EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

2021 GAP YEAR GUIDE
PROGRAMS • COUNSELORS • RESOURCES

ANNOUNCING $15,000 IN GAP YEAR SCHOLARSHIPS!

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YOUR GUIDE TO TAKING A GAP YEAR

1 GAP YEAR 101
03 The Rise of the Gap Year During COVID
04 How to Plan a Successful Gap Year
05 Increasing Accessibility for Gap Year Options
06 $15,000 in Gap Year Scholarships!

2 GAP YEAR PROGRAMS
07 Designing Your Dream Gap Year
08 Alzar School + Gap
09 American University Gap Program
10 Amigos de las Americas
11 ARCC Gap
12 Art History Abroad
13 Berridge Programs
14 Carpe Diem Education
15 CET Academic Programs
16 CIEE Global Navigator
17 CityGAP at the Living City Project
18 Cow House Studios Fieldworks
19 CYA (College Year in Athens)
20 Dynasty Internship Year
21 EF Gap Year
22 EF International Language Campuses
23 Free Spirit Experience
24 Global Citizen Year
25 GVI
26 Harlaxton College Gap Year
27 High Mountain Institute Gap
28 InterExchange
29 Irish Gap Year
30 Masa Israel Journey
31 MYX
32 NOLS
33 SEA Semester
34 Semester at Sea
35 Sotheby’s Institute of Art: Gap Year London
36 The School of the New York Times
37 Timberline Canadian Alpine Academy
38 Verto Education
39 VISIONS Service Adventures
40 Where There Be Dragons

3 GAP YEAR COUNSELORS
42 Meet Gap Year Experts
43 The Center for Interim Programs
44 EnRoute Consulting
45 J2Guides
46 Taylor the Gap

4 RESOURCES
47 Access Gap Year Resources 24/7
48 Most Popular Gap Year Articles
49 More Gap Year Articles
50 Contact
By now, we’re all tired of hearing it: “these are unprecedented times.” But the statement is still very true. While we may all like to think life will be resuming as normal in the coming months, students across the world are still having to adjust their post high school plans. University students who were planning on studying abroad are postponing their trips; graduating high school seniors are weighing the pros and cons of beginning their college experience online; and young people everywhere are wondering if they should consider a gap year.

Although global travel has been limited, that doesn’t mean that gap years are off the table. In fact, gap years are actually on the rise. Gap year organizations everywhere have been tirelessly working to find innovative, creative, and safe ways to provide opportunities in 2021 and beyond, which has led to the development and higher demand for domestic, virtual, and international gap year programs across the board.

But how can that be? Since most structured gap year programs serve relatively small cohorts of 8-40 students and often maximize time outdoors, it has been much easier for students and families to feel more secure with choosing a gap year program over all of the other more conventional alternatives.

When faced with the decision between Zoom university, joining a college campus with thousands of students, or attempting to enter the workforce during a time when the job market couldn’t be more fierce, gap years have a lot going for them! Whether you’re dreaming of traveling to Costa Rica to develop your Spanish language skills, participating in a virtual leadership course focused on social change, or retreating to the Irish countryside to make art -- there are plenty of viable options for you to consider this year.

With that said, we’re here to answer your questions so that you can make an informed decision about future plans. We know it sounds cheesy, but it’s true: any gap year experience can be meaningful with a positive attitude. Instead of feeling discouraged, think of this year as an opportunity to focus on skills you want to develop and make use of your time by talking to people, making connections, and exploring new interests that you might take into the next phase of your life. A gap year is a time for exploration, and that aspect will stay the same whether you’re traveling overseas, staying close to home, or building virtual connections.

"Young people everywhere are wondering if they should consider a gap year."
How to Plan a Successful Gap Year

1. **Set clear intentions based on your passions and curiosities.**
   Why do you really want to take gap time? Don’t worry about the details at this stage; just focus on the goals you want to accomplish. Maybe you want to practice the language you’ve been studying all these years, or explore a hobby you’ve always been curious about. Mapping out the who, what, when, where, and why will help you reflect on your values at this point in your life, and let you identify what you’d like to accomplish during your gap time.

2. **Dream big and research your options.**
   Don’t limit yourself! Start by dreaming big, and selecting several options that fulfill those meaningful goals. If there’s something you want to achieve and it’s meaningful to you, try to find a way to make it happen. Seek out people who will be able to give you specific advice and support along the way. A great place to start is by catching a gap year fair or upcoming virtual event. You can also read through thousands of verified alumni reviews, testimonials, and blogs from gap year alumni here at Go Overseas.

3. **Map out realistic and exciting plans!**
   Once you’ve done your research, you’ll be ready to narrow down your daydreams and start making solid plans -- yes, plans (plural). In 2021, continued flexibility will be key to making the most of your gap time. For example, if you’re dreaming of an international gap year in a country whose borders are currently closed, consider what your ideal back up plan might be. Would you prefer finding a virtual alternative that will connect you to the community and culture in your dream destination or would you be more excited by an in-person experience closer to home? Work with your parents, a gap year counselor, or a school guidance counselor to formulate a Plan A, B & C with reasonable budgets and schedules for each option.
Increasing Accessibility for Gap Year Options

For the past 14 years, USA Gap Year Fairs has partnered with US high schools to educate, inspire, and empower students to look beyond the classroom and pursue opportunities for experiential learning. This year, we shifted the in-person fairs to a virtual format to help make information about planning a gap year even more accessible. Through online resources and interactive events, we’ve continued to connect our community with the most up to date gap year information and program options for 2021 & beyond.

VISIT OUR GAP YEAR HUB 24/7
Access gap year resources anytime! Explore programs, browse articles, find scholarships, and read verified alumni reviews on Go Overseas.

REGISTER FOR A VIRTUAL EVENT
Catch an upcoming virtual gap year fair, webinar, or thematic panel with live Q&A to learn more about gap year options.

APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS
Did you know that USA Gap Year Fairs & Go Overseas are granting $15,000 in scholarships this year? Visit our scholarships hub for details.
$15,000 in Gap Year Scholarships!

US residents ages 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 USA Gap Year Fairs scholarships, which include tuition and gap year mentorship. The application deadline is April 15, 2021 at 11:59 PM PST, so start your application today!

The tuition scholarships must be applied to programs offered by one of the 34 participating organizations included in this guide.

Thank you to our scholarship sponsors & expert gap year counselors who have donated in-kind mentorship to our soon-to-be scholarship winners! To learn more about each of the counselors, jump to page 42 or check out the scholarship details.
Designing Your Dream Gap Year

Are you hoping to trek through Nepal and stay with host families along the way? Or maybe you want to pursue an artist residency in Ireland, honing your craft during the week and touring Europe on the weekends? Or maybe you’d rather stick closer to home and build life skills, chip away at college credits, or land yourself an internship in a career field that interests you?

Whatever you’re dreaming of, there’s probably a gap year program for it! Explore the programs in this guide to help you narrow down your options for 2021 and beyond.

