EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

2023 GAP YEAR GUIDE

PROGRAMS • COUNSELORS • RESOURCES

ANNOUNCING $5,000+ IN GAP YEAR SCHOLARSHIPS!

USAGapYearFairs.org
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YOUR GUIDE TO TAKING A GAP YEAR

Explore our top tips & resources, learn from gap year experts, and browse program information to help you plan your dream gap year!

GAP YEAR 101
03 How to Plan a Successful Gap Year
04 Gap Year Resources

GAP YEAR COUNSELORS
05 Meet Gap Year Experts
06 Holly Bull, The Center for Interim Programs
07 Julia Rogers, Enroute Consulting
08 Jane Sarouhan, J2Guides
09 Jason Sarouhan, J2Guides
10 Marion Taylor, Taylor The Gap

GAP YEAR PROGRAMS
11 Academic Programs International (API)
12 Alzar Gap
14 ARCC Gap
16 Art History Abroad
18 Berridge Programs
20 Carpe Diem Education
22 CIEE
25 City Year
25 Dynamy Internship Year

MORE GAP YEAR PROGRAMS
27 EF Gap Year
29 EF International Language Campuses
31 High Mountain Institute
33 Ingenuity Year
34 Irish Gap Year
36 NOLS
38 Pacific Discovery
40 Rustic Pathways
41 Sea Education Association (SEA)
43 Seamester
45 Semester at Sea
47 SOAR
48 Spanish Gap Year
50 Timberline Canadian Alpine Academy
52 Verto Education
54 Where There Be Dragons
56 Wilderness Adventures Leadership Institute
58 WorldStrides Gap Year

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
60 Most Popular Gap Year Articles
61 More Gap Year Articles
62 Contact

A NOTE FROM YOUR EDITORS

Hi there!

Team USA Gap Year Fairs had a blast putting together this year’s 2023 guide to help support your gap year exploration & research process.

We’re so excited that you’re all thinking creatively about your future and hope that you find what you’re looking for here.

If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to get in touch with us at fairs@gooverseas.com. We always love hearing from you and look forward to meeting some of you at an in-person fair or virtual event this winter.

Best,
Team USA Gap Year Fairs & Go Overseas

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Study Abroad Alum
How to Plan a Successful Gap Year

1. Get inspired & define your goals

What excites you most about the idea of taking gap time? What would you like to accomplish and why? Don’t worry about the details or logistics at this stage. Dream big by reflecting on your curiosities and passions. Maybe you want to practice a language abroad or explore a hobby you’ve always been curious about. Maybe you just need some time to reset before starting college or joining the workforce. Pinpointing your inspiration and big picture goals will help you get one step closer to planning a meaningful gap experience!

2. Research your options

After asking around for gap year advice within your community, the easiest way to get started is to begin researching options online. The USA Gap Year Fairs homepage is a great resource for reliable and up-to-date gap year information. Here, you can read through verified alumni reviews, interviews, and articles from gap year experts and sign up to attend one of the 30+ in-person gap year fairs or virtual events. Catching an event will help connect you with gap year program providers, counselors, and alumni, who are happy to speak with you one-on-one. At this stage, a student or family may choose to work with a gap year counselor to help provide more personalized support in designing an intentional gap experience.

3. Start making plans!

At this step, you’ll start turning those gap year dreams into a reality by applying to programs and/or making plans (travel or otherwise!). Typically, students choose one or more of these strategies, starting with the most supported and moving to a more independent planning process:

1. Choose a structured gap year program
2. Work with a gap year counselor or consultant
3. Plan an independent gap year

No matter which approach you take, every gap experience (like every student) is different. We can’t wait to learn how where your gap year takes you!
Gap Year Resources

For the past 15 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’re continuing to offer virtual fairs in addition to in-person events 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 2023 & beyond.

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

APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS
Did you know that USA Gap Year Fairs & Go Overseas are granting $5,000 in scholarships + in-kind mentorship from an accredited gap year counselor? Visit our hub to learn more!

TAKE THE GAPMATCHER
The best part about taking gap time is that you can customize your experience 100% to suit your unique interests, goals, and aspirations. Take the GapMatcher quiz to find your dream program.
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 can be challenging for students or parents who are new to gap year planning.

Luckily, our USA Gap Year Fairs Keynote Speakers and Gap Year Association accredited consultants 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 them!

Meet Gap Year Experts

Holly Bull, Center for Interim Programs
Julia Rogers, EnRoute Consulting
Jane Sarouhan, J2Guides
Jason Sarouhan, J2Guides
Marion Taylor, Taylor the Gap

They offer 1:1 support to help you plan an intentional gap experience! From assistance with idea generation, goal setting, planning logistics, devising travel schedules, applying to structured gap year programs, budgeting, navigating college deferrals, researching travel insurance, and everything in between, gap year counselors can be incredible sounding boards and mentors for students & families.

Collectively, the 5 counselors have over 125 YEARS of gap year experience!

GAP YEAR COUNSELORS

WHY WORK WITH A COUNSELOR?

• They offer 1:1 support to help you plan an intentional gap experience!
• From assistance with idea generation, goal setting, planning logistics, devising travel schedules, applying to structured gap year programs, budgeting, navigating college deferrals, researching travel insurance, and everything in between, gap year counselors can be incredible sounding boards and mentors for students & families.
• Collectively, the 5 counselors have over 125 YEARS of gap year experience!

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US residents, ages 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, opening Feb 1 & due Mar 15!
HOLLY BULL
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 HOLLY?

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.

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.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP & FREE GAP YEAR COUNSELING?

US residents between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, between Feb 1-Mar 15!
Infusing the planning journey with experience, intentionality and fun so students can maximize the benefits of a gap year.

**WHY WORK WITH A GAP YEAR COUNSELOR?**

EnRoute exists to make it easier for young people to experience the power of a gap year. Founder and Gap Year Association accredited counselor Julia Rogers brings fifteen years of personal and professional experience to EnRoute Consulting, including her own gap year spent in Tanzania and site visits to gap year programs in over 25 countries.

