

# WORK AND TRAVEL USA

Want to make the most out of your school holidays? To travel the world after your final university years? "Yes.. but how do I do that without bleeding out my pockets?" Get a holiday job with an American employer through Work & Travel USA!

Work & Travel USA is not a tour package – you will be working and living in the USA, immersing in the American way of life and cultures. At times it may be challenging, but every student returning from the programme will have a unique story to tell. The work experience you get, the lifelong friends you make, the travel experience that you will be talking about for years to come... this is why over 100,000 university students from around the world join Work & Travel USA every year.



## ELIGIBILITY

- A **current**, full-time university/college student study outside USA, **or**
- A final year student who registered **before** the final semester/exams/ internship end (**not convocation ceremony**), for the next immediate intake; not eligible anymore if you've completed your last semester;
- Between 18 to 26 years old at time of applying;
- Possess good, conversational English skills

## PROGRAMME DATES

### SUMMER

Intake Opening: Mid-October (exact date TBC)  
Intake Closing: 31 January or earlier  
Work Dates: 25 May – 15 September

### WINTER (Only applicants studying in malaysia & Australia)

Intake Opening: Mid-April (exact date TBC)  
Intake Closing: 31 July or earlier  
Work Dates: 25 November – 15 March

## WORK DURATION

At least 2.5 months within the above-mentioned date window, as long as your work period does not clash with your university studies.

## TRAVEL DURATION

You may enter the U.S. up to 30 days before your job begins and remain for up to 30 days after your job ends for travel

## SALARY

You will be paid at least USD 7.25 per hour, usually between USD14 - USD18 per hour.

## ACCOMMODATION

Your housing will be pre-arranged before you depart from Malaysia, and usually costs from USD 125 - USD 200 per week, depending on which region of the US that you live in and whether you live in an urban, rural, or suburban area.

# PROGRAMME DETAILS



# EMPLOYERS & POSITIONS



<b>Café/Bakery</b>	Wait Staff/Barista Porter/Steward	Bakery Assistant Counter Staff	
<b>Supermarket</b>	Grocery Clerk/Cashier Bag Boy/Girl	Deli/Bakery Assistant Fresh Produce Clerk	Meats/Fish Butchery Stockkeeper
<b>Resort &amp; Spa</b>	Host/Hostess Outdoor Activities Attendant Lifeguard/Pool Attendant Groundskeeper	Room Service Front Desk Service Bellboy/Porter Lobby Attendant	Housekeeper/Room Attendant Housekeeper Runner Laundry Services Restaurant/Café positions
<b>Hotel</b>	Front Desk Service Bellboy/Porter Lobby Attendant	Laundry Services Room Service Housekeeper Runner	Housekeeper/Room Attendant Restaurant/Café positions
<b>Fast Food/ Quick Serve Restaurants</b>	Short-order Cook Fast Food Team Member	Food Preparation Sandwich Maker	Cashier

<b>Retail Outlets</b>	Retail Assistant	Stock Handler	Customer Service Representative
<b>Service Restaurants</b>	Host/Hostess Server/Wait Staff Bartender	Banquet Staff Busser Food Runner	Line Cook/Assistant Cook Kitchen Assistant/Food Preparation Dishwasher
<b>Theme Park/ Amusement Park</b>	Food & Beverage Attendant Merchandise Attendant	Custodial Staff Front Entrance/Ticketing	Entertainment/Mascots Attractions & Ride Attendant
<b>National Park</b>	Retail/Merchandise Assistant Activities/Tour Attendant	Restaurant positions Groundskeeping	Customer Service Representative Resort/Hotel positions



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **CAN I DROP BY INFINITY ABROAD'S OFFICE FOR A CONSULTATION?**

We no longer accept walk-in or face-to-face appointments due to the high volume of applicants. All briefings are conducted online, so please follow our social media platforms for the latest updates. For quicker assistance, feel free to contact us via email, phone, or WhatsApp.

