

American Work Experience



AWE APPLICATION Brochure

Spend an
“**AWE** some”
summer
working
in the
States!

AWE...going further to bring people together
www.aweusa.com ★ info@aweusa.com

AWE APPLICATION

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Welcome to an "AWEsome" experience in America this summer!



American Work Experience (**AWE**) provides young people from around the world with the opportunity to experience the United States in a way that is cultural, fun and educational! As a registered U.S. government designated sponsor of J-1 cultural exchange programmes, AWE offers people aged 18 to 28 a variety of unique options to work and travel in the U.S. for a four-month period during their summer holiday. Opportunities exist with a variety of quality employers as well as summer camps throughout the U.S., and applicants have their choice of several programmes tailored to meet their individual needs. Whether looking to build upon your resume, experience true American culture, or just spend your holiday doing something different, AWE has the opportunity you have been looking for! If you are prepared to work hard and have fun, AWE is the programme for you!

WHAT DOES THE AWE PROGRAMME OFFER?

- ★ A variety of programmes to choose from, depending on your skills and background
- ★ Professional and comprehensive support from a team of experienced professionals, both during the application process and during your time in the U.S.
- ★ An on-line database, where you can check your application status
- ★ The possibility to apply as a couple or with a friend, to be placed at the same location
- ★ Recruitment events in certain countries where you can meet potential employers in person and be offered a job right on the spot
- ★ Detailed job offer/placement and travel information for your place of employment or camp
- ★ Support in verifying validity of job offers and quality of working conditions
- ★ Visa documentation and support from your local Representative in applying for your visa
- ★ Comprehensive pre-departure orientation in your home country
- ★ Comprehensive Participant Handbook
- ★ Two free nights (if eligible) in a New York City hostel, to be used either upon arrival in the U.S. or after your contract is completed (see your representative for more details about this offer)
- ★ Full comprehensive medical coverage for the duration of your visa
- ★ 24-hour emergency support throughout your time in the U.S. via a free telephone number
- ★ The opportunity to travel and see the U.S. after your contract is completed

In addition, SWT applicants receive the following benefits:

- ★ Earn an hourly wage
- ★ The possibility to find your own employment or have AWE arrange a placement for you with one of our quality pre-screened employers
- ★ Housing will either be provided at cost or your employer will assist you in locating housing.

In addition, Camp applicants have the following benefits:

- ★ All meals and accommodation will be free of charge for the duration of your contract (minimum of nine weeks)
- ★ Placement at an accredited/inspected summer camp
- ★ A background check, at our expense, for those from the UK/Ireland applying to the counsellor programme
- ★ Free transfer to your camp once in the U.S.

AWE only works with the best employers – we don't "dump" participants with just any employer who needs staff! We only use those who have had a successful history of working with international staff, that we've inspected or that have been accredited by the American Camping Association. All we ask is that you bring us your skills and experience and we'll make sure you get to use them or have the opportunity to learn new ones!





WHAT AWE PROGRAMME OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE?

SUMMER WORK TRAVEL (SWT) (Full-time students only)

You will be working for an hourly wage and can often take advantage of free or subsidised meals and accommodation. You will, however, have to budget for your own transfer from your home country to your place of employment. Either way, you can be assured that AWE will handle all the documentation and endeavour to match your skills and experience to just the right position, helping to ensure that you have an "AWEsome" summer experience in the States.

- 1) Placement Option:** Seeking a Placement with one of our first-class employers, offering various jobs in hotels/motels, restaurants, theme parks, resorts, country clubs, and a variety of other places.
- 2) Self-Arranged Job Option:** You have the choice of finding your own employer.

SUMMER CAMP POSITIONS (Must be available by early June)

Hardworking, enthusiastic, energetic young persons who want to work in an American summer camp can also join AWE in the following positions:

SPECIALIST COUNSELLORS You can apply for this position if you have instructed or coached in one of the specialist activities and have quality experience working with youngsters.

SPECIAL NEEDS COUNSELLORS You can apply for this position if you are qualified and/or have quality experience working with adults or children with mental/physical disabilities.

SUPPORT STAFF (Full-time students only) You can apply for this position if you have previous experience in such areas as, maintenance, cleaning, kitchen work, laundry or food preparation.

SUMMER CAMP POSITIONS can be very demanding but rewarding.

Expect to earn approximately **\$1100** for a 9-week commitment with free room and board. You will receive an additional **\$600** towards the cost of your return flight, which then increases your pocket money to **\$1700**. Use your professional qualification at camp and you could be eligible for additional bonuses of up to **\$500**, for a possible total of **\$2200!**

NOTE: All applicants SWT and Counsellors must arrange their own flights to the USA.