**FUN FACTS**

- In 2019, Julia gave a TEDx talk on the growing popularity of the gap year option, which you can watch at TED.com

**WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP & FREE GAP YEAR COUNSELING?**

US residents between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, between Feb 1-Mar 15!
Empowering young adults who are standing on the cusp of change has been at the heart of our work for nearly 30 years. We have championed the benefits of experiential learning since our own gap years when inspiring mentors and real world learning rejuvenated our academic paths. We have since led hundreds of students on gap year programs, directed a travel and volunteer organization, and spent over a decade as gap year consultants. We know that a well-planned gap year - with a coach in your corner - can bring confidence, perspective and relevant skills to your lifelong journey of living and learning.

If you are here then you are thinking about a gap year. And, if you are thinking about a gap year, then you are someone who is ready to question, to learn, and to grow. If along the way you are looking for enthusiastic, experienced and authentic gap year mentors, J2Guides is the right place for you.

Jane and Jason, the J2 behind J2Guides, put empowerment, agency and affordability at the center of your gap year planning.

Jane and Jason and their pre-teen spent the first year of the pandemic living in their camper van and traveling all over the U.S. to spotlight the American gap year.

Jane has been a certified ski instructor, birth doula, wedding officiant and Wilderness First Responder.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP & FREE GAP YEAR COUNSELING?
US residents between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, between Feb 1-Mar 15!
We draw from nearly 30 years in wilderness, international and experiential education as we guide each courageous student to plan and pursue their gap year. Through our signature gap year planning process, interactive workshops, and personalized one-on-one counseling sessions, J2Guides’ students develop the skills and confidence to identify their goals, define their budgets, and select reputable programs. Gap year consulting is more than our job, it’s our lifestyle. We are committed to exploring new experiences and environments because they inspire, teach, and challenge us to grow. We are passionate about what we do because we believe in the power and potential of gap time to help you manifest the best version of you!

Jason once lived with the Hadzabe, one of the last known tribes of hunter-gatherers in Tanzania, documenting their tool culture.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP & FREE GAP YEAR COUNSELING?
US residents between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, between Feb 1-Mar 15!
MARION TAYLOR
TAYLOR THE GAP

Taylor The Gap services offers 65 years of gap year planning, social work, and international education experience combined.

WHY WORK WITH MARION?
The dynamic team of Marion Taylor and Stashia Kael guides students in planning and designing gap experiences which are "tailored" to their interests, needs, goals, and budget, with an emphasis on student ownership and engagement.

FUN FACTS
- Marion served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Community Development in Senegal, West Africa.
- Marion advised her four children in planning their own gap experience.
- Marion speaks French, Spanish, German, and Diola.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP & FREE GAP YEAR COUNSELING?
US residents between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, between Feb 1-Mar 15!

GET IN TOUCH WITH MARION
📞 303.588.2630
✉️ info@taylorthegap.com
🔗 taylorthegap.com

BOOK AN INTRO CALL
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS INTERNATIONAL (API)

We encourage students to embark on an experiential education journey that enriches their lives, careers, and communities.

WHY CHOOSE API?

Academic Programs International (API) encourages students of all ages to embark on a lifelong experiential educational journey that enriches lives, careers, communities and organizations and helps every student, college and company to achieve their goals.

Whether your goals include college, or something else altogether, API can deliver options for you! Our summer, semester or academic year programs give students the chance to learn, grow and study in another country, gaining skills that will help you both professionally and academically. Plus, if you do choose to start your college life abroad, API can help you transfer into one of our 500 affiliated college and university partners when you return home!

GET IN TOUCH

512.600.8900
studentoutreach@apiabroad.com
Browse programs

*If you are under 16 and interested in an API program, go ahead and apply! After you submit your application, you can send us an email and a program manager will be in touch.

FUN FACTS

- Did you know that API is known for creating access for students in large part through access to scholarships?
- Did you know that API is all about debunking study-abroad myths? Learn why we think studying abroad is for everyone!

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US residents between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, between Feb 1 - Mar 15!

VISIT THE GAP YEAR HUB LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT
ALZAR GAP

Alzar Gap provides life-changing experiences in world-class destinations.

WHY CHOOSE ALZAR GAP?

Alzar Gap brings students to the intersection of leadership training, cultural exchange and outdoor adventure. We offer gap programs for high school graduates looking for exploration and adventure in the American West and Patagonia! Alzar School has spent nearly two decades offering leadership programming for high school students and young adults. Alzar Gap programs were carefully designed based on Alzar School’s “Six Foundations” — leadership development, academics, outdoor adventure, cultural exchange, environmental stewardship, and service learning. Our programs allow participants to discover new interests and passions under the mentorship of inspiring instructors and community leaders. With campuses in Idaho and Patagonia, Chile, Alzar Gap programs are uniquely positioned to offer powerful experiences to high school graduates looking to do something special with their educational journeys.

FUN FACTS

- Alzar has world-class campuses in both Idaho (on the banks of the Payette River) and Patagonia (on Lago Atravesado).
- Outdoor adventure is an integral part of Alzar Gap. Idaho and Chile are famous for their rivers and mountains.
- Earn valuable outdoor certifications, that will set you up for a life of adventure!

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2022!

GET IN TOUCH

- 833.862.5927
- admissions@alzarschool.org
- Browse programs

LOCATIONS

Idaho, Patagonia, Chile

PROGRAM TYPES

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

VISIT THE GAP YEAR HUB

LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT

Vaccination Required for Int. College Credit Fall: Aug 1 Spring: Dec 1
While I pushed the limits of my comfort zone, I never felt out of control.

“Northwest whitewater is exciting, serene, and challenging. The landscapes are beautiful, the accommodations with Alzar are comfortable, and the staff does a fantastic job of balancing your comfort level and challenging you to improve. Alzar also integrates student leadership well into each of its expeditions and gives everyone the chance to help plan and facilitate the trip. Before my Alzar expeditions, I had no whitewater kayaking experience, so each time I got into a kayak was somewhat nerve-wracking. The Alzar staff helped assuage these fears with careful guidance and appropriate challenges. While I pushed the limits of my comfort zone, I never felt out of control. After a few weeks of paddling, I became much more comfortable and enjoyed my time on the river!”