GAP YEAR PROGRAMS

08 Alzar School + Gap
09 American University Gap Program
10 Amigos de las Americas
11 ARCC Gap
12 Art History Abroad
13 Berridge Programs
14 Carpe Diem Education
15 CET Academic Programs
16 CIEE Global Navigator
17 CityGAP at the Living City Project
18 Cow House Studios Fieldworks
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34 Sea|semester
35 Semester at Sea
36 Sotheby’s Institute of Art: Gap Year London
37 The School of the New York Times
38 Timberline Canadian Alpine Academy
39 Verto Education
40 VISIONS Service Adventures
41 Where There Be Dragons

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THESE PROGRAMS?

US citizens ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!

APPLY NOW LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT
Alzar School + Gap builds leaders through powerful programs in Patagonia, Chile and the American West.

WHY CHOOSE ALZAR SCHOOL + GAP?
Alzar School + Gap provides life changing experiences while offering tangible leadership training in world class destinations. Alzar Gap has three different programs for high school graduates: “Patagonia Exchange,” “Wild & Scenic,” and “Western Whitewater.” These range from 34 to 90 days. Additionally, Alzar School provides high school students with semesters that bring students to the intersection of engaging academics, cultural exchange and outdoor adventure. If you are seeking something more from your traditional educational experience and are excited to learn more about yourself, gain a broader world view, and make authentic connections with diverse people in wild and untamed parts of the world, then Alzar School & Gap could offer your next step.

FUN FACTS
- Alzar has world-class campuses in both Idaho (on the banks of the Payette River) and Patagonia (on Lago Atravesado).
- Whitewater rafting and kayaking are integral parts of Alzar programs. Both Idaho and Chile are famous for their rivers.
- Students get to live in yurts in Idaho and refugios in Chile!

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY GAP PROGRAM

Intern, learn and live in DC for a semester.

WHY CHOOSE AU GAP PROGRAM?
The AU Gap Program provides recent high school graduates with a foundation for academic and professional success through a supervised, three days-per-week internship experience in Washington DC and an interactive seminar course on current issues.

There are internships in all areas of interest in DC, not just politics!
Program participants get an unlimited Metro pass to explore DC.
Gap year students receive full access to all the facilities and events at American University.

GET IN TOUCH

202.895.4869
taustin@american.edu
Browse programs

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Since 1965, Amigos de las Americas (AMIGOS) has provided the safest, most authentic service and immersion experiences in Latin America. Living and working in a new country gives young people the chance to improve their Spanish, make an impact, gain confidence, and build leadership skills. Our programs offer volunteers a unique way to see the world, while being supported by our unsurpassed health and safety system. Gap programs for Summer and Fall 2021 include Costa Rica and Colorado where our students will focus on critical issues like conservation and climate change while developing the leadership skills to create change at home.

**GET IN TOUCH**
- 713.782.5290
- outreach@amigosinternational.org
- Browse programs

**WHY CHOOSE AMIGOS?**

AMIGOS is a nonprofit that has provided safe, meaningful, and impactful volunteer programs across the Americas since 1965.

**LOCATIONS**
Costa Rica, Colorado & Online

**PROGRAM TYPES**
- Academic
- Activism
- Adventure
- Arts, Film & Media
- Internships
- Language Learning
- Sustainability
- Volunteer

**FAUN FACTS**
- In Costa Rica students live in a rainforest nature reserve while immersing themselves in how the local community has adapted to climate change.
- In Colorado, students will learn the cultural dynamics at play in conservationism while visiting a wolf reintroduction sanctuary.

**WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?**

US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
ARCC Gap Semesters are an opportunity to live, work, learn and explore in some of the greatest classrooms on earth.

WHY CHOOSE ARCC?
ARCC Gap Semesters offer an educational and cultural bridge between high school and college. Designed with a rich educational fabric complementing each location, ARCC semesters highlight regional topics that are directly linked to global initiatives and challenges. Immerses into cultures through homestays, hands-on projects, and exchange. Develops resilience through leadership development, problem-solving, and group living. Experiences adventure through wild frontiers, explorations, and new experiences. As a small community, embarks on a journey of discovery of people, places, cultures, and ideas while taking advantage of the opportunity to reach out and experience both life and the world from a different perspective. College Credit through Portland State University is available for any interested ARCC Gap Students.

GET IN TOUCH

415.332.5075
gap@arccprograms.com
Browse programs

ACTIVISM
ADVENTURE
ARTS, FILM & MEDIA
INTERNSHIPS
LANGUAGE LEARNING
SUSTAINABILITY
VOLUNTEER

ACADEMIC

ARCC was founded in 1983 as a domestic wilderness program named Adventures Rolling Cross-Country. Students piled into a van and road-tripped to National Parks and outdoor destinations developing resilience and leadership skills.

2020s COVID-inspired gap semesters have taken us back to these roots.

We have had over 20,000 participants throughout our nearly four decades of operating programs.

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
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APPLY NOW
LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT
ART HISTORY ABROAD

Travel in Europe with enthusiastic experts in art, history and culture.

WHY CHOOSE AHA?

Study art, architecture and European culture in Italy, France and London for a semester in the autumn, 6 weeks during the Gap Year or a 2-4 week Summer holiday course. Art History Abroad programs are carefully structured and brilliantly taught so that art and culture come to life. We believe in a few simple truths: that art is best taught in the presence of the real thing and that tutor groups (of 9 students or fewer) should encourage discourse and expression. AHA tutors travel with the course, providing a friendly, enthusiastic approach, which has been an inspiration to countless students for 30 years. Open to students of all disciplines, students need only an enquiring mind.

GET IN TOUCH

+44(0) 1379 871800
info@arthistoryabroad.com
Browse programs

ACADEMIC
ACTIVISM
ADVENTURE
ARTS, FILM & MEDIA
INTERSHIPS
LANGUAGE LEARNING
SUSTAINABILITY
VOLUNTEER

FUN FACTS

- On average, an AHA students walks more than 10 miles daily.
- Over the years AHA has provided over £150,000 of funding in scholarships and bursaries.
- On a six week gap year course, the average student will eat 1.5 kilometres of spaghetti.

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
The Berridge Creative Semester offers the unique opportunity to combine artistic practice, cultural immersion, arts-based internship, community service and optional French language learning on your gap year. Live in a creative community based at our 18th century chateau in the heart of Normandy, one of France’s most stunning regions. This 10-week program is divided into 6 modules which alternate group and independent living in European cities of your choice. You’ll complete a community service project or arts activism project, an arts-based internship or Language School placement and the program culminates in a week-long arts festival to showcase your work. The program is led entirely by professional artists and welcomes artists from any discipline including Theater, Film, Writing, Studio Arts, Graphic Design, Photography, Music and Dance. There are full day excursions to all of the best sites in the region and plenty of opportunities to immerse yourself in French food, history, language and culture. Connect with artists from around the world and discover where your creativity can take you on your gap year!