## **HOW DO I REGISTER FOR WORK & TRAVEL USA? DO I HAVE TO BE AT INFINITY ABROAD'S OFFICE?**

It is the 21st century! There is no need to be present at our office to register. We will email you the registration pack. All you have to do is follow the instructions and return your registration pack via email.

## **CAN I APPLY FOR A UNIVERSITY GAP YEAR/SEMESTER TO JOIN THIS PROGRAM?**

State Department regulations do not allow students on a "gap year" to join this programme. However, students on a gap semester may be considered on a case to case basis. Contact us for further clarification.

## **IS THE REGISTRATION FEE REFUNDABLE IF I DECIDE NOT TO CONTINUE WITH MY PROGRAM?**

No, the registration fee is paid to secure your DS-2019 permit and is non-refundable in any case.

## **CAN I CHOOSE MY PREFERRED EMPLOYER, OR DOES INFINITY ABROAD CHOOSE FOR ME?**

Yes, you will choose your own Work & Travel employer. Infinity Abroad advisors are here to advise and make recommendations, but you will make the final decision yourself.

## **CAN I WORK IN THE SAME LOCATION/EMPLOYER AS MY FRIENDS?**

If you and your friends would like to work together, please make sure all of you sign up at the same time. We will make our best effort to place your group members together but there is no guarantee – each employer only hires a pre-determined number of participants. Similarly, any friends who wish to join you after you have chosen your job will depend on the prevailing availability.

## **WHEN DO I PAY THE INTERVIEW FEE?**

The Interview Fee is paid once your interview time and date for your reserved employer placement is confirmed. You have to pay the interview fee before your interview date to confirm your interview attendance, or your interview will be cancelled.

## **WHAT IF I FAIL THE US SPONSOR/EMPLOYER'S INTERVIEW?**

98% of students do not fail the US Sponsor/Employer's Interview, as long as you prepare for it! If you do fail the interview, we will arrange for an alternative placement with a second employer. You may or may not have to reinterview, depending on the US Sponsor's feedback on your interview performance.

## **IF I WITHDREW AFTER MY FULL PROGRAMME FEE IS PAID, IS THERE ANY REFUNDABLE AMOUNT?**

Please refer to the Cancellation and Refund Policy in the "Infinity Abroad Participant Agreement". The participant agreement is sent to you as part of your Registration Pack.

## **I JUST GRADUATED, CAN I APPLY?**

No. Visa regulations require you to apply before the final day of your classes or exams. Once your final semester finishes, you are automatically not eligible anymore.

# APPLICATION PROCESS

## 1. Eligibility Verification & Registration

Attend an online info session, or contact us via email or WhatsApp one of our Infinity Abroad programme advisors to confirm your eligibility. Then, you can proceed to register for Work & Travel USA by submitting a registration pack issued to you via email.

## 2. Choose your Employer

Before you can start the online application, you need to make your first payment. You are required to profile your skills, experiences, interest, education and family background for placement purposes. You will also need to complete questions and upload supporting documents such as professional references, certifications, and application video to make your application stand out from the crowd.

## 3. Skype/In-person Interview

After reserving your employer choice, you will attend an interview conducted by your US Sponsor and/or the employer before you are issued a job offer. Interviews are either conducted through Skype, or in-person in Kuala Lumpur.

## 4. Job Offer & Employment Paperwork

Once you passed your interview(s), you will be issued a formal job offer indicating acceptance to work at your employer of choice. We will then guide you through your remaining hiring paperwork and programme fee payments.

## 5. Orientation Briefing

You will then attend an Orientation Briefing, either through Zoom, in-person at our Kuala Lumpur office. The purpose of Orientation is to brief you comprehensively on the aspects of your programme, including your Visa application & interview procedure, opening a US bank account, applying for Social Security Number, discuss your arrival transportation arrangements, etc.



## 6. Visa Application & Interview

You will then apply online for your US J-1 visa. After submitting your online visa application, we will assist in scheduling your visa interview appointment at the American Embassy in Kuala Lumpur.

## 7. Book your flight and you're ready to go!

Book a two-way flight to the USA yourself or through Infinity Abroad's trusted partner flight agencies and in a blink of an eye, you're off!