— Abe, Alzar School Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member
ARCC Gap Programs are a mixture of learning, adventure, cultural immersion, and leadership in a small group environment.

WHY CHOOSE ARCC?
Engage with and learn from other cultures, explore new parts of the world, develop leadership skills, and challenge yourself while making memories that will last a lifetime!

ARCC GAP

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

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

GET IN TOUCH
415.332.5075
gap@arccprograms.com
Browse website

FUN FACTS
- 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, developing resilience and leadership skills.
- We have had over 20,000 participants throughout our nearly four decades of operating programs.

LOCATIONS
USA, Central America, Caribbean, South America, East Africa, Asia & Pacific Islands

PROGRAM TYPES
Vaccination Required
College Credit
Rolling
ARCC Gap Programs are a mixture of learning, adventure, cultural immersion, and leadership in a small group environment.

“Taking a gap semester with ARCC was undoubtedly one of the best decisions I’ve ever made. The places we went were breathtakingly beautiful, and the way we experienced each place was much more meaningful than if we had each been traveling solo. ARCC does a great job of choosing partners to work with and helps students have an experience that is very educational without being academically strenuous. Fellow students are like minded, conscientious individuals, and the trip sets you up for bonding and making lifelong friends! It is truly special to watch each other grow and learn while growing a lot yourself. This trip taught me a lot about myself and helped me to become more comfortable in my own skin. Ultimately, if you love being outside, exploring cool new places all the time, funny van rides, and embracing the moment, you’ll definitely enjoy your gap semester!”

— Gillian, ARCC Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member
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.

FUN FACTS

- On average, an AHA student 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 $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

GET IN TOUCH

+44.1379.871800
info@arthistoryabroad.com
Browse programs
Art History Abroad’s semester course is the best way anyone could possibly spend 6-12 weeks.

I was so lucky to experience it, having not only educational but fun tutors who guided us seamlessly through some of the most stunning places on the planet. I met friends from places I’d never even heard of before and the lasting friendships that you can build during this enriching time are possibly the best thing about it. It is truly a blast. I found the most enriching thing to be the way in which I found myself loving learning. I felt that everyday had a true and amazing purpose, and I knew that each day my mind would be blown afresh.

---

Theo, Art History Abroad Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member
CREATIVE SEMESTER

Live in creative community based in an 18th century chateau in the heart of Normandy, France led by professional artists.

WHY CHOOSE CREATIVE SEMESTER?

Berridge Creative Semester is a 10-week residential program led by professional artists. Based in an 18th-century chateau in Normandy, France, Creative Semester offers a blend of guided excursions, cultural experiences, artistic workshops, and hands-on classes in all disciplines, including Filmmaking, Writing, Studio Art, Photography, Theatre, Music, and Design for Stage and Screen.

Focus on a discipline you love, learn something completely new, or try a combination of both as you move projects from concept to completion under the guidance of your personal artistic mentor. There are weekly excursions to the must-see sites and hands-on experiences designed to immerse you in French food, history, language, and culture. Optional French lessons are available for those looking to boost their language skills.

The program includes a week-long trip to Paris with a full itinerary of arts-focused excursions in the famed City of Lights. Explore where your creativity can take you and connect with other artists from around the world at Berridge Creative Semester.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

GET IN TOUCH

760.688.8447
andreaberridgeprograms.com
Browse programs

FUN FACTS

- Our residence was used as a German communication headquarters in WWII
- Known as our Cheese Challenge, we aim to sample 100 cheeses during our time in France
- Berridge faculty collectively represent over 55 different creative careers

Vaccination Not Required
College Credit
Rolling

LOCATIONS
France

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

2023 Gap Year Guide
USA GAP YEAR FAIRS.ORG
CREATIVE SEMESTER

Live in creative community based in an 18th century chateau in the heart of Normandy, France led by professional artists.

“ If you are looking for an experience that will completely change your life and give you the tools to succeed the arts or in life, Berridge is the place for you.

Back in 2016, I came back with my first short film, countless memories, and a family across the globe. Now I am a globally awarded full-time filmmaker and owe it all to Berridge. — People come back every year after (including myself). Some have even come for more than TEN consecutive years. So rest assured, it’s THAT good. Come for the knowledge, stay for the experience.

—— Ramiro, Creative Semester Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member

GET IN TOUCH
☎️ 760.688.8447  🌐 andreasberridgeprograms.com  💻 Browse programs
CARPE DIEM EDUCATION

Carpe Diem inspires growth and transformation through culturally immersive international gap year experiences.

WHY CHOOSE CARPE?

Through a combination of community-driven service initiatives, community homestays, student-directed travel, and unique itineraries, students grow as individuals and as a community by living and learning with others.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

GET IN TOUCH

- 877.285.1808
- info@carpediemeducation.org
- Browse programs

FUN FACTS

- We offer Latitudes Year and gap semester programs to 18 countries on 5 continents.
- Our Overseas Educators are dedicated experiential educators, experienced world travelers, and, often, Wilderness First Responders.
I loved getting to be immersed in the communities on the farms and connecting with people there because it was a great way to hear different perspectives and get an authentic experience with the local culture.

"I'm so thankful for this experience because the collection of local contacts allowed me to experience and interact with a variety of unique perspectives and lifestyles that I otherwise would have never been able to encounter. I feel that in particular this experience was perfect for the transition between high school and college and adulthood because it opened my eyes to a plethora of different future paths and highlighted my values in a profound way."

---

Vivienne, Carpe Diem Education Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member
CIEE is the largest study abroad nonprofit organization in the U.S. We offer immersion programs in 30+ global destinations.

WHY CHOOSE CIEE?

CIEE is the country’s oldest and largest nonprofit study abroad and intercultural exchange organization. Since 1947, CIEE has helped thousands of people gain the knowledge and skills necessary to live and work in a globally interdependent and culturally diverse world by offering the most comprehensive, relevant, and valuable exchange programs available. CIEE operates in more than 30 countries and supports over 30,000 students each year.

