



# Department of External Affairs International Exchange Programs

## Objectives

The International Exchange Programs permit Canadian and foreign post-secondary students or young workers to work temporarily in each other's country. In doing so, they acquire new skills, exposure to the values of the host country and a better understanding and appreciation of other cultures, all of which strengthen relations between Canada and the participating countries.

## Types of exchange

The International Exchange Programs are divided into two major components:

**A — Student Exchange Programs**  
Provide work experience of six weeks' to three months' duration and are normally limited to the holiday months. The work offered is not necessarily career-oriented.

### **B — Young Worker Exchange Programs**

Provide participants with an opportunity to expand their basic skills and current knowledge through working in a career-related occupation. The programs are normally of 4 to 12 months' duration.

## General eligibility criteria

To be considered, an applicant must:

- be a Canadian citizen;
- be between 18 and 30 years of age\*;
- possess an adequate knowledge of the language of the host country; and
- be in good health.

And to qualify for the Student Exchange Program, an applicant must:

- be a student registered at a university, institute of technology, community college or CEGEP; and
- meet the academic and other specific requirements of the exchange program under which he or she participates.

And to qualify for the Young Worker Exchange Program, an applicant must:

- be a graduate of a university or equivalent institution, or have a post-secondary diploma or certificate from an institute of technology or equivalent educational institution; and
- undertake a period of training in his or her own profession or trade.

## Working conditions and travel arrangements

Working conditions and travel arrangements for either the Student Exchange Program or Young Worker Exchange Program are as follows:

\* Age ceiling may vary with country and program.