

# INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**AmeriSpan** – Various opportunities in over 30 countries. Minimum of four weeks. <http://www.amerispan.com/>

**Amigos de las Americas** – Costa Rica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Peru and Paraguay. 5-8 weeks during the summer. <http://www.amigoslink.org/>

**Cross-Cultural Solutions** -12 countries, flexible dates, 1-12 weeks in length. <http://www.crossculturalsolutions.org/>

**Cultural Embrace** - Locations in Africa, India, Latin America, China, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam. Short and long-term opportunities available. <http://www.culturalembrace.com/>

**Earthwatch** - Assist with environmental field studies worldwide. Most projects are approximately two weeks long. <http://www.earthwatch.org/>

**Experiential Learning International** – Volunteer opportunities in the developing world. South & Central America, Asia and Africa. Volunteer opportunities between 2 and 12 weeks. <http://www.eliabroad.org/index.php/volunteer>

**Foundation for Sustainable Development** - Gain practical experience in international development. <http://www.fsdinternational.org/>

**Global Volunteers** – Various opportunities worldwide. Generally one to three weeks long. <http://www.globalvolunteers.org/>

**Global Citizens Network** – International and domestic, short-term intercultural opportunities with set start dates, community immersion. <http://www.globalcitizens.org/>

**Habitat for Humanity International** – Volunteer for a Global Village Program and assist in building homes in another culture. <http://www.habitat.org/>

**Kaya Responsible Travel** – A silver medal winner of “The Best Volunteering Organisation 2013” awarded by the British Youth Travel Awards. Volunteer with Kaya Responsible Travel in a non-traditional destination, including 26 countries across Asia, Africa and Latin America. <http://www.kayavolunteer.com>.

**InterExchange** – Opportunities in Australia, Argentina, Costa Rica, India, Ecuador, Ghana and Peru. Placements range in length from four weeks to eight months depending on location. <http://www.workingabroad.org/>

**ISA** – International Studies Abroad. Opportunities to volunteer from 6-16 weeks in Costa Rica, Mexico, Argentina, Dominican Republic, Chile or Peru. <http://studiesabroad.com/programs/byDuration/elap>

**Intrax** – Gain practical experience in social development internships in Belize, Ghana or Peru. Projects range from 1 to 18+ weeks. <https://www.globalinternships.com/us/social-development-internships>

**United Planet** – Offering short (1-12 week) and long term (6-12 month) opportunities to volunteer in more than 40 countries. <http://www.unitedplanet.org/>

**Volunteers for Peace** – An international volunteering organization that specializes in 2-3 week placements in over 100 countries. <http://www.vfp.org>

**World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms** – (WWOOF) A unique opportunity for students interested in organic agriculture. WWOOF is a world-wide network of organic farms that welcome workers during various seasons to assist on their farms in exchange for room and board. <http://www.wwoof.net/>

**OEA does not validate or endorse any of the above listings. Please read the quick guide on the back for further information.**

# QUICK GUIDE TO VOLUNTEERING ABROAD

Many students choose to spend time abroad doing volunteer work. This handout presents a list of some of the most well-known organizations offering volunteer opportunities as well as some resources for volunteer program searches. It is worth remembering that while many websites list volunteer opportunities abroad, a listing on a website does not guarantee quality or legitimacy. Some sites are based on pay-for-listing systems and have little oversight of the organizations included. When you search for programs it is important that you do a full evaluation of all the programs you are considering. For more information of how to choose a volunteer program abroad, watch the video series produced by [learningservice.info](http://learningservice.info) at <http://learningservice.info/videocontest/portfolio/video-1-2/>.

## **Dates, Length and Types of Programs**

It is possible to volunteer anywhere from two weeks to one year. Some organizations have set start dates and durations, while others allow you to choose your own dates and set the length of your program. Typical volunteer areas include education, community development, public health, social justice, construction and environmental conservation.

## **Housing and Meals**

Housing varies with the volunteer organization. Normally, students are either placed with local families in typical local housing or stay with other volunteers in facilities owned by the volunteer organization. In most cases, at least some meals are provided by either the program or a host family. Students should be sure to investigate what their specific program provides and how many meals (if any) they are responsible for.

## **Costs and Fees**

Most organizations charge a fee for volunteering even though participants are providing a service to the community. Program fees vary greatly depending on the program length, location and the services provided by their organization. Fees normally go toward housing, meals, on-site support, supplies for their project and administrative costs. Personal expenses, airfare, passport fees and the cost of some meals are normally extra. When researching volunteer opportunities, be sure to investigate which costs are covered by the organization and which are your own responsibility.

## **Applying**

Students should select and apply directly to the program of their choosing. Please inform us of your chosen destination by filling out a Form Packet available in the Office of Education Abroad. The OEA can also offer guidance on obtaining international health insurance, purchasing flights, applying for a visa and researching destinations.

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### **OFFICE OF EDUCATION ABROAD**

Walter International Education Center  
Athens, Ohio 45701  
<http://www.ohio.edu/educationabroad>

### **WALK-IN ADVISING**

Monday-Friday: 1-4 PM  
*No Appointment Necessary!*



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