Our Gap year abroad programs take you to six amazing global destinations: France, Spain, Italy, Germany, Japan and Morocco. On a Gap experience with CIEE, you’ll find a perfect balance between structured and free time to help you make the most of this special time. All our programs combine classes you won’t want to miss with excursions, cultural activities and personal time. Pair semesters in one or two locations to build a gap experience that meets your goals and receive a 10% alumni discount on your second semester. Return home with lifelong memories and friends, practical experience, focus and motivation!

GET IN TOUCH

- 866.583.0332
- hsabroad@ciee.org
- Browse programs

FUN FACTS

- We started in 1947, making CIEE the most tenured study abroad organization in the U.S.
- We manage the largest summer abroad scholarship fund for U.S high school students & award more than $6 million yearly.

WANT TO EARN A **$5,000 SCHOLARSHIP** FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!
CITY YEAR
One year with City Year can build a lifetime of change - leaders like you build bridges!

WHY CHOOSE CITY YEAR?
City Year helps students and schools succeed, while preparing the next generation of civically engaged leaders who can work across lines of difference. In partnership with teachers and schools, City Year AmeriCorps members cultivate learning environments where all students can build on their strengths, fully engage in their learning, and experience success—helping them progress on their journey towards bright futures.

Diverse teams of City Year AmeriCorps members serve in schools full time as student success coaches, helping students cultivate social, emotional and academic skills, whether that’s mastering fractions or learning to work in teams—skills that are important in school and in life. Through their work in schools and communities, City Year AmeriCorps members not only make a difference in the lives of students they serve, but also acquire valuable skills that prepare them to become the next generation of leaders.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

GET IN TOUCH
617.927.2500
joinus@cityyear.org
Browse programs

FUN FACTS
- 84% of Alums said City Year helped prepare them for their career path.
- Alums have access to tuition scholarships at more than 100 colleges that can help you further your education.

2023 Gap Year Guide
Up until this point in my life, I had been a very shy person who rarely spoke up and kept most thoughts to myself.

After joining City Year, I decided that it was time for a change, and I forced myself out of this quiet comfort zone and strived to be more outspoken. Throughout the basic training segment at the beginning of the year, I would constantly push myself to participate and get to know my new colleagues. As a result of this, people in the program cared more about what I had to say and what I stood for.

—— Seabron S, City Year Alum
Fall 2018 AmeriCorps member, Baton Rouge
DYNAMY INTERNSHIP YEAR

Dynamy’s real-world approach allows students to explore interests and build skills critical for success in life’s next steps.

WHY CHOOSE DYNAMY?

Dynamy Internship Year is a long-standing, domestic gap year program created for students who want to pursue a unique, hands-on learning experience.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

GET IN TOUCH

508.796.0190
admissions@dynamy.org
Browse programs

FUN FACTS

- Dynamy offers optional college credits through Clark University.
- Founded in 1969, Dynamy is the oldest residential internship gap year program in the United States.

PROGRAM TYPES

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

LOCATIONS

Worcester, Massachusetts

VACCINATION NOT REQUIRED
COLLEGE CREDIT
ROLLING

2023 Gap Year Guide
They have so many internship opportunities that allow us to explore interests of all kinds and have hands on experiences. I'm forever grateful, thank you Dynamy!

Dynamy is exceptional because of the way they handled COVID. Even through COVID they allowed us to have a social life in a safe way and enjoy our time with our peers. They planned fun activities for spring break, and Easter even though we couldn't be with our families. They made me realize Dynamy is a family and the best non-biological family a girl could ask for.

---

Delaney, Dynamy Internship Year Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member
EF GAP YEAR

Customizable, international gap programs for students ages 18-22. Learn about yourself, the world, and yourself in the world.

WHY CHOOSE EF GAP YEAR?
An EF Gap Year is not an alternative to college—it's about preparing you to make the most of college, your career, and, in many ways, the rest of your life.

GET IN TOUCH
- 800.726.9746
- info@efgapyear.com
- Browse programs

FUN FACTS
- We work to make our gap programs as all-inclusive as possible by including as much as possible in the program fee—from accommodations, activities, and excursions to flights, transportation, select meals, and mentorship.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

VISIT THE GAP YEAR HUB | LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT
Out of my comfort zone and into my future!

I can’t imagine who I’d be right now if I hadn’t taken a gap year. EF’s gap year program allowed me to accomplish so many goals of mine, whether it be to learn fluent Spanish or to go bungee jumping in a foreign country. I studied Spanish in Costa Rica, completed Service Learning in the Dominican Republic, and interned in Madrid, Spain. My gap year took me out of my comfort zone so many times that I don’t even know what that means anymore – and my life is better because of it. Now, as I head off to college, I am able to focus on my excitement rather than feeling nervous, because I have built so much confidence within the past year. If anyone is searching for a path to follow, a way to achieve their goals, or even just who they are, they need to take a gap year.

Annabel, EF Gap Year Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member
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
Browse programs

FUN FACTS

- We’re part of EF Education First, the largest educational organization in the world with a global reach that spans more than 100 countries in 6 continents.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

VISIT THE GAP YEAR HUB
LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT

Vaccination Not Required
College Credit
Rolling

PROGRAM TYPES

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

LOCATIONS

Berlin, Munich, Paris, Nice, Barcelona, Malaga, Costa Rica, Rome, Singapore, Tokyo, and Seoul

2023 Gap Year Guide
USAGAPYEARFAIRS.ORG
I had an absolutely incredible time in the EF program in Seoul, South Korea.

My teachers were kind, funny, supportive, and extremely passionate about their students and teaching in general. The classes were fun, engaging, and effective — my Korean improved immensely over the eight weeks that I was in the course, and I learned a lot about Korean culture and history. I also happened to meet some of the most amazing people I’ve ever known during my time there, and made friendships that I know will last a lifetime. I will forever be grateful to EF for my amazing experience in Seoul!

— Gen, EF International Language Campuses Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member
HIGH MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE GAP

Outdoor gap semesters in The American West and Patagonia, that engage in backpacking, rock climbing, and wilderness travel.

