



## Gap Year *explore, travel, volunteer, develop new skills*

A Gap Year is the time after you graduate, before you start a traditional job or graduate school program. It can be a time to explore potential careers, build new skills, have a travel experience, do meaningful volunteer work or have an adventure! Ideally, your Gap Year experience should somehow relate to the next step in your life's goals.

Use your mouse to slide over the bolded name and press on CTRL and click for more information about that program!

### General Resources

- **Idealist**  
Idealist connects people, organizations, and resources (excellent resource for opportunities in not-for-profit sector)
- **Go Abroad**  
A resource for volunteer, study, work abroad programs.
- **Rhode Island Community Jobs Listserv**  
Rhode Island Community Jobs (RICOMJOB) is a public e-mail announcement list that seeks to connect non-profit and public interest employers in the state with individuals seeking work that makes a difference in our communities.
- **The Gap Year Association**  
gapyear.com is a social network and travel advice website.

### Service Opportunities (in the U.S.)

- **AmeriCorps State and National**  
Each year, AmeriCorps offers 75,000 opportunities for adults of all ages and backgrounds to serve through a network of partnerships with local and national nonprofit groups.
- **AmeriCorps VISTA**  
AmeriCorps VISTA is the national service program designed specifically to fight poverty. VISTA members commit to serve full-time for a year at a nonprofit organization or local government agency, working to fight illiteracy, improve health services, create businesses, strengthen community groups, and much more.
- **City Year**  
City Year is wholly focused on fighting the national dropout crisis in U.S. schools. All corps members must have the ability to work on a team, be a leader, develop leadership skills and be ready to commit 10 months to full-time service.
- **Public Allies**  
Public Allies identifies talented young adults who have a passion to make a difference and helps them turn that passion into a career. A 10-month-long AmeriCorps program offering **a full-time paid apprenticeship at a nonprofit organization.**
- **The Student Conservation Association**  
The Student Conservation Association (SCA) is America's conservation corps. Members protect and restore national parks, marine sanctuaries, cultural landmarks and community green spaces in all 50 states.
- **Youth Service America**  
YSA improves communities by increasing the number and the diversity of young people serving in substantive roles. Offer large scale campaigns such as Global Youth Service Day, Semester of Service and Service Vote.

### Service Opportunities (international)

- **Peace Corps**  
Two year commitment working in emerging and essential areas such as information technology, business development, and contributing to the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.
- **Global Service Corps**  
Global Service Corps (GSC) offers short-term overseas volunteer programs and international internships in Thailand, Cambodia and Tanzania. Global Service Corps is a fiscally-sponsored project of Earth Island Institute.
- **Global Health Corps**  
A training program to enhance the professional preparation of students in the area of cross-cultural community health.

### **Service Opportunities (faith-based)**

- **Avodah: Jewish Service Corps**  
Participants live out and deepen their commitments to social change and Jewish life through a year of full-time work at anti-poverty organizations in Chicago, New Orleans, New York, and Washington, DC.
- **Lutheran Volunteer Corps**  
Lutheran Volunteer Corps (LVC) is a one-year national volunteer service program. It is for people who want to explore their spirituality while working for social justice, living in intentional community with other volunteers, and practicing sustainability in all aspects of their lives.
- **Catholic Network of Volunteer Service**  
Catholic Volunteer Network is a national membership organization of Christian volunteer and mission programs that fosters and promotes full-time national and international service opportunities for people of all backgrounds, ages and skills.
- **Jesuit Volunteer Corps**  
Jesuit Volunteer Corps supports organizations that provide direct service to people who are poor and marginalized by placing volunteers at schools, non-profits, and other sites around the world.
- **Vincentian Service Corps**  
The Vincentian Service Corps West is a faith-based volunteer program inspired by St. Vincent de Paul. One year of service in impoverished areas of Los Angeles and San Francisco. Work with marginalized people in society, live simply with fellow volunteers and integrate faith into living and serving.
- **Education Services International**  
TeachOverseas is a unique interdenominational ministry which trains and sends hundreds of Christians to teach English, Business and other subjects in: China, Czech Republic, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, North Africa, Russia, Slovakia and Vietnam.