# WHAT TO EXPECT...

Let us give you a little insight into life working and living in the USA!

## 1. Choosing your Employer

Infinity Abroad offers up to 1500 Work & Travel USA positions every year for the Work & Travel USA programme, in hotels, resorts, full-service restaurants, fast food restaurants, amusement parks, water parks, retail outlets and supermarkets. How do you make your decision based on all this information?

Most students decide based on the highest per-hour-pay they find, but that does not necessarily guarantee higher earnings. Your pay depends on the living costs around the area you're living in, the working hours provided by your employer, and may fluctuate based on your employer's business nature. More importantly, research on the location you will be placed, and the work you will be doing. You will be living in the area for the few months of your Work & Travel USA programme, so make sure you are well-informed and fully prepared for your Work & Travel experience. If you have questions on any employer, let us know or contact one of our programme advisors. We are here to help!

## 2. Working & Living in the USA

Your employment in the USA is guaranteed in advance – so you do not have to worry about arriving in the USA without a paid job. 90% of Work & Travel USA positions come with pre-arranged housing. For the few positions that do not have ready housing, assistance will be provided in searching for housing yourself.

While in the USA, you live and work as Americans do – you will apply for a Social Security Number, which allows you to open a US bank account and receive your pay from your employer. Certain employers may provide housing or meal benefits, otherwise you are responsible for covering your own living expenses.

## 3. How much can I earn?

This is a very subjective question. Most students can cover their living costs and initial programme costs, but this also depends on your post-programme travel budget. Nevertheless, there is no cap on your maximum working hours permitted in the USA. Apart from your primary employment arranged, you are also allowed to seek part time work i.e. a second job in the area you are living in, so you can earn extra pocket money that way.

Keep in mind that Work & Travel USA is not a permanent job placement, so earning money is not the primary objective here. Work & Travel USA provides you the opportunity to experience the American culture, make lifelong friends and strive for independence outside your comfort zone. It is never a good idea to join Work & Travel USA with the aim of earning big bucks.

## 4. WAT USA is a Cultural Exchange Program

Over 100,000 students from around the world join Work & Travel USA every year. On this programme, you can expect to meet not just Americans, but exchange students like yourself from around the world. You will meet like-minded people from all walks of life, and you will learn a lot about their culture while sharing yours too. You can forge friendships that span globally, which is an opportunity rarely found elsewhere apart from the Work & Travel USA programme.

# PROGRAMME FEE

Work & Travel USA's programme fee starts from USD \$2,100.

The program fee includes the following:

- A guaranteed job placement of your choice
- DS-2019 work certificate/permit for the Work & Travel USA programme
- Visa application & interview assistance
- Accident and Medical Insurance throughout the programme
- Pre-departure orientation
- 24-hr emergency support provided by Infinity Abroad's partner US Sponsor organizations
- Flight booking consultation via Infinity Abroad's partner travel agencies
- Income tax filling advisory

## PROGRAM FEE PAYMENT TERMS

Your program fee is paid in 3 stages:

Stage	Cost (RM)
1st Payment - During Registration	RM 1,000
2nd Payment - Before 1st Interview	RM 1,000
3rd Payment - Final Balance	RM 6,000~6,400*

\*The Final Balance is paid after your job offer is confirmed. You will receive a detailed invoice itemizing your initial payment and discounts (if any), based on the prevailing Maybank USD-MYR exchange rates.

## OTHER PROGRAMME COSTS

Apart from the programme fee above, you also need to consider the following:

- US Visa Fees (USD \$185)
- SEVIS Fees (USD \$35)
- 2-way international flight ticket (RM5,500~6,500) – after visa approval
- Pocket Money (USD \$500~1,000)

## TOTAL PROGRAMME COST ESTIMATE

The total starting budget to the Work & Travel USA programme is roughly RM18,000 - 20,000. This covers all related costs including the programme fee, visa fees, SEVIS fees, two-way international flight and some additional extra for your own pocket money.