

Campus Leadership Positions and Study Abroad (1/20/23)

1) Is it a year-long commitment, or can a student study abroad for one semester during the year they hold this position?

Career Services. Career Peer Advisor: Students are welcome to study abroad for a semester or a year during their tenure as a Career Peer Advisor. Students are typically hired in their sophomore year and typically continue as a CPA throughout the remainder of their time at Swarthmore. So missing one semester is not an issue at all.

Note: We hold training for the 3 week/business days before fall semester starts in August. We interview and hire toward the end of spring semester. Thus, we wouldn't hire a student who planned to go abroad the following fall as they would miss the training. If they planned to go abroad in the spring of the following year, i.e. after one semester of work that included the training, it would be fine.

Green Advisor: It is recommended and preferred that students commit to the GA program for the full year, but we do make exceptions and some students who want to study abroad for one semester during the year they hold the position.

Inclusive Excellence Initiative Fellowship: This is usually a full year commitment. Occasionally there is a shorter project.

Orientation Leader: This is a 2 week commitment right before the start of the Fall semester. Students who study abroad in the spring could apply.

PSRF. President's Sustainability Research Fellow: PSRF is a year-long commitment; students cannot participate in the program if they will be abroad for one semester.

Resident Assistant: The RA position is for one semester so students who are studying abroad for one semester are welcome to apply for the other semester. Traditionally, we have done the hiring process in the spring for the next fall and spring semesters. If someone is going abroad in the fall, they could apply the spring before and we could keep them active in the pool should vacancies arise for the next spring semester, which they often do.

SAM – Student Academic Mentor: SAM program requires a commitment to work for the full academic year.

WA – Writing Associate Fellowship: Yes, WAs can study abroad, so long as it's not their first semester (which is always a Fall semester) in the fellowship.

2) Must students be on campus to apply/interview or can they apply while abroad?

Career Services. Career Peer Advisor: Since we are typically interviewing students who are in their first year or sometimes second year at Swarthmore, they aren't typically abroad. We've never had the situation where a student has applied while studying abroad for that reason, however, we could interview someone via zoom while abroad if they did apply.

Green Advisor: Students can apply and interview while they are abroad. They could apply to this upcoming program, which is currently accepting applications.

Inclusive Excellence Initiative Fellowship: Students can apply from abroad and could be interviewed by zoom.

Orientation Leader: Students can interview by zoom from abroad.

PSRF: Students can apply and interview for the program while abroad. Applications are open now through February 9; if a student is currently abroad, we're happy to set up a Zoom interview.

Resident Assistant: Students can apply and interview from abroad for RA roles. We use JobX to hire students and conduct interviews via Zoom for those who are abroad. Students can be RA's as sophomores, juniors, or seniors. The application requires a resume, letter of interest, and recommendation form from someone who can speak to their leadership qualities.

SAM: Students can apply while abroad (via phone or Zoom interview).

WA: The program would try to accommodate this form of application. It would only be relevant for students in the spring semester of their sophomore year, as juniors are no longer eligible to apply to become a WA.

3) Are there expected pre-requisites to be considered for your positions? In other words, if a student studies abroad in their junior year, is that likely to diminish their chances of being competitive for a position in their senior year?

Career Services. Career Peer Advisor: No

Green Advisor: No, there are no prerequisites to be considered for our position. We look for students with an interest in sustainability, zero waste, and a passionate campus engagement.

Inclusive Excellence Initiative Fellowship: Study abroad does not diminish ones chances of being selected. They are looking for people who are interested in positively impacting DEI at Swarthmore.

PSRF: Studying abroad does not diminish a student's competitiveness for PSRF. We look for students with a demonstrated interest in sustainability with strong communication, leadership, and time management skills, all of which can be supplemented through study abroad.

Orientation Leader: No pre-requisites.

Resident Assistant: No pre-requisites.

SAM: Study abroad does not impact competitiveness.

WA: No prerequisites. All applicants who are offered a WA fellowship have to take ENGL/EDUC 1C in the fall of their first year in the fellowship (which is why they cannot be abroad that semester).

4) Is there anything about your leadership position/opportunity that you think sophomores should know, if they are also considering study abroad?

Career Services. Career Peer Advisor: We hold training for the 3 week/business days before fall semester starts in August. We interview and hire toward the end of spring semester. Thus, we wouldn't hire a student who planned to go abroad the following fall as they would miss the training. If they planned to go abroad in the spring of the following year, i.e. after one semester of work that included the training, it would be fine.

Green Advisor. Students are eligible for the GA program as sophomores, juniors, or seniors, so they should think about how this fits into their academic planning. They should also consider if they would like to apply for the PSRF program in the future and how this might assist them in that regard.

Inclusive Excellence Initiative Fellowship: Students are eligible during all four years.

Orientation Leader: Applications for the following summer go out in mid to late Spring Semester and just to be on the look out for it.

PSRF: Students are eligible for PSRF as sophomores, juniors, or seniors, so they are encouraged to think ahead about how it could fit into their academic planning if they'd like to participate in the program as seniors (make sure they have room in their schedules alongside courses needed to graduate, etc.).

Resident Assistant: Traditionally the hiring process is in the spring for the next fall and spring semesters.

WA: Their first semester (always a Fall semester) in the fellowship is the only time they cannot study off-campus. Otherwise, we regularly have WAs study abroad, sometimes even for a full year. They are always welcome to continue their WA fellowship upon their return to Swarthmore.

CIL Intern
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