Common SUMMER WORK TRAVEL or camp SUPPORT STAFF positions: bus person, baking, carpentry, cashiering, cooking, dishwashing, doorman, driver, delivery person, food preparation, food server, gardening, guest relations, handyman, hospitality, host, hostess, housekeeping, ice cream sales, janitor, laundry, landscaping, maintenance, lifeguard, mailroom, movers, night watchman, painting, parking attendant, pool attendant, porter, plumbing, office assistant, receptionist, retail worker, rides operator, sales, security, stock person, ticket selling, valet, waiter, waitress... and so much more!

Common Camp SPECIALIST COUNSELLOR activities: aerobics, acting, archery, astronomy, basketball, batik, bible study, board diving, botany, camping, canoeing, carpentry, ceramics, computers, costuming, cycling, dance, directing, fencing, forestry, go-carts, golf, guitar, gymnastics, ham radio, hiking, horseback riding, jewellery, judo, karate, kayaking, leatherwork, lifesaving, macrame, magic, metalwork, mime, model-making, motorboat driving, nature crafts, painting, photography, piano, pottery, puppetry, radio broadcasting, riflery, rock climbing, rocketry, roller skating/rollerblading, rope course, sailing, scuba diving, sculpture, sewing, silk-screening, sketching, soccer, stained glass, street/floor hockey, swimming, tennis, track & field, tyedying, video, voice, volleyball, waterskiing, weaving, weight-training, wildlife, wind surfing, woodwork.. and so much more!



WHAT ARE THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS?



In order to participate on an AWE programme, you must comply with the following criteria. You must:

- ★ be aged 18-28 ★ SWT must be available to work in the U.S. for at least 12 weeks
- ★ (All camp staff must be available to work for at least 9 weeks and arrive by early June) ★ speak fluent English and have good communication skills ★ live in, or be able to travel to, one of the participating countries for a personal interview with an appointed AWE Representative ★ provide verifiable reference(s), supportive of the position for which you are applying ★ hold an international passport and provide a copy of the "personal details" page ★ provide a satisfactory Medical Report and/or police report (see your representative for more details) ★ have a valid e-mail address throughout the time that your application is active and during your time in the U.S. ★ be able to pay the required fees (AWE only accepts payment in U.S.\$, or UK sterling if you live in the UK/Ireland) ★ agree to attend an orientation in your home country before departure for the U.S. ★ have every intention and be able to provide proof of this intention of returning to your home country at the conclusion of the AWE programme ★ sign the AWE Application Form, signifying your agreement for your application to be considered in accordance with the current AWE Terms and Conditions ★ agree to a background check for residents of the UK/Eire ★ never have been convicted of a crime or offence of a sexual nature or one that was related to drugs or violence or theft ★ be enthusiastic, adaptable, flexible, and have a good sense of humour

Summer Work Travel (SWT) & Camp Support staff must:

- ★ be a bona fide full-time student (attending for at least 18 hours per week) at the time of application ★ have evidence of your registration for a full-time course of study for the following academic year or semester ★ provide a supportive reference from a previous employer for whom you worked – references must be written within the previous 6 months prior to your application. (This employment may have been full or part-time, paid or voluntary).

Specialist Counsellors must:

- ★ have good English, and an excellent level of skill in a highly demanding activity. (Those with a teaching/coaching qualification will receive placement priority if their application is supported by relevant references and copies of awards and certificates). ★ have recent successful experience working with groups of youngsters ★ be a good communicator ★ be able to lead, motivate, and inspire children and co-workers

Special Needs Counsellors must:

- ★ have a calm, caring nature ★ be dedicated to working with challenged populations ★ be willing to work with both children and adults with a wide range of disabilities ★ have a general level of skill in a range of activities ★ have recent, relevant experience of working with challenged groups ★ be able to provide a reference from that previous work ★ be a good communicator ★ have an ability to lead, motivate and inspire the campers





HOW MUCH WILL I GET PAID FOR WORKING THIS SUMMER?

Staff Category	Guaranteed Pocket Money	Own Transport Addition*	Qualified/Experience Bonus**	Possible Total
CAMP SUPPORT STAFF	\$1200	\$600	Up to \$500	US\$2300
SPECIALISED COUNSELLOR	\$1100	\$600	Up to \$500	US\$2200
SPECIAL NEEDS COUNSELLOR	\$1200	\$600	Up to \$500	US\$2300

SUMMER WORK TRAVEL Participants are paid on an hourly basis, dependent on placement and position.

Most positions offer between **\$7.00** to **\$8.00** per hour and up!

Your Offer of Placement Letter will provide details of the rate offered, together with any additional benefits.

NOTE: Guaranteed Pocket Money rates are based upon the successful completion of 9 weeks work.

Special Needs Counsellors with professional or verifiable experience with challenged populations should also contact their Camp Director to determine if this bonus amount is applicable to them.



