GUATEMALA (Guatemala)

Reciprocal Employment Agreement: No Approximate number of spouses working as locally engaged staff: 1 Community Coordinator contract work exists: Yes Registered Nurse position exists at the mission: No

Under Guatemalan law, spouses and dependants of diplomats are not permitted to work in other than foreign embassies, international organizations, and institutions such as the American School. In most cases, fluency in Spanish would be a requirement. In addition, employment prospects are limited to a certain extent by security considerations: for example, the place of employment should be located in one of the "safer" areas of the city.

The Canadian mission requires temporary staff from time to time. Other embassies often hire spouses but generally give preference to their own nationals. This situation does not necessarily exclude Canadians. Three of the four embassies contacted (French, British, Belgian) responded positively and filled out the Potential Employers form. Candidates would have to be bilingual (English/Spanish, French/Spanish) to some extent.

There are a number of United Nations organizations in Guatemala (UNDP, WFP, UNICEF, etc.) and at least one spouse, with previous experience in development work, has worked at UNICEF. Only three of seven international institutions reacted positively to enquiries about employment possibilities. They do, however, hire highly-qualified professionals.

There are broader employment opportunities in the four schools and language institutes. Language teachers in French and English are always in demand.

MEXICO (Mexico)

Reciprocal Employment Agreement: Yes Approximate number of spouses working as locally engaged staff: 0 Community Coordinator contract work exists: Yes Registered Nurse position exists at the mission: No

Opportunities for gainful employment by spouses of Canadian members of the Embassy are very limited in spite of the existence of a Reciprocal Employment Agreement, because of the serious problem of unemployment and underemployment in Mexico. The only exception is work of a kind for which there are no qualified Mexican applicants, such as teaching English, or employment in international schools.

PERU (Lima)

Reciprocal Employment Agreement: Yes Approximate number of spouses working as locally engaged staff: 0