### **Volunteer Overseas (alternatives to the Peace Corps)**

- **Amigos de las Americas**  
Amigos de las Américas (AMIGOS) is an international, non-profit organization that empowers high school and college students to develop leadership skills and increase multi-cultural understanding through training and community service in Latin America.
- **Amizade Global Service Learning**  
Nearly 6,000 individuals have served with local community leaders in 11 countries on 4 continents with 13 partnerships. From working with women and girls on rainwater harvesting initiatives in rural Tanzania to running at-risk youth camps in Jamaica, Amizade volunteers have transformed and been transformed.
- **Cross-Cultural Solutions**  
Cross-Cultural Solutions is a nonprofit working to address critical global issues by providing meaningful volunteer service to communities abroad, and contributing responsibly to local economies. Offer short and long term volunteer and internship opportunities.
- **Global Volunteer Network**  
Connect volunteers with 21 partner organizations throughout South America, Africa, and Asia. Opportunities include volunteer programs, training programs, and fundraising treks.
- **Projects Abroad**

Create local employment. Volunteers learn from their chosen projects and the people they meet -- and vice versa. Mutual learning and respect is what cultural exchange is all about.

- **United Planet**

Volunteer for one week, or for a whole year -- or anywhere in between. Choose any one of 40 countries. Choose the project of your choice -- from teaching to environmental conservation to women's empowerment -- and more!

## Teaching Opportunities

- **Teach For America**

A competitive, national, paid teaching program for college graduates who commit two years to teach in urban and rural schools.

- **Match Corps**

The Match Schools operate a growing portfolio of high-performing and innovative urban charter schools, widely recognized for their success in preparing low-income students for success in four-year colleges. Seeking to train the best rookie teachers in the country, Match fellows participate in an 11 month residential fellowship teaching program.

## Post-graduate Internships

- **Green Corps**

Trainees gain hands-on experience running field campaigns to win environmental protections and public health initiatives. Throughout the year, each trainee receives specific individualized feedback on all aspects of his or her work, as well as local mentorship from environmental organizers throughout the nation. At the end of the training, the Green Corps program facilitates trainees' placement in permanent positions with leading environmental and social change groups.

- **The Washington Center**

Recent graduates and those going to graduate school are welcome to build careers in D.C. through an internship with TWC that can open doors. Hone your interests, decide on your career direction and refine the skills and experience you'll need to achieve your goals. Opportunities for internships as a student are also available.

- **The White House Internship**

The White House Internship Program provides a unique opportunity to gain valuable professional experience and build leadership skills. This hands-on program is designed to mentor and cultivate today's young leaders, strengthen their understanding of the Executive Office and prepare them for future public service opportunities.

## International Jobs

*These organizations assist in finding short-term work abroad (for a fee)*

- **BUNAC**

BUNAC offers a range of exciting work abroad and volunteer abroad programmes. Popular gap year destinations include: USA, Canada, New Zealand, Nepal, Chile, Australia, Britain, China, South Africa and many more.

- **Council on International Exchange**

CIEE is a non-profit, non-governmental international exchange organization. For U.S. students, CIEE offers programs including study abroad and teach abroad.

- **Mountbatten Institute**

Offers 2 programs: 1. Postgraduate Certificate in International Business Practice (PGC) combined with work placements in London or New York. 2. MBA in International Business Practice combined with work placements in London or New York and followed by Asia Pacific field study based in Bangkok, Thailand.

- **Development Jobs**

The DEVEX list is an Internet service that announces thousands of international development jobs. It is a new Internet resource that can link both employers and employees. It currently charges no fees

to job-seekers. DEVJOBS is also an informal network of development professionals; currently, we are reaching more than 82,000 people worldwide.

## **Odd/Adventure Jobs**

- **Back Door Jobs**  
Connecting short-term job adventurers to unique opportunities
- **Cool Works**  
Posts job opportunities in places like national parks, various resorts, ranches, camps, ski resorts, and jobs on the water.
- **Looking For Adventure**  
A resource and a favorite among internet surfers, adventure enthusiasts and information seekers.