

## Resources for International Students

International students at Harvard enrich our campus environment with cultural diversity and a range of perspective on the world. The contribution you bring to the Harvard community is immense and of great value. Many international students wish to work in the United States after graduation; however, this can at times be challenging. As an international student you may struggle to resolve immigration issues and to fulfill visa application requirements necessary to work legally in the United States. When considering applying for jobs in the U.S. we advise students to meet both with representatives from the Harvard International Office and with our Office of Career Services (OCS) career advisers. We can help you navigate the job market.

Below are resources to use in addressing some of the challenges that you, as an international student, might face. We recognize that the international student experience is a diverse one, and that students' experiences may vary.

- ***International students may benefit from additional support in becoming familiar with the U.S. internship and job search process.***
  - As an international student, you may be trying to make sense of the internship and job search process in the United States. Perhaps you have questions about the networking culture or are unsure how to prepare for an interview with a U.S. employer. Here at OCS, we can help with these issues, as well as help you draft a resume and cover letter. Stop by our [Drop-in hours](#) or make an appointment to ask questions and learn more about our services.
  - To begin, take a look at our online resources for sample [resume and cover letter templates](#), [interviewing tips](#), and [networking advice](#). In addition to our online resources, you can also refer to Cornell Career Services' 10-step process [tip sheet](#) for international students on the "US Job Search" as well as UC Berkeley's [guide](#) on "Interviewing for a US Employer." The following [article](#) on "Four Ways International Students can Explore Job Opportunities" may also be helpful.
  
- ***International students may struggle to identify employers in the United States interested in hiring or recruiting international students.***
  - See this [article](#) on employer attitudes and top concerns for hiring an international candidate. Determining which companies are friendly toward international applicants may be difficult. Some employers are not upfront about this information, while others actively recruit international candidates. For assistance on how to identify potential employers, please speak with our advisers or look through the resources below.
  - One good place to begin looking is [My VISA Jobs](#), which is the largest employment website for immigrants seeking employment in the U.S. Here you can find the [top 100 employers who offer visa sponsorship](#), the [top 100 industries that have international workers in the US](#), as well as the [top 100 green card sponsors](#). In addition, you can also use the [Riley Guide](#) to find international jobs outside of the U.S. based on country or region.
  
- ***International students may not know how to articulate their work authorization options and need for future visa sponsorship with potential employers.***
  - Although some highly successful companies are very familiar with the process of hiring and sponsoring international candidates, there are others that are misinformed and unaware of the process. The burden of responsibility to demystify misconceptions about

the process of hiring an international candidate falls to the candidate applying for that position. Thus, preparing for your job interview includes being able to explain your visa options as well as discussing the value you bring to the organization.

- To begin, here is a [FAQ and list](#) on “Hiring International Students.” In addition, [www.internationalstudent.com](http://www.internationalstudent.com) has extensive online resources with detailed information about the employment options available to international students. Here’s a [video](#) about “Working in the US as an International Student” as well as [USCIS’](#) “Student and Employment” requirements. You can also read this [article](#) in order to discern when and how to disclose with potential employers that you are an international student and may perhaps be seeking sponsorship.
- ***International students may require assistance filling out visa applications and other employment documents required to work in the United States.***
  - Navigating through the US immigration system can be a stressful experience. International students should talk with the Harvard International Office to discuss their visa options or begin by looking through their website’s [online visa](#) resources. You may also benefit from asking fellow international students about their experience applying for visa sponsorship, CPT, or OPT.
  - Here is an [article](#) of the “Top 10 Things Every F-1 Student Should Know” as well as “A [Guide](#) to International Student Work Authorization Options.” Stanford’s “[Employer Guide to Hiring International Students](#)” and San Francisco State University’s document on “[What Employers Should Know about Hiring International Students](#)” may also be helpful.

### **Resources@Harvard**

- [Woodbridge International Society](#) at Harvard College
- [Harvard International Office](#)
- [Harvard Office of Career Services](#)
- [In Support of International Students](#)-Harvard Gazette

### **Additional Resources**

- Dan Beaudry’s book: <http://www.powerties.net/>
- LinkedIn’s Job Search Guide for International Students: <https://www.globalmingleparty.com/internationalstudentjobsearchguide/>
- International Student Careers: <http://www.internationalstudentcareers.com/portfolio/international-student-jobs/>

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