WHY CHOOSE HMI?

HMI Gap Semesters unite outdoor adventure, environmental service, and leadership development on an unforgettable 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. We offer three courses: Trek, Rock, and Traverse.

The trek course engages with backpacking and wilderness travel, traveling within the American West and Patagonia, Chile. Our Rock course also travels both within the American West and internationally to Chile as well, but with an emphasized focus on rock climbing. Lastly, the Traverse course is our domestic course that engages in backpacking, rock climbing, white water rafting, and backcountry skiing, with travel to Colorado, Utah, and Arizona.

GET IN TOUCH

719.486.8200 ext 103
yrodriguezhminet.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!

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

VISIT THE GAP YEAR HUB LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT
"HMI gave me the perfect mixture of outdoor adventure, leadership skills, and environmental studies to create a genuinely phenomenal semester! I had spent very little time camping, backpacking, or climbing before the program, but HMI equipped me with all of the mental and physical tools to combat every challenge I would face. They helped me reframe my relationship with the outdoors and truly become comfortable in a wide variety of activities. HMI also created the space for an incredible and unique community. I had an amazing relationship with each individual participant and the group as a whole— we were genuinely a new family."

Zack, HMI Gap Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member

"We learned deeply about places while in them, talked about conservation and wilderness not as some far off concepts but as ideas with real, visible implications for how we lived while in the field."

READ ALUMNI REVIEWS ON USAGAPYEARFAIRS.ORG

GET IN TOUCH
719.486.8200 ext 103
gap@hminet.org
Browse programs
Ingenuity Year offers gap year programs specifically designed for students with Learning Differences and ADHD. Through direct, hands-on experiences with local communities, students learn more about themselves and the world. We get out of the “boxed” academic environment and apply skills and knowledge to real challenges faced by real communities. Through this, students develop skillsets for increased independence and maturity and become better prepared for the transition to a post-secondary environment.

**WHY CHOOSE INGENUITY YEAR?**

We get to catch and cook lobster straight from the ocean

We are one of the only gap year organizations to employ Executive Functioning Coaches on our programs

Albert Einstein was one of the original board members of Forman School

**GET IN TOUCH**

- 860.567.1802
- kai.johnson@formanschool.org
- [Browse programs](#)

**FUN FACTS**

- US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Vaccination Required
- College Credit
- Fall: Jun 15
- Spring: Jan 15

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**PROGRAM TYPES**

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

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**LOCATIONS**

Maine, Dominican Republic

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**2023 Gap Year Guide**

**USA**

**Virtual**

**International**

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IRISH GAP YEAR

Adventure, Arts, Leadership and Immersive Travel Gap Program in Ireland, European and Scandinavia. GYA Accredited.

WHY CHOOSE IRISH GAP YEAR?
Irish Gap Year provide award-winning Gap Year Programs in Ireland, Europe, and Scandinavia for young people interested in learning more about themselves and the world they live in.

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

LOCATIONS
Ireland, UK, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Germany, Czech Republic, Austria, Italy, Croatia, Slovenia.

VACCINATION
Not Required

College Credit
Fall: Jun 1
Spring: Dec 17

GET IN TOUCH
+353.85.198.4288
info@irishgapyear.com
Browse programs

FUN FACTS
- Irish Gap Year is Europe’s First GYA Accredited Gap Year Program Provider.
- All Irish Gap Year Programs are climate positive!
- Irish Gap Year won Go Overseas 2021 ‘Best Overall Gap Year Provider’ as voted by gappers!

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

VISIT THE GAP YEAR HUB
LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT
IRISH GAP YEAR

Irish Gap Year provides semester-length and short gap year programs in Ireland and Europe.

“
My experience here was so beyond incredible. I’ve made so many incredible friends here’s a learned so much about Ireland and the culture.

“I seriously enjoyed every single day of being in Ireland. I’m so so sad to leave. Like this has honestly been the highlight of my life so far; doing this program. There was never a dull moment with the group, we all became so incredibly close so quickly. The independence that you are given on this trip really allowed to me find myself in ways I never have before. This program has changed my life. I’m so thankful for it”

Braden, Irish Gap Year Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member

READ ALUMNI REVIEWS ON info@irishgapyear.com

GET IN TOUCH +353.85.198.4288 info@irishgapyear.com Browse programs
NOLS

NOLS is a nonprofit global wilderness school that seeks to help you step forward boldly as a leader.

WHY CHOOSE NOLS?

Our mission is to be the leading source and teacher of wilderness skills and leadership that serve people and the environment.

GET IN TOUCH

1.800.710.6657
info@nols.edu
Browse programs

FUN FACTS

- Our school began in a small cabin in Sinks Canyon, Wyoming in 1965 as the National Outdoor Leadership School.
- In 2006 Students head out for the first Year in Patagonia course, the first-ever yearlong program in outdoor education.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

VISIT THE GAP YEAR HUB
LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT
“Choosing the NOLS program was a decision that I will never regret and an opportunity that I am forever grateful for.

“This trip opened up my eyes and challenged every part of my being in the most unforgettable ways. From my inspiring instructors, the New Zealand terrain, to my fellow group members. It taught me how important communication is, how to be an authentic leader and how to persevere though the toughest of days. Sleeping under the stars almost every night and being completely unplugged in nature was only part of a trip of a lifetime. I would recommend this program/trip to anyone and everyone!”

Mabel, NOLS Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member

GET IN TOUCH  1.800.710.6657  info@nols.edu  Browse programs
PACIFIC DISCOVERY

Pacific Discovery offers rugged journeys to beautiful places, with authentic immersion and inspiring adventure.

WHY CHOOSE PACIFIC DISCOVERY?

Our programs are deliberate overland journeys, blending authentic immersion in diverse cultures, meaningful service-learning projects, rewarding adventures, wilderness exploration, and personal development.

