resources*

##### **Husky Career Link**

[www.northeastern.edu/careerservices](http://www.northeastern.edu/careerservices)

Going Global: Scroll down to the bottom of the page once you have logged into Husky and click on the banner for 'Going Global', featuring country information, listings of local job search websites and international job listings.

Husky database: search the Husky jobs database by ticking the 'international jobs only' box at the bottom of the 'jobs and internships' search page.

##### **Prospects**

[www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk)

Go to the 'working abroad' section on the Jobs and 'Work Experience' tab for information on 50 countries. For international job vacancies go to the 'international students' tab.

##### **Staffing agencies for international jobs:**

[www.globalcareercompany.com](http://www.globalcareercompany.com)

<http://www.iscworld.com>

##### ***Advice for returning international students***

1) Use online social and business networking sites to maintain a network of contacts at home while you are still in the USA. Surveys of returning students often show that their salary and starting level expectations are too high, so do your research and manage your expectations. Your network can keep you informed about changes in your industry of interest, developments in companies, where jobs are being advertised and typical salaries and starting levels. For websites commonly used in your country do a search on Wikipedia for 'social networking sites'.

2) Use your vacations to try and get an internship or work experience at home. This will be valuable on your resume and will expand your contact network. Students returning home to work often get a job via a referral or hearing about a vacancy from a contact (in some countries such as China this is almost the only way to get a job), so it is worth taking every opportunity to make more contacts in your country.

3) If English isn't your first language, get as proficient in English as possible while in the USA, as employers expect a particularly high level of English from US educated graduates. One way to do this is through being involved in [societies](#) or volunteering at Northeastern. See our [handout](#) for information on language improvement programs.

4) The value of your Northeastern undergraduate or masters degree may well not be recognized by employers at home. They might not be aware of the ranking of Northeastern or the opportunities it offers. Make sure that on your resume you include the Northeastern ranking and outline your classes, explain your academic projects (coursework or group assignments), detail your coops and explain experiences they might not understand, such as dialogues of civilization or service learning.

5) Get in touch with alumni from Northeastern to give you job hunting tips and advice on how to market your overseas degree and skills back home as a US educated student. Join the Northeastern alumni linkedin group to find alumni, use an 'advanced people search' to identify alumni in your particular country and desired career area and send them an email to find out information on job search at home.

6) During your time at Northeastern you will probably have adapted to American cultural practices. When you go home, you will need to re-adapt. Bear this in mind when networking or going for interviews: make sure that to take the approach suitable for your country!

### ***Advice for US students working in a foreign country***

Working overseas isn't just about finding a job in another country. It is also preparing for the cultural adjustment and the logistical challenges of setting up a life overseas. Here are 4 recommendations

1) Take with you a few things that you just can't do without, such as particular food or cosmetic items that you rely on – if you can't get them in the new country it is these little things that make you miss home. You can also set up a skype account for free video calls home!

2) Consider what you are going to do about a cell and bank account: do you want to upgrade your cell contract here so that you can make cheap calls back to the US or will you buy a new phone once you are abroad? What will you be charged if you use your US bank card abroad? Is it cheaper to set up an account overseas? For both phones and banks a bit of investigation pays off – literally!

3) When you arrive overseas you will be taking in a lot of new information, so get familiar with some of it before you go to make the adjustment process easier: learn the different company divisions, the names and job titles of your future working colleagues from linkedin or a company list; do a google search for 'working culture' of the country. Once you are overseas be pro-active to get to know local people. Join local clubs of things you are interested in and spend time outside of work with your work colleagues. You will only get as much out as you put in!

4) Be open to new ways of doing things. Every country and every workplace has a reason for doing things the way it does and so be willing to absorb new practices and ask questions to find out why things work like they do. The more flexible and adaptable you can be, the more you will learn from your new environment. It can be fun to keep a journal and jot down new things as you encounter them, as before long you start to get used to them and forget they were ever surprising!