**GET IN TOUCH**
- 760.688.8447
- andrea@berridgeprograms.com
- [Browse programs](#)

**FUN FACTS**
Our residence in France, Chateau le Mont Epinguet, was used as a German headquarters in WWII and two-time Berridge alum, Celia Rose Gooding, was nominated for a Tony for her work in Jagged Little Pill.

**WHY CHOOSE BERRIDGE PROGRAMS?**

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**WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?**
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Carpe Diem Education offers expertly designed gap year programs for students in 9 different regions around the world.

**WHY CHOOSE CARPE?**

Carpe Diem Education provides gap year students an opportunity to explore some of the most fascinating regions on earth, each offering a unique culturally immersive experience. Through a hands-on educational curriculum designed to challenge perspectives, enrich cross-cultural understanding, and inspire personal growth, Carpe Diem helps students reignite their passion for learning.

Each Carpe Diem semester has up to 12 students and two Overseas Educators who are leaders, guides, and mentors for the semester. Our Overseas Educators are experienced travelers, dedicated experiential educators, and certified Wilderness First Responders.

Students are eligible to receive up to 18 college credits per semester through our partnership with Portland State University. Additionally, Carpe Diem has a non-profit partner organization, Carpe Mundi, that works with low-income first-generation college students from the Portland, Oregon area and supports them with a year-long mentorship program that includes a semester abroad with our program. We donate over $160,000 per year to their work and we strongly believe that all students should have access to transformative educational experiences.

**GET IN TOUCH**

- (503) 285-1800
- anne@carpediemeducation.org
- [Browse programs](#)

**FUN FACT**

Carpe Diem is one of the first gap year organizations to encourage our students to participate in carbon offsetting and to match offsetting donations up to $30 per student, and is a certified B Corporation.

**WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?**

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- [APPLY NOW](#)
- [LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT](#)
CET Academic Programs is a study abroad organization that has been developing and operating innovative educational programs abroad since 1982. Originally “China Educational Tours,” CET began operations in Beijing, later expanding to other locations around the world. Today, CET offers a varied portfolio of semester, summer, and customized programs around the world for college, high school, pre-college, and gap year students. CET is known for strong academics, professional program management, a nimble and collaborative approach to partnerships, and supportive student services.

Through elements such as field-based course components, internships, and housing with local roommates, CET strives to integrate students into the local community and facilitate lasting relationships with hosts. As an environmentally conscientious organization, CET aims to adopt sustainable measures across its operations. And through its commitment to inclusion, CET seeks and encourages the participation of students from diverse backgrounds, ensuring a welcoming, hospitable program environment that promotes student learning.

**WHY CHOOSE CET?**

CET Academic Programs operate alongside CET college programs. Your peers will be motivated gap students and college undergraduates from universities throughout the United States.

**GET IN TOUCH**

- 800.225.4262
- cet@cetacademicprograms.com
- [Browse programs](https://www.cetacademicprograms.com)

**FUN FACT**

Gap at CET programs operate alongside CET college programs. Your peers will be motivated gap students and college undergraduates from universities throughout the United States.

**WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?**

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- [APPLY NOW](#)
- [LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT](#)
1.866.583.0332
hsabroad@ciee.org
Browse programs

Why choose CIEE?

Established in 1947, CIEE is the country’s oldest and largest nonprofit study abroad and intercultural exchange organization. CIEE transforms lives and builds bridges by promoting the exchange of ideas and experiences. To help people develop skills for living in a globally interdependent and culturally diverse world, CIEE sponsors a wide variety of opportunities for cultural exchange, including work exchange programs, teach abroad programs, and a worldwide portfolio of study abroad and internship programs for college and high school students. For recent high school graduates, CIEE developed a full portfolio of Gap Year experiences abroad, allowing participants to combine 6-week blocks in more than 10 global destinations to create their own pre-college experience. With programs in France, Spain, Japan, Costa Rica and beyond, CIEE Gap participants can alternate between language learning, service learning or career exploration opportunities. All programs provide a full cultural immersion, excursions and a Global Competence development course, ran virtually and concurrently across programs to get Gap participants to connect and learn together from the four corners of the world.

Want to earn a $10,000 scholarship for this program?
US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
CITYGAP AT THE LIVING CITY PROJECT

CityGAP is an outdoor program exploring urgent challenges by engaging New York City as a classroom, studio and community.

WHY CHOOSE CITYGAP?

The Living City Project provides immersive, experiential programs in NYC in which young people engage with the city as classroom, laboratory, studio and community. CityGAP is our city-based, outdoor exploration experience for college-aged students from across the United States. CityGAP provides meaningful and challenging experiences in the New York City landscape, creating a safe and rewarding space for personal and intellectual growth. We use the built and natural environment as a collaborative outdoor classroom, where students wrestle with urgent challenges facing the city at this critical moment, producing a portfolio of creative and original responses in varied media. Students work on both group and individual projects, addressing relevant questions in the city. We spend most of our time outdoors in the city (using COVID-19 safety protocols), serving students who want to get out of the classroom, master life skills, escape remote learning, and do relevant and meaningful work with a supportive group of peers.

GET IN TOUCH

547.749.1040
ameyers@livingcityproject.com
Browse programs

FUN FACTS

Our projects are rooted in questions of social and environmental justice. We’re outside most of the time. Most of our experiences include eating amazing food in diverse neighborhoods.

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!

APPLY NOW  LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT
Cow House Studios is a progressive artist-run school and residency set in the farmland of County Wexford, Ireland. A productive farm to this day, the 180 acres of land provide an authentic and inspirational backdrop while facilitating multidisciplinary practices for artists in residence and students. We hope to foster a deep curiosity for one’s surroundings and encourage further engagement with the creative process as a catalyst for independent thought.

To this end, we provide art education, facilities for colleges, schools, and artist-led groups; and an artist-in-residence program for professional artists. Our gap year is a hybrid residency and enrichment program designed to give students an opportunity to make art in a remarkable location. During this 12-week multidisciplinary course, there is a particular focus on each participant’s individual creative process, where one-on-one tutorials provide guidance for further research. In addition to time spent in the studio, there are weekly organized trips to Dublin, the West, and other points of interest in the Southeast region with a particular focus on artist-led initiatives and studio visits with accomplished Irish artists, designers, and curators.

**COW HOUSE STUDIOS FIELDWORKS**

Cow House Studios is a progressive artist-run school in rural Ireland providing opportunities for young artists to make art.

**WHY CHOOSE COW HOUSE?**

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**GET IN TOUCH**

- 1.800.677.0628
- rosie@cowhousestudios.com
- [Browse programs](#)

**FUN FACTS**

Cow House Studios was established by two visual artists on their family farm in County Wexford Ireland. We have alpacas, ducks, geese, chickens, cows, dogs, cats, our horse Trigger, and our peacock, George Clooney.

**WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?**

US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
CYA (College Year in Athens) is a non-profit educational institution that has been a cultural and educational bridge between the U.S. and Greece for over half a century. Established in 1962, CYA was the first study abroad program in Greece for English-speaking undergraduates. We aim to help students become global citizens who understand and appreciate other cultures. We offer academically outstanding semester, academic year, summer and winter study abroad programs and 10-week Gap Year programs that embrace the vibrant experience of day-to-day contact with the people, institutions, monuments, and landscapes of Greece and the Mediterranean.

CYA is now offering two opportunities for Gap Year students: those who are passionate about antiquity will benefit from the "Archaeological Field Work: Excavation, Workshops and Digital Technologies" and "Understanding Activism, Diversity, and Equity: the example of Greece" for those interested in these issues. The experience prepares students for the challenges of two rapidly changing fields, but the skills acquired can also be used in other fields, from computer science to fine arts.

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GET IN TOUCH
- 617.868.8200
- gapyear@cyathens.org
- Browse programs

FUN FACTS
- Students create an e-portfolio as a record of what is learned and accomplished through this program.
- Field trips in mainland Greece and islands are included.

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
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DYNAMY INTERNSHIP YEAR

Dynamy is a domestic gap year for students who are interested in exploring future career paths through 100+ internships.

WHY CHOOSE DYNAMY?

Dynamy Internship Year (DIY) is a domestic, long-standing gap-year program created for students ages 17-22 who want to pursue a unique, hands-on learning experience. Taking a personalized approach, we provide students with a semester or full year "on", filled with meaningful opportunities to gain real-world work experience, explore career interests, and build critical life skills before taking life's next steps. Our approach helps students build the confidence and skills critical for success in college, a career, or whatever else their future may hold!

Each day here, students live, work, and intentionally "create their own life" in a positive community with the support of student-focused advisors who help to buffer the transition to adulthood. While internships are at Dynamy Internship Year's core, the program is a complete 360° experience—from internships, to outdoor challenges, to one-on-one mentoring, to community involvement and apartment life—a holistic approach designed to help each student pursue their interests and passions, discover their full potential, and find their direction!

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

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APPLY NOW  LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT
EF Gap Year’s international travel programs help you experience the world, discover your passions, and return home prepared.

WHY CHOOSE EF GAP YEAR?

EF is the world’s largest private educational organization with 52,000 staff throughout 114 countries and regions. We provide life-changing education for global citizens. When you gaze over Paris from atop the Eiffel Tower or climb to the top of Machu Picchu, you’ll understand the context of what makes these places significant. For over 50 years, our mission has been to give confidence and freedom to people of all ages, nationalities, and backgrounds.

Only EF Gap Year offers students the ability to explore several countries in depth, learn a language, volunteer for a good cause, engage in meaningful cultural exchange, gain international work experience, and develop leadership skills. Our programs are fully accredited so that our students can place out of classes and earn advanced credit toward graduation.

America’s most prestigious colleges and universities—Harvard, MIT, and Stanford to name but a few—now actively encourage accepted students to defer enrollment to take a gap year. Recent studies show that gap students actually perform better in college, get better grades, and take on more leadership roles.

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

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EF INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE CAMPUS

The world is waiting! Learn a language abroad and launch your global future. Study for 2 weeks to a full year abroad.

WHY CHOOSE EF LANGUAGE CAMPUS?

Language learning abroad for students of all ages and levels, with programs ranging from two weeks to one year. Launch your global future, meet new friends from around the world, and become bilingual. Your Study Abroad Advisor will help you plan the perfect course to fit your interests and goals.

Join for a semester or year, prepare to attend university abroad, or take advantage of our flexible length courses and start any Monday. EF will take care of everything from housing and activities to travel arrangements and visa support.

Return home having made guaranteed progress and with proof of your accomplishments, including a certificate or transferrable US college credit.

GET IN TOUCH

1.800.992.1892
ILSeef.com
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2021 Gap Year Guide
Free Spirit offers a unique experience in Israel and Italy, filled with adventures, work experiences, and cultural-immersion community living.

**WHY CHOOSE FREE SPIRIT EXPERIENCE?**

Free Spirit offers a unique experience in Israel and Italy, filled with adventures, work experiences, and cultural-immersion community living.

Your first semester starts with Kibbutz living, tours and trips in Israel, a 5-day sailing expedition to Cyprus, individual guidance and support, and social and group forming activities. We then move to Italy for 4 weeks of exploration and various work experiences: Pizzeria, Organic Farm-to-Restaurant-Table work, Social Activism, and more.

For your second semester, you may choose from many internship options, or build your own internship in Israel or Italy: "Ulpan" experience (intensive Hebrew learning), farming, high-tech internships, work with refugees in Tel-Aviv, "Marva" - military training for non-Israelis, and any of the Italian experiences. These vary in settings, social contexts, and levels of structure and support - all to fit your wishes and needs.

You may come for one or two semesters, and opt to stay for the summer.

**WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?**

US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
GLOBAL CITIZEN YEAR

Find your purpose, your people, and your power to make an impact.

WHY CHOOSE GCY?

Global Citizen Year is launching the generation of leaders our world needs now. Our newest leadership experience — Global Citizen Year Academy — equips determined young people worldwide with powerful skills for a lifetime of social impact.

Join a community of young leaders from over 80 countries! You’ll enroll in our signature leadership course, join discussions with dozens of today’s most impactful changemakers, and receive one-on-one mentorship. Students looking for deeper engagement can volunteer through our network of impact partners — organizations worldwide at the forefront of confronting our climate crisis, addressing racial inequities, and more.

Designed to add an enriching layer of purpose to high school, college, travel or work, the Academy is a 5-10 hour per week commitment and is delivered virtually via Minerva’s cutting edge Forum learning platform. At the end of the 12-week semester, you’ll have the confidence, connections, and conviction to align your life with the world’s needs.

Sliding scale tuition to ensure promising leaders from all backgrounds are able to participate.

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!

APPLY NOW   LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT

GET IN TOUCH

☎ 415.963.9293 ext. 214
✉ admissions@globalcitizenyear.org
🌐 Browse programs

FUN FACT

Shawn Mendes, Melinda Gates, and Jay Shetty are just a few of the influential leaders that have been part of the Academy speaker series.
Founded in 1998, GVI runs online courses, virtual programs and travel-based education and training programs in various countries around the world. Each program is manned by our own staff and aligned to the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) – as well as the objectives of local partners. We welcome participants from all around the world and help facilitate their development into global citizens.

Our commitment to running high-quality sustainable development and experiential education programs has earned us recognition from numerous organizations such as Panthera, Save The Children, and the Seychelles National Parks Authority, as well as, Stanford, NYU, Duke, and Ohio State.

Being responsible in our contribution to sustainable development is at the core of everything we do and we are guided by our ethical commitments and human empowerment principles. We are truly a global family brought together by our dedication to long-term positive impact.
Harlaxton College, part of the University of Evansville, creates transformational experiences for students.