GET IN TOUCH

800.655.3415
info@pacificdiscovery.org

FUN FACTS

- Pacific Discovery has been around since 2001.
- Pacific Discovery’s name is inspired by early journeys of discovery, from Polynesian seafarers to Spanish explorer Magellan, making voyages across our vast oceans.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

VISIT THE GAP YEAR HUB  LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT

2023 Gap Year Guide
This program absolutely changed my life.

My instructors were spectacular and guided me through so many incredible experiences in Thailand. I can genuinely say this program was everything I hoped for and more. I would recommend this program to any graduating high school student, I feel much more prepared for life and future travel after completing this program. I undoubtedly learned way more in those three months than I did in all of my secondary education. It’s the perfect bridge in between high school and college/life!

— Cabell, Pacific Discovery Alum  
Verified Go Overseas Community Member
Rustic Pathways is an award-winning student travel operator and revolutionary program for student development.

WHY CHOOSE RUSTIC PATHWAYS?
Rustic Pathways is an award-winning student travel operator, a groundbreaking service-learning center and a revolutionary program for student development. Founded in Australia in 1983, Rustic Pathways is imbued with the ambition and vision of the explorer in the outback. This legendary history built around adventure, energy and service continues to place Rustic Pathways at the cutting edge of helping students discover the global citizen within themselves.

We offer one to three-week spring break and summer experiences, Gap Year programs, and custom group trips in 20 different countries. Across the globe, we employ local staff and foster lasting relationships with the communities in which we work, enabling our students to have immersive and authentic travel and service experiences.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

GET IN TOUCH
- 440.975.9691
- rustic@rusticpathways.com
- Browse programs

FUN FACTS
- Every year, travel company Rustic Pathways give away $250,000 to students from across the world!
- Choose from culturally-immersive adventure and volunteer programs in 17 countries.
SEA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

SEA is a leading non-profit, independent educational institution focused on environmental studies and the world’s oceans.

WHY CHOOSE SEA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION?
Ocean Exploration is an interdisciplinary gap program that combines insights from the natural and social sciences to deepen students’ awareness of and appreciation for the ocean.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

GET IN TOUCH
- 800.552.3633
- admissions@sea.edu
- Browse programs

FUN FACTS
- In recent years, Sea Education Association has collaborated twice with NASA to explore a remote volcanic island in the Pacific!
- In the movie "Dolphin Tale 2," the main character, Sawyer, is offered a prestigious scholarship to a Boston University program at sea called SEA Semester. Guess what? We’re a real program!

Vaccination Required
College Credit
Aug 1 & Nov 1
Summer: Mar 1

LOCATIONS
At Sea, USA, New Zealand & Pacific Islands

PROGRAM TYPES
- ACADEMIC
- ACTIVISM
- ADVENTURE
- ARTS, FILM & MEDIA
- INTERNSHIPS
- LANGUAGE LEARNING
- SUSTAINABILITY
- VOLUNTEER

USA
Virtual
International
"I participated in SEA Semester’s Fall 2020 Gap Year program, where we spent 3 weeks on their campus in Woods Hole, MA, and then 6 weeks at sea aboard the Corwith Cramer. Learning to sail the tall ship, working on research in the lab, and getting to know and work with my 35 shipmates (24 students and 12 crew total), taught me so much about myself and helped me to grow immensely. The crew are some of the most inspiring people you will ever meet! I learned so much from the assistant scientists, the mates, and the faculty!"

Aileen, SEA Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member
SEA|MESTER

Academic Study Abroad & Gap Year Voyages at Sea.

WHY CHOOSE SEA|MESTER?

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.

PROGRAM TYPES

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

Academic Study Abroad & Gap Year Voyages at Sea.

LOCATIONS

Multiple countries - at Sea

ACADEMIC

- Vaccination Not Required
- College Credit
- Rolling

FUN FACTS

- 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.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!
"I felt like we had plenty of time to explore each port, and fully take advantage of our time on land. What I really enjoyed most was growing as a team and as a family on board and getting accustomed to being part of the crew. You’ll find that you’ll learn just as much from your fellow shipmates as you would in the classes on board. It’s one thing to learn from a lecture, but with these hands on exercises and field trips it makes the experience incredibly immersive and rewarding. I can’t recommend this program enough if you enjoy the ocean, sailing, traveling, and making lasting relationships with your shipmates. 90 days seems like a long time, but by the end of our voyage I didn’t want it to end. As a result of this voyage I am continuing my education in the maritime industry and am pursuing a career working on the ocean.”

---

Tom, Seamester Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member
Semester at Sea is a high impact choice for adventure, global learning, and community since 1963.

Why Choose Semester at Sea?

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 United 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+ 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.

Fun Facts

- More than 73,000 individuals from 1,700 institutions have traveled to 60+ countries on Semester at Sea. Students have had the chance to meet several Nobel Peace Prize winners, including Desmond Tutu, Mother Theresa, and Nelson Mandela.

Get in Touch

- 800.854.0195
- admission@isevoyages.org
- Browse programs

Want to earn a $5,000 Scholarship for this program?

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!
I learned more in one semester about myself and the world than I ever had in my life.

Semester at Sea takes you to 11 countries and 4 continents, giving cultural immersion, a new global perspective, and a truly global comparative experience. For me, it was absolutely life changing. I learned more in one semester about myself and the world than I ever had in my life. It is true hands-on, experience-based learning. It isn’t simply studying from a textbook and then forgetting everything a month later. All my SAS experiences will stay with me forever. SAS taught me that there is so much that we don’t know about the world. There is so much left to learn. Other study abroad programs make you come home and say “that was fun,” but Semester at Sea makes you say “What’s next? How can I change the world for the better?” You truly leave inspired.

Melayna, Semester at Sea Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member
The GAP (Gateway Adventure Program) Year at SOAR meets the needs of young adults who have graduated from high school but are not quite ready to step into a university or workforce setting.

We strive to empower our participants through travel, college classes, and volunteering. Participants discover their talents, increase their self-reliance, and experience life-changing adventures while preparing for their future. The GAP Year encourages participants to pursue new and existing interests and strengths, develop social skills via communal living, increase life skills through expedition planning and exploring the Western USA, and practice independent living in a small group setting. Participants alternate between residential campus phases and expeditions.

