Finding Employment for International Students

Anne Scammon
Managing Director, Curricular & Strategic Initiatives
Center for Career Services
Welcome

- Employment
  - On Campus Employment
  - Off Campus: Internships/CPT/Post-graduation
- Regulations
- Top 10 Tips: International Student Job Search*
- What are your goals for employment?
Center for Career Services (CCS)

- CCS supports international student career and employment goals through programs and services:
  - Identify career interests
  - Build job search skills
  - Create a strategic job search plan
  - Target employers

- CCS works with international students seeking home country opportunities as well as part-time jobs, internships, and CPT/OPT and full-time jobs, in the U.S. within the limits of U.S. immigration regulations, in conjunction with ISO.
Working at GW (On Campus)

• **5,600 = #** of GW students hired to work yearly

• **Why international students?**
  – Build relationship
  – Practice English in the workplace
  – Observe and understand professional behaviors

• **Why important?**
  – Demonstrate your potential for post-graduation employment based on your U.S. work experience
  – Shows your knowledge and ability to succeed in a competitive U.S. marketplace.
Benefits of Working On Campus

- Communication Skills (English Language)
- U.S. Workplace Performance Standards
- Explore Career Options
- Identify Contacts for Future Networking

$
Find a Job On-Campus

• **GWork**: GW online job listing service
  – Login information: Via email gworkhelp@gwu.edu
  – Go to: Search by options: “GW On Campus, Not FWS”

• **Contact GW departments inquire about jobs**
  – Check GWork to identify jobs of interest.
  – Why do you want the job? Identify in advance*
  – What skills do you have to offer the employer? Tell them!!*

• **Follow up with department about application***

---

go.gwu.edu/careerservices
Regulations for International Students: Working on Campus

• F1 Visa students may work on campus no more than **20 hours weekly** while classes are in session; **40 hours weekly** during official class breaks.
  – Notify ISO advisor; obtain a Social Security # (SSN)
• Show original documents to **complete I-9 process** in the Center for Career Services
  – Passport, I-20, I-94, Visa
Regulations for International Students: Work Off Campus

• F-1 International Students
  – #2. Read ISO instructions carefully: each school has unique academic qualification process
    • Enroll in curricular course, obtain letter of enrollment, request faculty letter, apply for Co-op, employer job offer
  – #3. Apply for Curricular Practical Training (CPT) through International Services Office (ISO)
Eligibility for International Students to Work Off Campus

- Two semesters as a full time student.
- Enrolled full-time at GW (12 hours undergraduate)
- 2.5 GPA for undergraduates
- Students obtain experiences that are directly related to his/her academic studies
  - May or may not be paid
  - Must occur for minimum of 10 weeks or 100 hours between the first and last day of semester’s classes.
- Student must submit academic qualifications to apply
TOP 10 JOB SEARCH TIPS for International Students
1. Visit your career center
2. Practice English daily with native speakers
3. Engage in GW student life
4. Initiate career networking and employer research
5. Gain experience in the U.S. workplace
6. Determine your short/long term career and job search goals
7. Brand and market yourself to targeted potential employers
8. Identify employers who hire international students and seek your skills
9. Understand the requirements of your visa
10. Build relationships with others

It's all about relationships
International Student Career Ambassadors

**Drop-in Hours:**
- Monday: 10:00am - 8:00pm
- Tuesday: 10:00am-1:00pm; 2:00pm-8:00pm (no drop-in hours between 1:00-2:00pm)
- Wednesday: 10:00am-8:00pm
- Thursday: 10:00am-8:00pm
- Friday: 10:00am - 4:00pm

**ISCA:**
Here to help you with peer-to-peer career advising, including resume and cover letter critiques.

**Science and Engineering Hall (22nd & H St. entrance)**
Resource Rooms #1230 and #1240

go.gwu.edu/careerservices
Career Coaches

Work with students:
• career development
• employment advising
• internship preparation
• interview skills
• document preparation

Drop-In Hours:
Marvin Center 5th Floor
Resource Room
( Monday-Friday 11:00am-2:00pm)

Schedule An Appointment:
Use GWork
Questions?

• Colonial Crossroads, Marvin Center 505
• careerservices.gwu.edu
• gwcareercenter@gwu.edu
• 202.994.6495

Connect & Engage with the GW Center for Career Services

[Social media icons]
Thank You!