WHY CHOOSE HARLAXTON COLLEGE?

Harlaxton College, located in the Lincolnshire village of Harlaxton just 70 minutes from London, is a Victorian manor house owned by the University of Evansville and operated as a unique study abroad program for students from around the world. Students can apply for both fall and spring semesters, as well as a five-week summer program or short term experiences, and now we are able to offer an exciting new Gap Year program.

Harlaxton’s gap semester, ‘Designing Your Global Path’ is self-discovery through interactive classes embedded in Design Thinking practices, projects, immersive experiences, and discovering yourself by discovering the world. Your time at Harlaxton will be spent working with our experts to guide you as you take a deep dive into the possibilities of connecting globally for jobs, passions, volunteering, and making a difference in the world. And the best part is that you get to try many different paths and see where they take you and which one inspires you. Join us for an incredible semester of discovery, inspiration, and transformation!

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
HMI’s Gap Semesters unite outdoor adventure, environmental service, and community in some of the world’s wildest places.

WHY CHOOSE HMI?

HMI’s Gap Semesters unite outdoor adventure, environmental service, and leadership development on an uninterrupted journey to some of the world’s most awe-inspiring places. Our students realize their full potential to thrive as engaged citizens of the world by exploring with intention. Central to all HMI Gap year programs is extended experience and practice in outdoor adventure. Each course advances students’ skill in either rock climbing or wilderness travel. All experience levels are welcome; however, we encourage students to have a strong interest in spending time outdoors. In partnership with land management agencies and conservation groups, students participate in hands-on service projects to protect and restore these wild landscapes.

The opportunity we offer for transformative personal growth is grounded in an intentional community of peers and instructors. To further their leadership development and personal growth, students receive ample mentorship from faculty to discuss their personal goals. These experiences build lifelong friendships, open-mindedness to diversity, intellectual maturity, and improved self-awareness to pursue their passions beyond HMI.

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!

GET IN TOUCH

719.486.8200
gap@hminet.org
Browse programs

FUN FACTS

We are committed to matching each students’ financial need—our school gives over $800,000 in financial aid each year. Sourdough bagels, backcountry pizza, blueberry scones: our students become expert backcountry chefs!
InterExchange offers affordable work, volunteer, language immersion, and experiential adventure programs in 11 countries. For over 50 years InterExchange has offered authentic connections abroad through work, volunteer, language immersion, and experiential adventure. InterExchange programs allow you to immerse yourself over an extended time (1 week - 1 year) with local families and communities through homestays or the chance to take on seasonal jobs. InterExchange experiences are more affordable than most other abroad programs (most are under $995) and in some cases you'll even get paid so you can earn back your program fee and then some!

While we do offer short-term group experiences with fixed itineraries, most of our programs allow you to choose where and when you travel within your chosen part of the world, with a “home base” and local support when you need it. Our programs for U.S. citizens include: Au Pair, Language Homestay, Work & Travel Abroad, Sustainable Action Costa Rica, Spanish Immersion, and Summer English Camp Italy.

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
Irish Gap Year offers Adventure & Leadership, Arts & Culture, and European Expedition programs in Ireland and Europe.

Why Choose Irish Gap Year?
At Irish Gap Year, we provide thoughtfully designed Gap Year and Internship Programs for young people interested in exploring the world, building their independence and learning more about themselves. The values of community service and personal development run strongly through all our programs. We believe that meaningful travel, personal reflection, developing and nurturing growth opportunities for young people will develop their world perspective and foster a greater understanding of others and themselves as individuals.

Irish Gap Year’s Adventure & Leadership Program will take you off the beaten track, deep into Irish culture and nature where you will learn about yourself. The Irish Arts & Culture Program is a structured, community based, semester-length, small-group program designed to give students an opportunity to explore and cultivate their creative side, build independence and develop an appreciation of Irish arts and culture. The European Expedition Program brings students on an epic journey across Europe, broadening their horizons through exposure to the continent’s deep cultural and historical roots infused with an exhilarating mix of outdoor adventure in some of the world’s most iconic locations.

Get in Touch
+353 83 1984 288
info@irishgapyear.com
Browse programs

Fun Fact
Did you know you can use your 529 account while attending one of our programs?
Also, Irish Gap year is run by Irish people, so we are amazing.

Want to Earn a $10,000 Scholarship for This Program?
US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
Masa Israel Journey offers you the chance to intern, volunteer, work, study, learn Hebrew, travel, and create a global network of friends. Whether you're interested in taking a gap year, studying abroad at Israel's top universities, developing your career path with a prestigious internship or job placement, fostering social change through volunteering, or teaching English to Israeli kids with our exclusive teaching fellowship - Masa has the opportunity for you.

Enjoy the perks of an international experience (aka a boosted resume), a global network of friends, leadership building, professional and personal development programs, and trips around the country. Masa also provides the funding to ensure our programs are accessible to all young Jewish adults around the world.

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!

APPLY NOW  LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT
MYX is a co-living and learning community of students who want more out of their education and lives. MYX is focused on helping students discover their true potential, then applying that understanding to real-world projects that make a difference in our local communities.

This personalized experience helps MYX students set a life course of fulfillment, with learning that stays with them throughout their lives. We do all of this within a culture of connection that leaves plenty of room for travel, exploration and play at our growing network of MYX Houses around the world.

All MYX students are taking online courses towards a degree or certification program. While living and learning at MYX houses of 150 students from all over the United States. Each MYX house has programming (social, wellness, cultural), an impact challenge looking in the local community, life hacks curriculum (#adulting can be done!), speaker series, and the world outside its footsteps ready for students to discover.

MYX is the future of higher education where you curate your path for the life that you want.

WHY CHOOSE MYX?

USAGAPYEARFAIRS.ORG

2021 Gap Year Guide
Our school began in a small cabin in Sinks Canyon, Wyoming in 1965 as the National Outdoor Leadership School. At that time, we were primarily an outdoors skills school, doing our work in local mountain ranges and exploring what it meant to teach leadership in the backcountry.

Today, we are NOLS, a multifaceted wilderness school that supports thousands of students each year all over the world. We believe that anyone can be a leader; it’s our role to provide the environment and training to help you discover your full potential. We do that in classrooms close to home and in remote wilderness areas around the world. NOLS offers over 150 different expeditions every year! These expeditions can be as short as 7 days or as long as a year.

We’re an organization with heart, expertise, and wildness, and these qualities help us support powerful, authentic experiences.

**WHY CHOOSE NOLS?**

**LOCATIONS**
Alaska, India, Mexico, New Zealand, Patagonia, New York State, Pacific Northwest, Utah, Wyoming, Arizona, New Mexico, Idaho

**PROGRAM TYPES**
- Academic
- Activism
- Adventure
- Arts, Film & Media
- Internships
- Language Learning
- Sustainability
- Volunteer

**GET IN TOUCH**
- 1.800.710.6657
- info@nols.edu
- Browse programs

**FUN FACTS**
- NOLS awards $1,000,000 in need-based scholarships, annually.
- Being a NOLS alumnus connects you with our Jobsnetwork which is made up of 2,000 employers.

**WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?**
US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!

APPLY NOW LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT
Sea Education Association is an internationally recognized leader in field-based marine and environmental education.

WHY CHOOSE SEA SEMESTER?

For nearly 50 years and with 1.3 million nautical miles sailed, SEA has educated students about the world's oceans from its campus in the oceanographic research community of Woods Hole, Massachusetts, and from the decks of its tall ship ocean research vessels – the SSV Corwith Cramer, operating in the Atlantic, and the SSV Robert C. Seamans, operating in the Pacific.

Modeled after our Boston University accredited SEA Semester undergraduate program, SEA Semester gap programs offer any student interested in the oceans the opportunity to study the marine environment through the disciplines of science, maritime history & culture, policy, and leadership. SEA Semester® provides an experiential opportunity to gather firsthand knowledge that will influence students' lifelong relationships with the ocean.

As our society becomes more aware of how integral the oceans are to the planet, from climate patterns to energy production to the origins of life itself, we must also understand how to conserve these important resources. Moving beyond a textbook toward practical application, hands-on research, and personal experience, SEA Semester prepares students to take a more active role in solving today's environmental problems.

GET IN TOUCH

508.540.3954 ext 770
admissions@sea.edu
Browse programs

FUN FACTS

- SEA Semester ships have sailed more than 1.2 million nautical miles – that equal to 57 times around the earth!
- In recent years, SEA Semester has collaborated twice with NASA to explore a remote volcanic island in the Pacific!

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
Established in 1998, Sea|mester offers unique educational voyages where gap year and university students spend an entire semester at sea, sailing between countries and continents. Coupling accredited academics, sailing, and SCUBA certifications with real world application, Sea|mester’s goal is to provide an immersive learning experience, engaging students in ways that are impossible to replicate in the traditional classroom.

Academic Study Abroad & Gap Year Voyages at Sea.

**WHY CHOOSE SEA|MESTER?**

- Each of Sea|mester’s sailing schooners is a globe-exploring floating college campus; a self-sufficient living and learning environment that provides a platform for exploration, education, and deep connections all while circumnavigating the world.

- Living full time aboard an ocean-going schooner creates organic opportunities to learn, develop, and discover during every moment of the voyage. Sea|mester is the most socially intensive ‘Remote Learning’ environment you’ve ever experienced!

- In the Sea|mester environment, combining academics with experience allows students to truly interact with their education. As a small team of 16 or 24, this means more familiarity, more practice, and one-on-one support around the clock.

**FUN FACTS**

- US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
Ready to explore the world on a floating college as part of a supportive community of globally minded adventurers? Semester at Sea is a global comparative study abroad program, using a ship as its traveling campus and sailing to multiple ports around the world. Each voyage, over 550 students from across the Unites States and around the world take college-level classes on board the MV World Odyssey, Semester at Sea's beautiful vessel and floating college. During your semester you will travel to 10 - 14 different countries, getting a cross-cultural experience. We spend on average 3-7 days in each port to allow for in-country travel and exploration creating opportunities for a deep dive into the culture and uniqueness of a country.

Courses on Semester at Sea are led by an innovative and diverse group of faculty hired specifically for their expertise and experience in the countries on the voyage. With 70-72 courses across a wide range of subjects, students can build a schedule that best fits their needs. Colorado State university is our academic partner and each student will receive a CSU transcript upon completion of a voyage.

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!

GET IN TOUCH
☎ 800.854.0195
✉ admission@sevoyages.org
🔍 Browse programs

FUN FACTS
More than 75,000 individuals from 1,700 institutions have traveled to 60+ countries on Semester at Sea. Students have had the chance to meet several Noble Peace Prize winners, including Desmond Tutu, Mother Theresa, and Nelson Mandela.
Built around the unrivaled access of Sotheby’s Institute of Art, the Gap program invites curious students to explore London and the art world. Offered as 6-week and 12-week terms, including hybrid and face-to-face options, the program is ideal for students who are passionate about the wider arts and want to embark on a journey of self-discovery and cultural immersion. The program provides unique opportunities for students to broaden their perspectives, meet new people, develop an intimate understanding of the art world, and discover their place within it.

Living and learning in London is integral to the Sotheby’s Institute Gap experience. During their residential program, students will be introduced to life in a creative world capital. From visits to some of London’s major cultural venues – the British Museum, Tate Modern, the Historic Royal Palaces and Barbican Centre – to talks and workshops led by experienced professionals in the public and commercial art worlds — auctioneers, gallerists, curators, artists, private collectors — students will take full advantage of the richness and nuanced layers of the London art scene.

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
The adjustment from high school to university or the work force can be jarring and intimidating. But this moment of transition also provides an opportunity to reflect on what drives you, what you find meaningful and what you want to contribute to the world. Gap Year is designed to foster these moments of reflection, self-discovery and exploration. The 6 and 12-week programs allows you to study online and in New York City with Times journalists and other industry experts who will deepen your understanding of the world, widen your horizons and help you plan for the future.

Through academic inquiry and self-reflection, the program curriculum stimulates debate, challenges perspectives and exposes students to career opportunities. Through mentorship, professional development sessions and life skills workshops, students will end the program with greater clarity about their personal goals and career aspirations.

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
Timberline Canadian Alpine Academy is a post-secondary outdoor adventure school located in Banff National Park, Canada. Our goal is develop confident, thoughtful and highly skilled educators for today’s outdoor adventure industry.

Our programming includes: Ski/Snowboard Instructor Training & Certifications, Backcountry Ski Training/Avalanche Rescue, Wilderness First Aid, Paid Internships as Ski/Snowboard Instructors, Wilderness Film & Photography, Leadership Training, Conservation Management, Whitewater Canoe/Raft Guide Training, Mountaineering and much more! Programs range in length from four weeks to our full two-year Outdoor Adventure Guide Diploma.

WHY CHOOSE TIMBERLINE?
Timberline Canadian Alpine Academy is a post-secondary outdoor adventure school located in Banff National Park, Canada. Our goal is develop confident, thoughtful and highly skilled educators for today’s outdoor adventure industry.

Our programming includes: Ski/Snowboard Instructor Training & Certifications, Backcountry Ski Training/Avalanche Rescue, Wilderness First Aid, Paid Internships as Ski/Snowboard Instructors, Wilderness Film & Photography, Leadership Training, Conservation Management, Whitewater Canoe/Raft Guide Training, Mountaineering and much more! Programs range in length from four weeks to our full two-year Outdoor Adventure Guide Diploma.

Are you dreaming of working as a ski/snowboard instructor and looking for a paid internship doing what you love? If so, Timberline will be right up your alley.

