



Integrating Your International Experience into the Job Search

Congratulations on your decision to pursue an international experience! We want to help you make the most of your experience both while you are away and once you return. You may be off campus, but you still have access to many resources provided by the Engineering Career Resource Center (ECRC).

HOW TO MAXIMIZE YOUR INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Before Going Abroad

- Create a list of goals that you would like to achieve during your international experience.
 - What skills and experiences do you want to gain?
 - How does this experience add value to your current studies?
- Review and update your resume. Consider scheduling a resume review appointment at the ECRC.
- Research the company or institution and its culture before leaving the country.
- Create a two-sided business card: one side in English and the other in the language of the country where you are going.
 - Include: name, major, university, contact information
 - Optional: leadership positions in student groups, LinkedIn profile, professional website

While Abroad

- Network throughout the experience. Be sure to bring copies of your resume to networking meetings.
- Gather as much information as possible about the country's culture, work differences, etc.
- If you plan to ask a supervisor or professor to act as a reference, have the conversation before you leave.
- Keep note of special projects you are involved in and your role in the project. It will be easier to make note of these projects during your experience, rather than trying to remember what you did once you return.

Upon Your Return

- Include your international experience on your resume. This could be done through the creation of a new section (e.g. "International Experience"), or through an addition to an existing and appropriate section (i.e. Education, Experience).
- Make an appointment at the ECRC to discuss strategies for marketing the experience or including it on your resume.
- Plan how you will share the impact of your experience with employers at information sessions, career fairs, interviews, etc.

HOW TO UTILIZE THE ECRC AND ENGENIUS.JOBS

Career Counseling Appointments

We encourage you to think about future internship, co-op, or full-time job searches while you are abroad. Although you may be many miles from Ann Arbor, the ECRC's career counselors are available and can conduct phone or Skype counseling appointments. To schedule a phone or Skype counseling appointment while you are abroad, please email ecrc-info@umich.edu and explain that you are abroad and seeking a phone or Skype counseling appointment. We will respond promptly to arrange a date and time.

Utilizing ENGenius.Jobs to Apply for Jobs While You Are Abroad

Do not miss out on peak recruiting times while you are abroad! Use ENGenius.Jobs to find positions that begin after you return from your abroad experience. For example, if you are abroad during the fall or winter semesters, you may want to look for summer internship opportunities while you are abroad.

***NOTE:** Please be careful when applying to job postings that are associated with on-campus interviews, as you will not be able to attend an on-campus interview while you are abroad. While we still encourage you to apply to these positions, do not immediately accept an on-campus interview invitation if you receive one. Signing up for an interview that you cannot attend will damage your relationship with that employer. If you are invited to an on-campus interview, please email ecrc-info@umich.edu immediately and explain your situation. We can contact the employer on your behalf and inquire about alternative interview arrangements.

Engineering Career Resource Center

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