**WHY CHOOSE GAP YEAR AT SOAR?**

The GAP (Gateway Adventure Program) Year at SOAR meets the needs of young adults who have graduated from high school but are not quite ready to step into a university or workforce setting.

We strive to empower our participants through travel, college classes, and volunteering. Participants discover their talents, increase their self-reliance, and experience life-changing adventures while preparing for their future. The GAP Year encourages participants to pursue new and existing interests and strengths, develop social skills via communal living, increase life skills through expedition planning and exploring the Western USA, and practice independent living in a small group setting. Participants alternate between residential campus phases and expeditions.

**GET IN TOUCH**
- 828.456.3435
- admissions@soarnc.org
- Browse programs

**FUN FACTS**
- 1:5 staff to gapper ratio
- 6 total travel expeditions (Gappers travel on 5 US expeditions and 1 international. Gappers help to plan each expedition and decide what activities to do. The final expedition of the year is completely planned by the gappers!)

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

**WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?**

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2022 scholarship, due April 15, 2022!
SPANISH GAP YEAR

Spain by Train is a 12 week gap semester program where you will be immersed in Spanish culture while you learn Spanish.

WHY CHOOSE SPANISH GAP YEAR?

We have aligned our programs with the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals in an effort to have a positive impact in the communities we visit, the environment, our team and our gappers’ lives.

GET IN TOUCH

- +34.641.077623
- info@spanishgapyear.com
- Browse programs

FUN FACTS

- Arantxa, our Program Director, loves acting and surfing.
- Group leader Lucas plays rugby and lived in the US.
- Group leader Irene is an amazing vegetarian chef.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!
Spansih Gap Year

Spain by Train is a 12 week gap semester program where you will be immersed in Spanish culture while you learn Spanish.

"Exploring Spain by train!"

This was a fun program where I was able to learn a lot of Spanish very quickly along with exploring almost the entirety of Spain. It was very fast paced but we were able to do and learn a lot. I would recommend it for someone with a love for learning history, language, and culture and a love for adventure. We visited many cathedrals and historical sites, as well as participating in exchanges with Spanish locals, as well as attending a few classes while living with host families. It was a program that really encompassed every single thing to do abroad in one.

Ella, Spanish Gap Year Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member

GET IN Touch
+34.641.077623
Info@spanishgapyear.com
Browse programs

READ ALUMNI REVIEWS ON USAGAPYEARFAIRS.ORG
TIMBERLINE CANADIAN ALPINE ACADEMY
Outdoor Adventure School based in Banff National Park, Canada.

WHY CHOOSE TIMBERLINE?
We offer ski & snowboard instructor training programs that run in length between 4 weeks and an entire winter season.

GET IN TOUCH
403.497.6940
jmccutcheon@timberlineacademy.com

FUN FACTS
- Our ski and snowboard internships are paid!
- We are one of the rare programs where US students can work internationally!
- Students live in fully furnished houses in downtown Banff!

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

VISIT THE GAP YEAR HUB
LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT
"My time at the Timberline Canadian Alpine academy was the best Winter I’ve ever had."

I decided to go on the Winter Skills Instructor Internship Program. This course was amazing, and I experienced everything that I could have dreamed of on a Ski season. Which included getting my Level 1 ski instructors’ licence and a helicopter tour around the Banff National Park, which is stunning.

---

George, Timberline Academy Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member
VERTO EDUCATION

Start college abroad in Spain, Italy, Argentina (and more!) with access to 70+ universities nationwide & globally.

WHY CHOOSE VERTO?
Students will travel the world with Verto and stay on track to graduate in 4 years at one of our partner colleges or fit Verto into their already solidified college plans.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

GET IN TOUCH
- 617.413.1646
- josh@vertoeducation.org

FUN FACTS
- This year, Verto students were included in a volleyball tournament at the local branch of the University of Costa Rica!
- In Seville, Spain, Verto students volunteer at local schools as Culture & Language assistants

PROGRAM TYPES
- ACADEMIC
- ACTIVISM
- ADVENTURE
- ARTS, FILM & MEDIA
- INTERNSHIPS
- LANGUAGE LEARNING
- SUSTAINABILITY
- VOLUNTEER

LOCATIONS
Spain, Italy, Argentina, Costa Rica, England, Czech Republic

Vaccination Not Required
College Credit
Fall: Rolling
Spring: Nov 15

Veteran's Day: November 11

52 | Gap Year Programs
Costa Rica, the opportunity to learn so much.

"Traveling to Costa Rica this semester has been one of the best decisions I have made in my life so far. It wasn’t just to boast to your family and friends that you have gone abroad, but it was also the opportunity to learn so much, whether it may be a new language, tour historical destinations, participate in adventurous activities like zip-lining, water-rafting, and even spend time with people outside of your home community back home and gather newer perspectives. I’m personally glad to come across wonderful people in the program and I highly recommend registering for the program, especially college freshmen."

Joseph, Verto Education Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member
WHERE THERE BE DRAGONS

Dragons runs immersive & responsible travel programs in Asia, Latin America, Africa and North America for students 13-22

WHY CHOOSE DRAGONS?

Our 4 & 6-week summer abroad programs and 3-month Gap year semesters give students the opportunity to travel with intention & create meaningful connections with people, places, and cultures outside of their own.

GET IN TOUCH

303.413.0822
info@wheretherebedragons.com
Browse programs

FUN FACTS

- The Secret Service vetted and approved our programs in 2016
- You can get college credit on any of our Gap Year Programs!
- Dragons is a certified B Corporation.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

VISIT THE GAP YEAR HUB LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT
**WHERE THERE BE DRAGONS**

Dragons runs immersive & responsible travel programs in Asia, Latin America, Africa and North America for students 13-22

"From the way the groups are chosen to the instructors, mentors, and experiences; the program is designed around fitting to your needs and interest while also giving you a healthy dose of new perspectives. All the students I did the course with also share my belief is saying that this experience was not only valuable, but crucial to our development as people. The way things were presented, from religion, art and politics, to family life, always aligned to this student centered design. Throughout my experience I truly learned what cultural immersion is while gaining a deeper understanding of Nepal as a whole."