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
Verto Education is a travel-based first semester of college. It’s an opportunity to explore the world & earn college credits.

**WHY CHOOSE VERTO?**

With Verto Education, students will spend their first college semester (or year) traveling throughout various regions of the world. Through field based courses focused on cultural immersion and self-discovery, they will earn 16 college credits per semester. Students get to complete your first semester of college and have hands-on class experience in one of our 6 different locations around the world (London, Italy, Spain, Latin America, South Pacific, Hawaii).

Verto students can also apply to and receive admission decisions from our 50+ partner colleges for free. We’ll work with students to fit Verto into their school of choice (or any post high school path they are on), they are not bound to our partner colleges. Verto Semesters have three major components:

- **Travel the World:** During your Verto experience, you'll travel the world, choosing between incredible destinations on our Campus or Field semesters.
- **Service-Based Learning:** Immerse yourself in service-based learning and walk away with knowledge and skills you can use in college and beyond.
- **Earn College Credits:** Meet general education requirements while staying on a 4-year graduation timeline.

**GET IN TOUCH**

- 971.257.8918
- admissions@vertoeducation.org
- Browse programs

**FUN FACTS**

- In Fiji, our students visit a community with the last living female Chief on the island.
- We have a book club and Spanish classes!

**WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?**

US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
We believe that stepping outside of ourselves and encountering new perspectives fosters profound positive change. Like all VISIONS adventures, our domestic GAP programs are rooted in the immersion of place, sustainability, connection to nature, outdoor adventure, and community. On our historic Montana Ranch, in the middle ground between the wild and urban, become part of an inclusive community and examine ways to step forward as change agents for sustainability and equity.

Volunteer on organic farms, regenerative ranches, and participate in the holistic practice of harvesting a Bison — all of which generate deeper respect and connection to our food and the land. Also, work with environmental organizations, learn permaculture design, modern homesteading techniques, and wilderness medicine (gain a WFR certification!). And... adventure and explore the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem; skiing and winter camping on the spring program, and hiking and backpacking on the fall program.

As one of the oldest international and domestic service organizations (this is our 33rd year of operation), we celebrate connectedness — and the hope it holds for the future. If you are ready for an experience of a lifetime and want to ignite a future with promise, purpose and positive change — then you are ready for VISIONS.

**WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?**

US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
Dragons has offered immersive and responsible Gap Year and Summer Abroad programs in Asia, Latin America, Africa, and the USA for nearly 30 years. Engaging as travelers, not tourists, programs give students the rare opportunity to genuinely experience the places they travel and meaningfully connect across cultures. Each small-group program is custom crafted by expert instructors and combines hands-on program components such as homestay, trekking, and language learning. With Dragons, students gain new perspectives, knowledge, and skills needed to be more active and resilient participants in the world.
Meet Your Gap Year Experts

If you’re feeling overwhelmed, you’re not alone. Figuring out how to make the most of your gap time, selecting the right program, devising travel schedules, budgeting, navigating college deferrals, researching travel insurance, and everything in between can be challenging for students or parents who are new to gap year planning.

Luckily, our USA Gap Year Fairs guest speakers and Gap Year Association accredited counselors are experts in supporting you through every step of the gap year process. To learn more, flip through the next few pages to get to know these gap year enthusiasts!

Meet Gap Year Experts

The Center for Interim Programs
EnRoute Consulting
J2Guides
Taylor the Gap

Did you know that there are only 8 professionally accredited gap year counselors in the United States that meet the current standards set by the Gap Year Association?

Collectively, the 6 counselors have over 125 YEARS of gap year experience!

The counselors are guest speakers at the virtual 2021 USA Gap Year Fairs events, so be sure to sign up to attend an upcoming fair or webinar.

Want to earn a $10,000 scholarship and work with a counselor?

US citizens ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!

Apply now | Learn more at a virtual event
HOLLY BULL & KATE WARREN
THE CENTER FOR INTERIM PROGRAMS

We are expert gap year counselors with 40 years experience in this field and over 8,000 students served.

WHY WORK WITH A GAP YEAR COUNSELOR?

Founded in 1980, the Center for Interim Programs ("Interim") is the first and longest-running independent gap year counseling organization in the United States. At Interim we have always believed that the process of personal expansion and creative risk-taking is relevant to people of all ages, at any stage of life.

Through our own personal explorations and professional experiences, we know first-hand that the perspective, knowledge, and skills gained through a well-planned gap year are critical to one’s growth and identity, and as such are a tremendous complement to further personal, academic, and career pursuits.

Our counselors are accredited through the Gap Year Association, having demonstrated excellence in the field of gap year consulting and passed all required standards for ethical, responsible, and risk-managed placements in gap year education. As counselors we are committed to our students' well-being and development; we also offer the unique vantage point of having been gap year students, gap year parents, gap year grandparents, and program directors. Our service is good for each individual's lifetime and we have financial need scholarships available.

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP & FREE GAP YEAR COUNSELING?

US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!

FUN FACTS

- Interim offers the only open-ended lifetime support of its kind in the US.
- We are now working with children of our alumni from the 1980s.
- Our expert counselors have traveled to almost every continent for program site visits.

GET IN TOUCH WITH HOLLY & KATE

609.683.4300
info@interimprograms.com
interimprograms.com

BOOK AN INTRO CALL
EnRoute Consulting ensures students maximize the power of their gap year by helping them coordinate and execute a personally crafted gap year itinerary. Founder and Gap Year Association accredited counselor Julia Rogers brings 14 years of personal and professional experience to the gap year planning process. Julia works with families to design gap year plans customized to each student's individual personality, goals and budget. By getting to know her students and working with them before, during and as they conclude their gap year, Julia is able to offer a throughline and make sure a student's year is deliberate and meaningful. This process empowers students to drive the planning while also providing support to parents so they can feel confident and excited to watch their young adult fledge.

Julia's coaching process is both empathetic and efficient. She provides peace-of-mind to families by making recommendations for programs and opportunities that she has vetted personally, sometimes by going to visit them in person! Recommending trusted programs and bringing years of industry experience to planning saves families time, money and unnecessary stress.

In a recent national survey, researchers found 246 different gap year “recipes” or combinations of programs, activities and ventures that students engage with on their gap time. But with students being spoiled for choice, how do you make the right choices? If you are feeling overwhelmed or lost in the planning process, get in touch. Gap year planning should be fun, so you are invited to join the extended EnRoute family and plan the gap year of your dreams!

Why Work with a Gap Year Counselor?

ADVISES ALL AGES & LOCATIONS

USA Virtual International

COUNSELING SPECIALTIES

PROGRAM SELECTION INDEPENDENT TRAVEL WORK EXCHANGE NATIONAL SERVICE MENTORSHIP HEALTH & SAFETY

Program Selection

NATIONAL SERVICE

MENTORSHIP

HEALTH & SAFETY

Get in Touch with Julia

609.529.1459
juliakenroute@enroute.com
enroute@enroute.com

Want to earn a $10,000 Scholarship & Free Gap Year Counseling?

