

# **Host Company Requirements**

#### **Eligible Industries**

Program is valid for a wide range of fields that fall under the following categories:

- Information Media and Communications
- Management, Business, Commerce and Finance
- Public Administration and Law
- The Sciences, Engineering, Architecture, Mathematics and Industrial Occupations
- Hospitality and Tourism

Please note that we cannot sponsor programs in fields such as agriculture, education or any other field not listed. If you are unsure whether the internship or training program you are offering falls under our list of fields, please contact the Italy-America Chamber of Commerce Southeast.

## **Company Eligibility**

Host employers must abide by all federal, state and local labor and occupational health and safety laws, including paying all trainees, as well as any intern, at least minimum wage.

Hosts must also provide proof of a workers' compensation policy or equivalent **insurance** that covers J-1 participants, a Federal Identification Number and either a DUNS number or copy of business registration.

Hosts must provide a **professional work environment**, offering no more than 20% clerical or basic work to participants in an office-type setting (home-based businesses are not permitted). To ensure adequate training and supervision is provided, there must also be **at least five full-time**, **onsite employers per J-1 intern or trainee**.

Host companies must have been in business and operational for at least six months and have an English-language website and business or company-branded email addresses.

Hosts must also interview interns or trainees via phone, webcam, or in person, consent to a site visit by our representatives (for a one-time \$200 fee) prior to program approval, if required, agree to complete mandatory program evaluations, and agree to notify our representatives in case of an emergency or any changes to the training plan or supervision.



### **Program Eligibility**

One of the fundamental aims of J-1 internships and training programs is to provide work-based training that will enable participants to enhance their skills and prepare for their future careers. These programs may NOT be used for ordinary employment purposes. To ensure that this distinction is upheld, host employers must offer eligible programs as follows.

**Provide full-time (32-45 hrs per week), professional-level training** and not displace full- or part-time, temporary, or permanent American workers. This training may not require any sort of license or certification or commission-based work.

Develop an internship program designed primarily to allow participants to obtain skills, knowledge, and competencies through structured and guided training, and create and digitally sign a Training or Internship Placement Plan (DS-7002) within the online application. This includes identifying employees who are qualified to provide training and supervision in the participants' fields.

Ensure that Interns and Trainees have sufficient opportunity to be exposed to U.S. culture and business practices and that the host employer's American staff is exposed to the culture and business practices of each Intern's or Trainee's home country.

Not attempt to extend an offer of employment or change the visa status of your Interns or Trainees, as it is required that they return home after completing the program.

The host company providing training must already be or become a member of the IACC.

IACC Membership Fee 1 Year (for 12 Months J1 VISA) \$ 600

IACC Membership Fee 2 Years (for 18 Months J1 VISA) \$ 1,200

For information and applications, please send an email to info@iacc-miami.com with the company's details and the candidate's resume. The IACC with its technical partner will review participant applications to ensure that they meet the criteria established by the Department of State for this type of visa.

Please note that the Italy-America Chamber of Commerce J-1 Program is addressed to companies only. Applications from single individuals will not be taken into account.

#### **Prohibited Training**

Not all employers are permitted to host interns/trainees through J1 Visa. We cannot approve participants for sponsorship at the following locations:

- Arcades
- Bridal companies
- Camps (Consider our Camp USA program for camp positions)



- Candy stores, mall kiosks, boardwalk booths, and stands
- Convenience and grocery stores or superettes/mini-markets (consider our Work & Travel USA program for seasonal positions)
- Call center, customer service, or phone operators, including tech and help desk support
- Farms
- Fast food or quick service restaurants or bakeries
- Fitness studios, gyms, pools, dance studios, personal training, or coaching
- Garages
- Gardens or parks
- Gas stations or toll plazas
- Landscaping companies
- Pool management companies
- Retail stores or locations and boutiques
- Schools and other instructional facilities
- Spas, salons, or dog grooming companies
- Staffing agencies

In addition, we are not able to sponsor programs in which interns or trainees would participate in: animal care, child care, elder care, clinical work that involves any patient care or contact, sports or physical therapy, psychological counseling, nursing, dentistry, veterinary medicine, social work, speech therapy or early childhood education.