---

Tomas, Where There Be Dragons Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member

GET IN TOUCH  303.413.0822  info@wheretherebedragons.com  Browse programs
WILDERNESS ADVENTURES

WALI Gap Semester programs offer opportunities to develop your outdoor skills and further your capabilities as a leader.

WHY CHOOSE WILDERNESS ADVENTURES?

Whether getting ready to climb the next pitch, hitting the whitewater wave train, or lacing up their boots for a day of backpacking, WA provides opportunities for students to step outside the boundaries of their comfort zone and experience the growth that comes along with challenges.

GET IN TOUCH

Phone: 307.733.2122
Email: wal@wildernessadventures.com
Website: Browse programs

FUN FACTS

• We celebrated 50 years of programming in 2022!
• We run over 45 trips across six continents with over 30,000 alumni.
• We operate within 37 National Forest and National Park permits.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?

US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

VISIT THE GAP YEAR HUB

LEARN MORE AT A VIRTUAL EVENT

VACCINATION NOT REQUIRED

COLLEGE CREDIT ROLLING
The WALI program takes a small group of college-aged students out into the backcountry to foster their outdoor skills while backpacking, canoeing, and rafting. Yet the true lessons learned are in students’ leadership and relationship skills as the small student group reads and discusses texts on leadership while forming a tight group bond. The WALI program is the perfect choice for students who want to expand their outdoor skills and take time to explore themselves and their interests before beginning their college experience. WALI will change your life; it changed mine.

---

**My gap semester with Wilderness Adventures was nothing short of transformative, and I can’t recommend the program enough to any student considering taking a gap year before or during their time in college.**

The WALI program takes a small group of college-aged students out into the backcountry to foster their outdoor skills while backpacking, canoeing, and rafting. Yet the true lessons learned are in students’ leadership and relationship skills as the small student group reads and discusses texts on leadership while forming a tight group bond. The WALI program is the perfect choice for students who want to expand their outdoor skills and take time to explore themselves and their interests before beginning their college experience. WALI will change your life; it changed mine.

**Rose, Wilderness Adventures Alum**

Verified Go Overseas Community Member

GET IN TOUCH  
☎ 307.733.2122  
✉️ waliewildernessadventures.com  
🌐 Browse programs
AGES 18 - 26

LOCATIONS
Greece, Italy, France, Spain, Morocco

Program Types
- ACADEMIC
- ACTIVISM
- ADVENTURE
- ARTS, FILM & MEDIA
- INTERNSHIPS
- LANGUAGE LEARNING
- SUSTAINABILITY
- VOLUNTEER

WORLDSTRIDES
We focus on immersive experiences that facilitate moments of engagement and delight that open up a lifetime learning journey.

WHY CHOOSE WORLDSTRIDES?
At WorldStrides, we Choose Earth. It is our way of building environmental and social responsibility into the ethos and outcomes of our educational programs.

WANT TO EARN A $5,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS PROGRAM?
US citizens between the ages of 17-20 are eligible to apply for our 2023 scholarship, due March 15, 2023!

GET IN TOUCH
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FUN FACTS
- 9 million travelers have taken trips with us since our founding in 1967
- 450,000 participants travel with us each year
- All 50 states—travelers from every state in the U.S. travel with us

2023 Gap Year Guide
Sevilla, Sevilla, Sevilla!
I would have stayed there for a year rather than one semester.

I had such an amazing time in Sevilla. I walked past La Plaza de Espana and Maria Park daily. I could walk everywhere I needed/wanted to go in Sevilla within an hour. I loved walking down every street and hearing about the tales of the city. The staff were so caring and considerate. If I needed anything, they were there to help me. I can not imagine living anywhere else. I was able to visit multiple countries and cities (Portugal, Morocco, Italy, England, and Ireland). I learned so much from the classes and my Spanish improved amazingly because of my classes and my host family. The food in Sevilla is outstanding. My favorite memory will be going to a soccer game, everyone felt so united.

Emily, WorldStrides Alum
Verified Go Overseas Community Member
Most Popular Gap Year Articles in 2023

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.

**The Pros & Cons of Taking a Gap Year**

*By Colin Woodhouse*

We're here to help you decide if a gap year is right for you. Learn many of the benefits and drawbacks of spending a year to personal growth through travel.

**Why and How to Defer College Acceptance for a Gap Year**

*By Kate Force*

Learn the benefits of deferring college admissions to take a gap year, and tips for how to do so.

**How to Talk About Your Gap Year in Job Interviews**

*By Ashley Williams*

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.

If you took a gap year before, during, or after college you may be worried how a gap year may be perceived when you start applying to jobs. Although it’s becoming more common, it’s good to be prepared for different reactions from potential employers. Some may be fascinated by your trip. Others may think you just took a year off to do nothing. Even though there are studies that show gap year students tend to have higher academic performance, it’s important to have a plan for how you’ll talk about your experience in job interviews.
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.

- **The 10 Best Gap Year Destinations for 2023**
  - Colin Murchison • Oct 19, 2022

- **Gap Year Scholarships & Grants to Apply for in 2023**
  - Iona Brannon • Oct 16, 2022

- **Why Are Gap Years More Common in Europe than the US?**
  - Ashley N. Williams • Sep 26, 2022

- **What Do College Admissions Really Think of Your Gap Year?**
  - Andrea Elsa Palmer • Jul 18, 2022

- **How to Plan a Gap Year in 2023**
  - Jane Goldstone Sarshar • Nov 8, 2022

- **How to Earn Academic Credit on Your Gap Year**
  - Colin Murchison • Jul 18, 2022

- **Meaningful Gap Year Ideas for Young Adults**
  - Colin Murchison • Dec 19, 2022

- **80+ Amazing Ideas for What to Do on Your Gap Year**
  - Olivia Christine Penz • Oct 15, 2021

- **When to Take a Gap Year**
  - Colin Murchison • Jul 12, 2022
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 or in-person event, review your 2023 scholarship application, or maybe even read a gap year alumni review from you one year from now!

Register now to secure your spot at the next 2023 USA Gap Year Fair!