US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!

2021 Gap Year Guide
You are standing on the cusp of change. It is a time of great possibility. At J2Guides we believe that this is one of the most transformative crossroads of your life, and an opportune time to consider #whatisyourwhy? With 45 combined years in experiential and gap year education, we know that this question is the foundation for planning an intentional gap year. We also understand that assessing the quantity and quality of options can be overwhelming, the costs may be discouraging, and a less traditional path can feel isolating. That is why we, Jane and Jason Sarouhan, co-founded J2Guides.

We have spent two and a half decades supporting young adults in wilderness, international and experiential settings. We are the only Gap Year Association accredited counselors who have held every role in this field: we took gap time as young adults, have led hundreds of students on programs as field instructors, designed programmatic curriculum and risk management protocol, directed a national educational nonprofit, and have spent the last decade as gap year consultants.

We draw from each of our former roles in the gap year field to offer personalized and professional gap year counseling that educates and engages students in: articulating their goals, cataloging their resources, researching reputable program options, and planning their gap years; all at their own pace and budget. If you are looking for compassionate, enthusiastic, experienced and authentic gap year mentors, J2Guides is the right place for you.

Our fees range from $600 - $2,000 and generous scholarships are available. We offer every family a free, initial consultation so please schedule a call with us to discuss your questions and gap year ideas!

J2Guides is an innovative gap year counseling service and educational platform that brings empowerment, affordability and expertise to the center of your gap year conversation.
MARION TAYLOR
TAYLOR THE GAP

Combining lifelong gap experiences with 35+ years of social work to help students make the most of their gap time.

WHY WORK WITH A GAP YEAR COUNSELOR?

Taylor The Gap is entering its 10th year as a Gap Year Association accredited consulting service nestled in the heart of the Rocky Mountains in Boulder, Colorado. Founder Marion Taylor, MSW tailors the interests and goals of students from all orientations, abilities, and economic backgrounds to the best suited gap programs and experiences.

With over 35 years of social work, Marion’s unique perspective is derived from a lifetime of personal gap experiences, from parenting four gap year children, and from ongoing research and vetting of domestic and international gap programs. She serves as an annual keynote speaker at USA Gap Year Fairs and at colleges and high schools nationally. She recently completed two years as gap year counselor ambassador of the Gap Year Association Board, wherein she co-authored the GYA Transition Guide for post-gap year students, planned four consecutive GYA conferences, and continues to serve as co-chair of the Membership Committee.

Most importantly for parents in this time of COVID-19, Marion is registered with Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC) in case of security alerts and or travel advisories. She strongly believes that this intentional time of self-exploration instills confidence, focus, and motivation for students’ future educational and life pursuits.

FUN FACTS

- Marion spent 3 years with the Peace Corps in Senegal, West Africa.
- In addition to being a gap year alum herself, Marion is also the parent of four gap year alumni!

WANT TO EARN A $10,000 SCHOLARSHIP & FREE GAP YEAR COUNSELING?

US citizens between the ages of 14-25 are eligible to apply for our 2021 scholarship, due April 15, 2021!
Access Gap Year Resources 24/7

Remember, Go Overseas & the USA Gap Year Fairs Hub is your one-stop-shop for gap year research, an extensive library of programs, FAQs, articles, guides, and (most excitingly) gap year scholarships! Learn more about how to use these resources to facilitate the next steps in your gap year planning process.

Access gap year resources anytime!
Explore programs, browse articles, find scholarships, and read verified alumni reviews on Go Overseas.

Catch an upcoming virtual gap year fair, webinar, or thematic panel with live Q&A to learn more about gap year options.

Did you know that USA Gap Year Fairs & Go Overseas are granting $15,000 in scholarships this year? Visit our scholarships hub for details.
Most Popular Gap Year Articles in 2021

At Go Overseas, we’re always looking to deliver helpful content to help you plan the gap year of your dreams! Below, we’ve included links to the articles that our community members have found most helpful so far this year.

How to Talk About Your Gap Year in Job Interviews

Learn how to explain your gap year and show its positive benefits in a job interview.

26 Gap Year Scholarships & Grants to Apply For in 2021

Sona Brannen
Sona Brannen is a writer captivated by the connection between physical space and the sense of belonging. She is still searching for her "forever homes... Read More...

Published November 22, 2020

5 Clever Ways to Convince Your Parents to Let You Take a Gap Year Before College

Colin Manahan
Colin was born and raised in Colorado, with the Rocky Mountains inspiring a passion for snowboarding, mountaineering, and photography. Man... Read More...

Published December 7, 2020

Gap years are more popular in some countries than others, but it does seem to be a phenomenon that is slowly gaining recognition. In more places, like the United States. However, there are still a lot of people (like many employers) who don’t know or understand what a gap year is.

Organizations around the world have recognized the value of young people taking time off to design their own travel experiences or participate in programs that are designed with the gap year mindset.

"It's a seemingly universal rite of passage for most of us these days: SATs, college applications, acceptance letters, prom, graduation, one last summer with our childhood friends, and then we're off to some faraway (or nearby) campus to start the beginning of the rest of our life. Every year, millions of teenagers go through this exact process, but is it right for you?"
More Gap Year Articles

Looking for more gap year information on a specific topic? We’ve got you covered! Dive into our most helpful gap year articles on Go Overseas.

- Your Essential Guide to Taking a Gap Year
  Colin Murdock - Feb 10, 2021

- Gap Year Benefits for Students
  Colin Murdock - Nov 25, 2020

- The Pros & Cons of Taking a Gap Year
  Colin Murdock - Nov 25, 2020

- 10 Ways a Gap Year Can Help You Figure Out Your Career
  Belinda Birchell - May 1, 2018

- How to Make the Most of Your Gap Year
  Katherine Parker-Magyar - Feb 25, 2021

- 10 Up & Coming Gap Year Destinations for 2021
  Colin Murdock - Jan 7, 2021

- Meaningful Gap Year Ideas for Young Adults
  Colin Murdock - Dec 29, 2020

- How Will Taking a Gap Year Affect College Scholarships?
  Rebeca Alarcon - Oct 27, 2020

- Work Exchange Abroad: Tools for a Gap Year on a Budget
  Colin Murdock - Dec 14, 2020

- Innovative Gap Year Ideas for Your First Year After College
  Olivia Cristina Perez - Jul 14, 2020
So where will your gap year take you?

We hope this guide and the resources included here will help connect you with perspective-changing opportunities, ideas, and inspiration for your gap year. If there’s anything we missed, don’t hesitate to reach out to the USA Gap Year Fairs & Go Overseas team. In the meantime, we hope to see you at a virtual event, review your 2021 scholarship application, or maybe even read a gap year alumni review from you one year from now!

General USA Gap Year Fairs questions?
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ANNOUNCING $15,000 IN GAP YEAR SCHOLARSHIPS!

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