



The Ultimate Career Development Guide for CEA Alumni

This guide is designed to help you reflect on your time abroad and use a more focused approach when applying for internships, jobs, and other opportunities abroad in the future.

Let's Reflect!

We recommend you start with The Study Abroad Re-entry Toolkit first.

- ▶ How have you changed since you've been abroad?
- ▶ What was the biggest challenge you faced and how did you overcome it?
- ▶ What are your current values?
- ▶ What are your strengths?
- ▶ Where would you be in a year from now, ideally?
- ▶ How far are you willing to move for the ideal job?
- ▶ Who do you admire? What can you learn from their journey?

SKILLS LEARNED ABROAD

CRITICAL THINKING

ORAL & WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

INTERCULTURAL FLUENCY/
COMMUNICATION

FLEXIBILITY/ADAPTABILITY

RESILIENCE

TEAMWORK

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

LEADERSHIP

WORK ETHIC

Updating Your Résumé

Add your Study Abroad to the Education section. Add applicable coursework for the position you're applying for. Did you do an internship? List it in the professional experience section.

EXAMPLE

Study Abroad, CEA Barcelona, Spain (Jan. 2017 - June 2017)

Applicable coursework: International Business & Intermediate Spanish Language

- ▶ Demonstrated willingness to take risks through enrollment in Spanish curriculum and living with host family
- ▶ Completed research project on cross-cultural management

Using the STAR Technique

To give a great interview, prepare for it the way you would prepare for a test or a presentation: educate yourself, have a plan, and practice. The STAR technique helps you structure your interview answers to convey the information employers want most. If you practice using STAR to answer different hypothetical questions prior to your interview, you're sure to leave an excellent impression!

STAR works best for answering questions that begin with "Tell me about a time when...." or "Share an example of a project you completed...."

- ▶ **Be specific** with every story you tell to answer interview questions. Use people's names and quantify your success with numbers when possible.
- ▶ **Be concise**, communicating all of the important details about your achievement in the minimum amount of time.
- ▶ **Be the intern your host organization needs.** Tie your STAR example back to the position you're applying for, showing the interviewer how you can help the company.

Using the STAR technique, create a bank of stories you can tap into to answer interview questions, making sure your stories demonstrate you possess the skills the organization desires.

HOW IT WORKS

SITUATION – Set up your story with the problem you faced.

TASK – Explain what you were responsible for in the situation.

ACTIVITY – What did you do in response to the problem?

RESULT – Describe the problem's resolution, with an emphasis on what you personally achieved or learned.



EXAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- ▶ Tell me about a time when you showed initiative
- ▶ Give me an example of a time when you dealt with a stressful situation
- ▶ Tell me about a time that you had to organize and plan for a major project
- ▶ When was a time you showed flexibility?
- ▶ Tell me about a time when you worked with a difficult person
- ▶ Why do you want this job?
- ▶ What was your time abroad like?
- ▶ What can you bring to this position?
- ▶ How are your language skills?

International Jobs & Gap Year Options

Teaching Abroad

Many of the gap year experiences listed here are popular with CEA alumni.

- ▶ [Cultural Ambassadors; North American Language and Culture Assistants in Spain](#)
- ▶ [Foreign Language Assistants in France](#)
- ▶ [The Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme](#)
- ▶ [National Volunteer Center](#)
- ▶ [Fulbright Student Program](#)
- ▶ [Peace Corps](#)
- ▶ [Go Overseas Au Pair](#): Search engine and reviews for au pair positions worldwide.
- ▶ [Australian Working Holiday Visa](#)
- ▶ Global Health Grants

Study Abroad Work

- ▶ [NAFSA Job Board](#)
- ▶ [Rustic Pathways](#)
- ▶ Concordia Language Camps
- ▶ Middlebury Language Camp

WORK ABROAD RESOURCES

[All Cruise Jobs](#): Search engine and reviews for cruise ship employment.

[GoAbroad.com](#): Search engine for jobs worldwide.

[Goin Global](#): Provides global career information and resources.

