

Things to consider prior to applying for a Work Abroad Opportunity:

Prior to embarking on your new adventure abroad, Be World Ready advises that you make an appointment with your Coop Consultant or Placement Officer to discuss the following topics and to ensure everything is in order before leaving Canada:

- Impacts on your coop / placement work term (start and end dates)
- Resume & cover letter support
- Responsibilities while you are away (staying connected)
- Available opportunities abroad listed on MyCareer
- Deadlines and academic eligibility

The above notes are key factors that play into your program success and we want to keep you on track for graduation. Once you have accepted the work abroad opportunity and had it approved by your Coop Consultant or Placement Officer, please proceed to fill out an application on the Be World Ready website.

When applying for a work or volunteer abroad experience, we suggest considering the following:

- The reputation of the organization
  - Do your research and check out reviews online from past and current employees.
- Paid versus unpaid?
  - It is important to understand the payment amount and method prior to accepting a job or opportunity abroad.
- Currency
  - Be sure to research the currency and exchange rate prior to applying for an opportunity
- Safety of country/region

- We suggest visiting <u>https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories</u> for travel advice and advisories prior to applying for a job in another country.
- Visas
- Investigate the costs and types of visas required for entering and working in another country.
- What is included?
  - Consider any inclusions when applying for a job or volunteering with a particular organization. Some jobs include accommodation, in-country orientation, etc.

Ways to prepare for your experience abroad:

- Have reserve money
- Be prepared for culture shock
  - Research the cultural norms of the country you are visiting prior to your departure.
- International health and travel insurance
  - The Be World Ready team can provide you with international health and travel insurance through Guard.Me.
- Prepare your paperwork
  - Ensure you have copies of your visas, work permits, passports, health insurance etc.
- Pack with intention
  - Research the weather of the country you are visiting and the season in which you are visiting. This will help save you from overpacking clothing you will not require.
- Research costs
  - Be sure to research the cost of living in the country you are visiting.
- Research the location
  - Prior to departure, research nearby amenities, bus routes, etc.
- Create your bucket list!
  - The fun part! Research your "must-see's" and "must-do's" of the country you are visiting!