

Let's Talk Business

For Ted Rogers School Students

These reports describe industry sectors and career paths of interest to Ted Rogers School students and Alumni. Each report leverages BCH employment data and the expertise of our staff. This collaborative effort engages staff, students, alumni and the University Business Librarian.

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Steps to Getting Hired Abroad

1. Determine the type of job you want
2. Decide what country you want to work in
3. Make a list of foreign companies related to your industry
4. Find a job you're interested in
5. Apply for a visa or work permit
6. Update and localize your resume
7. Apply for the job



Tips for Working Abroad

Research the Country

- Learn as much as you can about the country or region where you want to work. Looking up crime rates, cost of living, education (especially if you have children), employment rights, healthcare, politics, taxes, and visa requirements.

Update and Localize Your Resume

- Ensure your resume includes relevant experience and adapt it to the standards for the country of your potential employment.

Ask For Referrals

- Ask around to friends and family who might have worked or lived in different countries or who have connections to businesses located in different countries.

Learn the Local Language

- If you don't speak the local language, consider taking a language learning course or practice on your own to prepare for the move.

Consider a Foreign Transfer

- Does your current employer have offices in different countries? See if you can transfer to one of those locations.

Be Open to Filling a Need

- Filling a need may make it easier to find a job abroad. For example, foreign countries often seek English language instructors. If you want to teach or train abroad, this may be the easiest avenue for you to access.

Visit the Country's Job Sites

- International job boards can help you broaden your search and discover jobs you were previously unaware of. Visit various job sites for the country in which you want to work.

Expand your Network

- If you want to work in another country, build up your connections in the country where you want to work. This can improve your chances of getting a job in that area. For example, attend a conference or socialize at various meetings.

Be Prepared to Navigate the Process

Take these additional steps to prepare for the unexpected as you embark on your international career:

- **Check Visa & Paperwork Requirements:** Check with the Department of Immigration of the country where you plan to work or reach out to the nearest Embassy or Consulate for that country.
- **Research the Cost of Living vs Salary:** There are many online resources that offer calculators to compare the cost of living in your current location to places you are thinking of moving to. You'll need to calculate how much money you'll have left after paying all of your monthly expenses (rent, bills, taxes, and so on).
- **Have a 'Plan B'**

Preparing Your Resume for an International Employer

Standards for resumes vary widely, so you'll likely have to revamp your current version to appeal to companies in other countries. For example, a photo and personal information might not be considered relevant in Canada, but are standard in many places outside North America.

Generally, the global standard is a two-page resume that includes the following:

- some personal information
- details and GPA for secondary and university-level education
- bulleted sections about work experience
- a summary of technical and language skills
- a professionally taken photo



To prepare for varying foreign requirements, draft a four-to-five-page “master” resume that you can tailor to individual jobs and countries.

Resume Tips

Remember that your cover letter and resume make up a first impression of you.

Here are some tips to help you “wow” employers:

- **Keep It Relevant:** While including all your work experience on your resume may seem like a great idea, you want to stick to only the most relevant information. Tailor the content of your resume to the job and its requirements.
 - for example, if you're applying for a development role with a non-profit, focus on your internship with a non-profit and not your babysitting experience from high school.
- **Do Not Exaggerate:** You may have been told that you need to “beef up” your resume in order to appeal to an employer. However, if you over-exaggerate or lie on your resume, you most likely will be caught and this will taint your reputation with that company forever.
- **Address your Cultural Competence:** Highlight any previous international experience, working for global companies, or your experience working with culturally diverse teams.
- **Sell Your Honours and Awards:** Because you have recently graduated or are soon to graduate, you may not have any professional awards or honours. Instead, list any academic awards you received while you were in University.

