

TAKING A GAP YEAR

DEFINITION OF A GAP YEAR: a temporary position (1 – 3 years) between college and graduate school or a full time job. Many students are interested in “taking a year off” before buckling down to a “serious” job or graduate school. These temporary “in-the-meantime” jobs can provide experience, direction, emotional and cognitive growth, and satisfy curiosity about the real world.

GENERAL RESOURCES

- Idealist www.idealists.org
- ServeNet www.servenet.org
- One Small Planet www.onesmallplanet.com
- The Gap Year www.gapyear.com

BOOKS IN THE CAREER LIBRARY

Short-Term Adventures (EXR 83)

Taking a Gap Year (EXR 119)

Gap Years for Grown Ups (EXR 120)

The Gap Year Guidebook 2009 (EXR 121)

Service/Volunteer

AmeriCorps: www.americorps.org; National, State, NCCC, VISTA, network under the Corporation for National and Community Service, all different types of service

Public Allies: www.publicallies.org; full time paid apprenticeships in non-profit organizations to lead positive community change

Teach for America: www.teachforamerica.org, non profit organization designed to diminish the academic achievement gap between students of different economic backgrounds, teaching term is typically 2 years

Peace Corps: www.peacecorps.org; advocates friendship and world peace in developing countries

City Year: www.cityyear.org, 10 months of full time community service to a specific community or area

United Nations Volunteers: www.unv.org; volunteers to directly support UN partners in the field

The Red Cross: www.redcross.org; humanitarian organization to protect human life and health, many different types of opportunities

Avodah - Jewish Service Corps: www.avodah.net

Lutheran Volunteer Corps: www.lutheranvolunteercorps.org

Catholic Network of Volunteer Services: www.cnvs.org

Jesuit Volunteer Corps: www.jesuitvolunteers.org

Fellowships and Internships

Nationally Coveted College Scholarships, Graduate Fellowships & Postdoctoral Awards: scholarships.fatomei.com; list of fellowship opportunities in various fields organized by minimum educational qualifications

Rising Star Internships: www.rsinternships.com; database of internships spanning a broad range of categories

Fulbright Scholarships: us.fulbrightonline.org/about.html; the largest U.S. international exchange program offering opportunities for students, scholars, and professionals to undertake international graduate study, advanced research, university teaching, and teaching in elementary and secondary schools worldwide

International

Going Global: ([login](#) to Blue Hen Careers for access); Going Global career and employment resources include world-wide job openings, internship listings, industry profiles and country-specific career information

Overseas jobs: www.overseasjobs.com; databases that allow job seekers to search jobs, view employers, and access a career information center

The Riley Guide: www.rileyguide.com/internat.html; up to date, comprehensive compilation of international career resources and job websites organized by country

TransitionsAbroad: www.transitionsabroad.com; information and database for short-term jobs, internships, and full time employment

International Jobs Center: www.internationaljobs.org; paid subscription for job and internship opportunity updates

One Small Planet: www.onesmallplanet.com; resources for travel, volunteer work, internships, and work abroad

Projects Abroad: www.projects-abroad.org; opportunities across 5 continents which cover a broad range of opportunities

Interexchange: www.interexchange.org; au pair, internship, volunteer, teaching, and work opportunities

Odd and Adventure Jobs

Gap Year: www.gapyear.com; created by travelers to assist people traveling on a budget by providing extensive information about accommodations, travel, short time employment, and activities

Looking for Adventure.com: www.lookingforadventure.com; warehouse of information about adventure travel, recreation, sports, jobs, school, and more

Adventure, Outdoor & Fun Jobs: www.funjobs.com; listings of a wide range of non-traditional jobs

Backdoorjobs.com: www.backdoorjobs.com; listings of all types of non-traditional short-term jobs