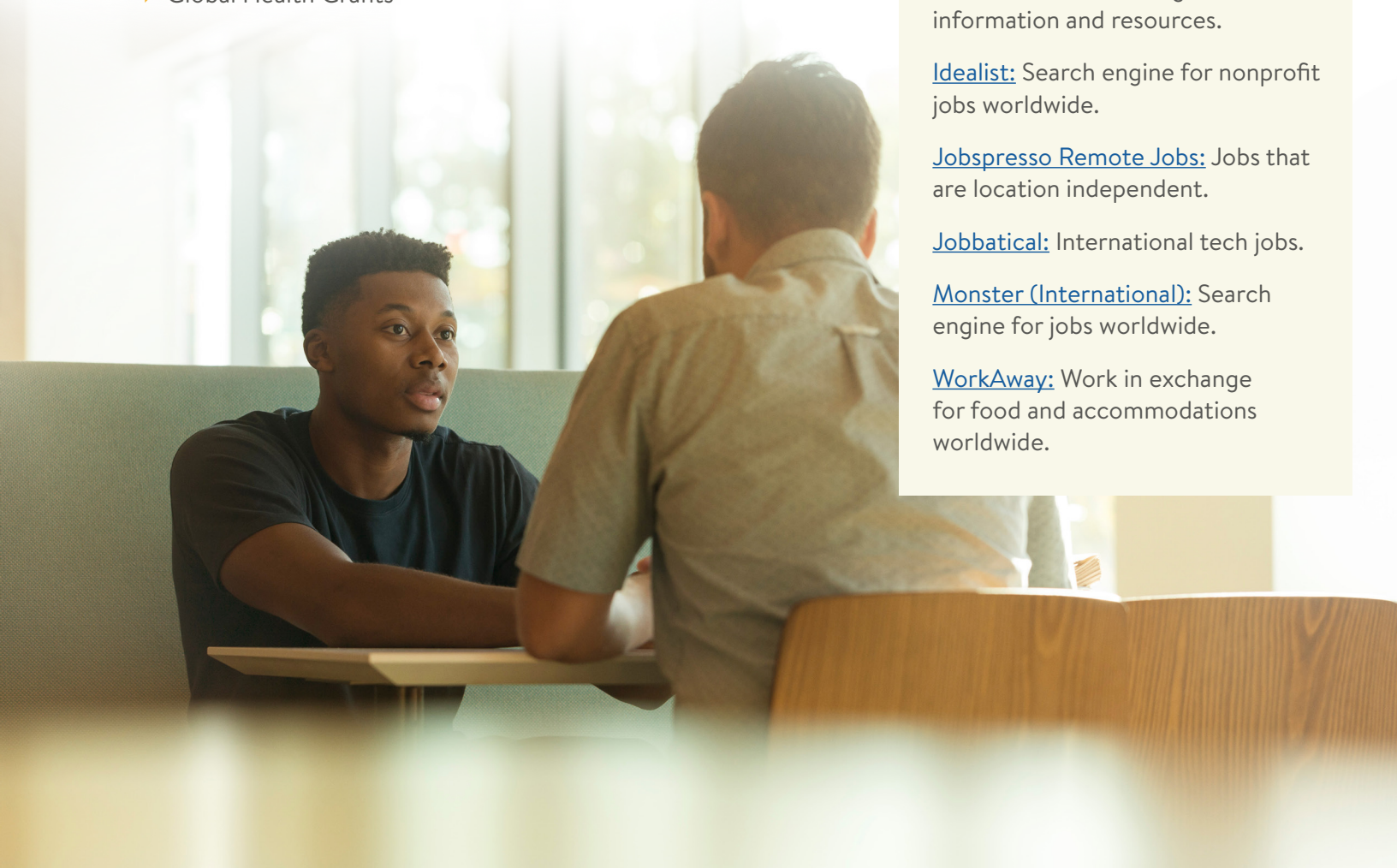
[Idealist](#): Search engine for nonprofit jobs worldwide.

[Jobspresso Remote Jobs](#): Jobs that are location independent.

[Jobbatical](#): International tech jobs.

[Monster \(International\)](#): Search engine for jobs worldwide.

[WorkAway](#): Work in exchange for food and accommodations worldwide.



Graduate School

- ▶ [Benefits for a U.S. National in Getting a Graduate Degree Abroad](#)
- ▶ [Go Overseas: Pros and Cons of Earning a Graduate Degree Abroad](#)
- ▶ [Go Abroad](#): search engine for graduate opportunities abroad
- ▶ Want to stay in the US but study International Education or a similar field? [Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey \(MIIS\)](#) is a great option!
- ▶ [IPSL](#): Graduate program in International Development and Service offered through Concordia University or the College of Mount Saint Vincent's. 1 year domestic work coupled with 1 year of international service and research. Program culminates with a thesis or project.

UK OPTIONS:

- ▶ [Across The Pond](#) is a free service to assist and advise you.

EUROPE:

- ▶ [Instituto Franklin Teach and Learn in Spain Study Program](#): 1 year Master's program in education or teaching with an internship as a language assistant in Madrid
- ▶ [SACI](#): 2 year Master of Fine Arts program, Studio Art Painting or Drawing
- ▶ Graduate Options in [Denmark](#)
- ▶ Affordable options in [Germany](#)