*The Own Transport Addition is only payable to camp staff on the successful completion of their 9-week commitment.

**Specialised Counsellors who have an internationally recognised award/certificate in a sport should contact their Camp Director to determine if this bonus amount is applicable to them.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

ALL APPLICANTS PAY:

First Deposit (non-refundable)

Summer Work Travel (SWT) – Placement Option

Summer Work Travel (SWT) – Self-Arranged Job Option

US\$200/UK£ 100 (due at interview with AWE)

Sponsorship Fee (please contact your Representative)

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TOTAL PAYABLE TO AWE:

SWT – Placement Option

SWT – Self-Arranged Job Option

All Camp Staff

US\$200/UK£ 100 plus Sponsorship Fee

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US\$200/UK£ 100

NOTE: All Summer Work Travel applicants must contact their Representative for the current Sponsorship Fee in their country. The SWT fees are payable to AWE once the placement has been confirmed and agreed on by you.

OTHER EXPENSES YOU MUST BUDGET FOR

★ Travel to your interview ★ international passport ★ translation of any documents ★ overnight accommodation in the U.S. if you arrive earlier than agreed on by your employer ★ medical examination ★ U.S. Embassy visa charges, including SEVIS fee ★ police report ★ travel to and from airport ★ return flight to the USA ★ transfer from U.S. arrival airport to placement (SWT only) ★ travel to U.S. departure airport

FLIGHT INFORMATION

SWT participants: You will be required to make your own flight arrangements to and from your place of employment at your own expense. No flight reimbursement is provided.

Camp participants: You will be required to make your own flight arrangements to and from your place of employment at your own expense. You will receive a **\$600** flight contribution with your pocket money.





HOW TO APPLY TO AWE



Once your application has been accepted by AWE, remember to do the following:

- 1) Read all AWE documents carefully! you will receive your Welcome package and payment receipt at your AWE interview.
- 2) If you do not have a U.S. Placement, check to see if there will be any AWE Recruitment Fairs in your area.
- 3) Memorise your AWE ID number; you will need to use it all the time!
- 4) Check your status at www.aweusa.com, by clicking on "Participant Log-In".
- 5) If you are on the Self-Arranged Job Option, make sure you visit our website (www.aweusa.com) and complete the webform.
- 6) Submit to your Representative any other required documents including medical report.

REMEMBER – American employers want hard workers and in return, they will try to ensure that you have the greatest cultural exchange experience possible. Ideal applicants are those who enjoy giving and experiencing new things and are prepared to work as part of a team in either an indoor or outdoor environment. Being a hard, diligent, and dependable worker are part of the keys to a successful summer, as are having a strong work ethic and the ability to be enthusiastic about even the most mundane job!

AFTER YOU APPLY TO AWE

An "Offer of Placement Letter" will be sent to you or your Representative once you have a confirmed job. Read it carefully and sign it. You have 5 days to sign the "Offer of Placement Letter" and then 5 days to pay the remaining programme fees to AWE.

- Make sure all the information in the "Offer of Placement letter" is correct and carefully note the deadlines.
- Contact your local Representative regarding paying any remaining fees.
- When you have agreed to the AWE Placement, you will receive the "AWE Placement Package" containing: AWE Participant Handbook, Placement Certificate and DS-2019.
Ask your Representative for assistance in completing the DS-2019 form and any other forms you need to submit to the U.S. Embassy.
- Read the AWE Participant Handbook carefully – it contains lots of very useful information including medical coverage details!
- As soon as you know the result of your visa application, inform AWE by completing the "VISA RESULT FORM" webform on our website (www.aweusa.com) and inform your AWE Representative.
- Attend the mandatory orientation meeting organised by your Representative in your country. Don't forget your AWE Handbook!
- Purchase your flight tickets only after you obtain your J-1 visa. Inform AWE of your flight details by filling out the "FLIGHT DETAILS FORM/ HOSTEL RESERVATIONS" webform on our website (www.aweusa.com).
- When you arrive in the U.S., you have 10 days to inform AWE of your U.S. address by filling out the "REGISTER YOUR ARRIVAL AND U.S. ADDRESS FOR SEVIS" webform on our website (www.aweusa.com).
Or you can send e-mail to: info@aweusa.com. This is a very important requirement for all exchange visitors to the U.S.
- If you change your U.S. employer or U.S. address at any time while you are on the programme, you must again inform AWE immediately by filling out the "ADDRESS/EMPLOYER CHANGE" webform on our website (www.aweusa.com).

U.S. government regulations require your address and employer details in the U.S. to be known at all times. Failure to inform AWE with these details will result in your visa being jeopardised and potential penalties.





WORK ★ TRAVEL ★ EXPERIENCE AMERICA!