Cover Letter Tips

- **Refer to the Open Position:** Because there's a good chance that whoever is reading bundles is also reading a lot of cover letters, you need to be specific and name the position for which you're applying.
- **Explain Why You Are the Best Candidate:** While introducing yourself in your cover letter, you need to make it clear why you are the best candidate for the job. To do this, you need to explain how you meet and exceed the qualifications required for the position.
- **Refer to Specific and Relevant Work Experiences:** Use your relevant work experience to support your assertion that you are the best candidate for the job. Refer to specific projects you undertook and list positive outcomes from those projects or initiatives. Not only will this demonstrate your viability as a candidate, but it will also show your potential Employer that you know how to organize your thoughts and craft a compelling argument.

Weigh the Pros and Cons to Working Out of Country

Pros

- Gain invaluable life experience, exposure to new cultures, and to new type of corporate environment
- Explore job markets that may be less saturated than those in your home country
- Gain international experience that could put you on the cutting edge
- Learn marketable skills like a new language or how to navigate communication barriers
- Learn how to be successful in the global economy

Cons

- You may experience culture shock and potential communication barriers
- You may struggle to adjust to a new work environment and professional culture
- You may become homesick
- A low-cost-of-living could translate to a lower pay rate
- Healthcare may not align with the standards you're accustomed to

Government Resources for Working Abroad

International Experience Canada

If you are a Canadian citizen, aged 18 to 35, the International Experience Canada (IEC) offers you the opportunity to work and travel abroad.

IEC provides you a path to a work permit or visa to work and explore in one of over 30 countries and territories. IEC has agreements with over 30 countries and foreign territories to make it easier for you to work and travel abroad.

Under IEC's agreements, work permits are generally:

- easier to get
- flexible
- less expensive
- processed more quickly than other types of work permits



Government
of Canada

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du Canada

Canada

International Youth Internship Program

The International Youth Internship Program (IYIP) is part of the Government of Canada's Youth Employment and Skills Strategy. It offers Canadian youth the opportunity to:

- Gain professional experience abroad in the field of international development; and
- Acquire skills that will prepare them for future employment or further their studies.

Internships are offered through different Canadian partner organizations across 45 countries. Applicants can choose from a variety of sectors, such as:

- Human Rights
- Gender Equality
- Agriculture
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)
- Social Services
- Communications
- Marketing
- Small Business Development
- Law
- Education
- Environment

Global Skills Opportunity

Global Skills Opportunity is funded by Employment and Social Development Canada, and jointly administered by Universities Canada and Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan).

- This program is designed to encourage low-income students, students with disabilities and Indigenous students to participate in study and work abroad programming.

Student Mobility Projects: Empowers Canadian students, especially underrepresented students, to take advantage of international learning experiences and to develop skills such as problem solving, adaptability, resilience, and intercultural competency.



Internships last a minimum of six months and include pre-departure and re-integration training.

Resources

<u>Study, work and travel worldwide</u>	<u>Overseas Job Portal</u>	<u>Work/Travel Abroad with International Experience</u>
<u>Volunteering and Internships Abroad</u>	<u>Ontario Council for International Cooperation</u>	<u>International Youth Internship Program (IYIP)</u>
<u>Transitions Aboard</u>	<u>Remote Job Portal</u>	<u>Expatriate Network</u>
<u>Global Skills Opportunities</u>	<u>Getting Involved in International Development</u>	<u>Scholarships for International Students</u>
<u>Go Overseas</u>	<u>BUNAC</u>	<u>Idealist</u>



Visit the Business Career Hub

Employer Events

The BCH hosts several employer events to prepare you for your professional career. Refer to your weekly 'BCH Careers Newsletter' for a list of upcoming [events](#).

Bootcamps/Prep Programs

Advance your technical and soft skills, earn digital badges, and gain an advantage in today's workforce through bootcamps. [Click here to register for current bootcamps](#).

Coaching & Mock Interview

For career coaching, interview prep and more, [schedule a 1:1 appointment](#) with a Career Consultant or a Co-op Coordinator.



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Career Consultant Contributor

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Sarah is a Career Consultant with 5+ years of experience in the human resource, recruitment, and career services industry. She is passionate about helping clients communicate their value using a strengths-based approach to land meaningful work.



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