

# Returning home from study

## Preparing for employment

Have you just finished your degree and want to return home to start your new career? Like any job seeker, there are some things you need to think about before you leave for home.

### Skills evaluation

What kind of skills have you developed throughout your studies in Australia? These may include: communication, teamwork, leadership, cultural sensitivity, independence and self-management, initiative and enterprise, problem solving and organisational skills. It is important to research the types of skills the employer is looking for and think of examples of where you have demonstrated these skills. Your skills evaluation will help you to market yourself to an employer during an interview or in your written applications.

### Market yourself - international resumes

Applying for work in your home country may require you to have a different style of resume. Learn how to write a resume by reviewing samples from your country. Use your skills evaluation to highlight your experience.

- [www.goinglobal.com](http://www.goinglobal.com)
- [www.cvtips.com/international\\_resume.html](http://www.cvtips.com/international_resume.html)
- [www.labourmobility.com](http://www.labourmobility.com)
- [www.transitionsabroad.com/publications/magazine/0609/international\\_resumes.shtml](http://www.transitionsabroad.com/publications/magazine/0609/international_resumes.shtml)
- The Global Resume and CV Guide by Mary Thompson is a reference book in the Careers Library

### Wage negotiation

Many overseas countries require you to negotiate a wage for the position you are applying for. Research if this is a common practice in your home country. There are some useful tips on the internet on how to negotiate a salary.

- [www.quintcareers.com/salary\\_negotiation\\_tutorial.html](http://www.quintcareers.com/salary_negotiation_tutorial.html)

## Where to get experience

Many employers look for students who have had some experience in their chosen field. Gaining this experience back home is a fantastic way to learn about your industry and develop your transferable skills. To gain experience, you may want to look into an internship, work experience or even volunteering. You can gain assistance with organising an internship through a program or make your own arrangements.

Be aware that some programs require you to pay for the arrangements made on your behalf.

### Useful websites for internships

- [www.globalexperiences.com](http://www.globalexperiences.com)
- [www.internabroad.com](http://www.internabroad.com)
- [www.globalchoices.co.uk](http://www.globalchoices.co.uk)
- [www.globalplacement.com](http://www.globalplacement.com)

### Useful websites for volunteering

- [www.transitionsabroad.com/listings/work/volunteer/index.shtml](http://www.transitionsabroad.com/listings/work/volunteer/index.shtml)
- [www.volunteerinternational.org](http://www.volunteerinternational.org)

### Did you know?

'[Employment and Career Development](#)' holds an **International Careers Expo** each year for international employers to talk about internships, graduate entry programs and career pathway opportunities overseas. Go to our website for further information [www.careers.monash.edu.au/news/international-expo-student-guide.html](http://www.careers.monash.edu.au/news/international-expo-student-guide.html).



## Living and working in your home country

There is useful information on general travel websites. While these sites are directed towards people wanting to travel overseas many of them give specific information on where to search for work in your home country. You may also find information on cultural work expectations and tips on how to apply for work in your country.

- [www.goinglobal.com](http://www.goinglobal.com)
- [www.transitionsabroad.com](http://www.transitionsabroad.com)
- [www.goabroad.com](http://www.goabroad.com)
- [www.escapeartist.com](http://www.escapeartist.com)
- [www.lonelyplanet.com](http://www.lonelyplanet.com)
- [www.smarttraveller.gov.au/tips/working\\_os.html](http://www.smarttraveller.gov.au/tips/working_os.html)

## Where to find jobs

When you begin the job hunt, there are many helpful resources that can get you started on the right track.

### International web search engines

These are some of the job search engines that advertise positions worldwide. Search the internet for country specific job search engines.

- [www.monster.com](http://www.monster.com)
- [www.recruit.net](http://www.recruit.net)
- [www.jobstreet.com](http://www.jobstreet.com)
- [www.jobpilot.net](http://www.jobpilot.net)
- [www.j-hunter.com](http://www.j-hunter.com)
- [www.quintcareers.com/Global-job-resources.html](http://www.quintcareers.com/Global-job-resources.html)
- Also check Career Gateway and Goin' Global at [www.careers.monash.edu.au](http://www.careers.monash.edu.au)

### Journals

Employers often advertise positions within industry specific journals. Career journals can also be useful in giving job seeking advice and tips.

- [www.careerjournal.com/globalcareers](http://www.careerjournal.com/globalcareers)

### Business directories

As with the Yellow Pages in Australia, there are many ways of finding out organisations that exist overseas within specific industries.

- [www.yellow.com/international.htm](http://www.yellow.com/international.htm)
- [www.phonebookoftheworld.com](http://www.phonebookoftheworld.com)
- [www.kompass.com](http://www.kompass.com)

### Newspapers

Advertising in the newspaper is still a common form of recruiting. This website has links to newspapers all over the world.

- [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com)

### Graduate directories

You may want to work in a graduate program. Some countries advertise graduate positions through a central directory.

- [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) (UK)
- [www.graduan.com.my](http://www.graduan.com.my) (Malaysia)

### Professional associations

There are many job opportunities with associations linked to your industry of choice. Joining an association can broaden your network and assist in the job searching process.

## Graduate application calendar

The Graduate Recruitment period can start at different times in the year. Be aware of seasonal differences when applying for work at home. Research the process for Graduate Programs/Internships and find out what your country may refer to as an Internship. In some countries graduate programs do not exist and you may be educating organisations about what an Internship is.

## Summary of things to do

- Tailor your resume to the job you are applying for, and make it culturally appropriate. Some countries will accept a “Westernised resume”.
- Be aware of culturally appropriate professional behaviour when applying for your job.
- Research companies you want to work for in depth. Have a look at their websites.
- Research the labour market. Things may have changed at home since you started studying in Australia.
- Practise your interview skills and how to sell yourself.
- Look into how to negotiate your wage (this is a common practice in gaining employment in some countries).
- Use the services from Monash University available to you.
- Visit the International Careers Expo ([www.careers.monash.edu.au/news/international-expo-student-guide.html](http://www.careers.monash.edu.au/news/international-expo-student-guide.html))

## Other places to look for help

### Monash Alumni Program

- [www.monshalumni.com](http://www.monshalumni.com)

### Health Wellbeing and Development

- [www.adm.monash.edu.au/community-services](http://www.adm.monash.edu.au/community-services)
- Information for International Students (Student Advisors)
- Preparing for Culture Shock (Counselling)

### We can help you with

- Resume and Cover Letter Checking
- Interview Skills Workshops
- Job Search Strategies
- Career Planning

### Contact us

**T:** +613 9905 4170

**E:** [info@careers.monash.edu.au](mailto:info@careers.monash.edu.au)

**W:** [careers.monash.edu.au](https://careers.monash.edu.au)

This Information was current at the time of writing and is intended as a guide only.  
Adapted by Monash University  
Employment and Career  
Development, 2009