

SUMMER WORK AND TRAVEL 2020

(Self-Placed Students)

DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR SUMMER 2019 – JANUARY 15, 2020

The Work and Travel Program is an opportunity for students currently studying in a university/college/post-secondary institution in Cyprus to spend up to 4 months in the U.S. in the summer to learn about American culture, improve their English skills while gaining work experience! Students interested in the Work and Travel program should read the following information to make sure they are eligible.

StudyUSA Higher Education Consultants Ltd. and Applimates together with CIEE, a U.S. leader in educational exchange (www.ciee.org) is offering the Work and Travel USA Program (WAT USA) to students studying in Cyprus this year!

What is the Work and Travel Program?

The Work and Travel Program is an opportunity for students currently studying in a university/college/post-secondary institution in Cyprus to spend up to 4 months in the U.S. in summer 2019 learning about American culture, improving their English language skills while gaining basic work experience. Students who participate in this program work in places such as restaurants, hotels, amusement parks, supermarkets and carry out basic duties and earn a salary to help cover their expenses in the United States.

Students may apply to the Work and Travel Program as:

- **CIEE-placed students:** This means that we will find jobs for them through CIEE. The majority of our students will travel to the U.S. with jobs we have found for them and are approved
- **Self-Placed students:** Only very few students, who have already been on the Work and Travel program before and will again work with a CIEE-approved employer can apply as Self-Placed students. Please contact us at gulsen@studyusa.com.cy if you have found your own job and have questions about going as a Self-Placed student.

The information below is for **Self-Placed students only**.

Where do Work and Travel Students work in the U.S.?

Each year, only very few students are allowed to return on Work and Travel for a second or third time. CIEE follows strict regulations concerning the places of employment, therefore, students applying as Self-Placed students must go to employers that have already been approved by CIEE. Please check with us before making any commitments to your U.S. employer.

Students should be aware that the main goal of the program is cultural exchange and this is a wonderful opportunity to live in the U.S. for up to 4 months, and meet Americans and learn about the United States. However, these are also real job opportunities and you are expected to fulfill all the duties listed in your employment contract.

If time allows, students may wish to travel within the United States upon the completion of their job.

Who can apply for the Work and Travel Program?

To be eligible for the CIEE Work & Travel USA program, you must:

- Be at least 18 years old and not more than 30 years old by the application deadline
- Be registered as a **full-time undergraduate** student at an accredited university or other institution of post-secondary education in Cyprus. The degree/diploma course in which you are registered must be at least two years in duration.
- Have completed at least **one semester** of your degree program (foundation year or preparatory year not included) at the time of application
- Have at least one more year to graduate from your degree program, at the time of application.
- Have at least a 2.0 CGPA out of 4.0 or 6.5 out of 10
- Have at least \$800 to support yourself upon arrival in the U.S.
- Be able to function in an English-speaking work environment. Complete an English language interview, in person or online, by StudyUSA Higher Education Consultants

How to apply for the Self-Placed Work and Travel Program:

The first step in applying is contacting us to make sure you are eligible and that your job has been secured through an employer that is already CIEE-approved. You should be aware that your prospective employer must also fill out a Job Offer Form on your behalf, which CIEE will review. Please contact gulsen@studyusa.com.cy for this form and for questions.

Application inquiries can be sent to gulsen@studyusa.com.cy or anna@studyusa.com.cy

What happens after you and your Job Offer Form has been approved by CIEE?

You will then receive instructions on what to do next. You should be prepared to do the following:

- Fill in application forms and pay the \$50 application fee;
- Pay the below Process Fee of \$1,150 in full
- Submit school documents such as your most recent university transcript showing the year you are in and your grades;
- Submit a copy of a valid passport. **Your passport must be valid six more months after September 2019.**

How much does the Work and Travel Program cost?

Once the student and Job Offer Form has been approved, the student should be prepared to pay the following fees to StudyUSA/Applymates:

Fees	Self-Placed Students
Total Program Fee	\$1,250
Application Fee	\$50
<i>The Interview Fee must be paid at the time of the job interview</i>	
Process Fee	\$1,200
<i>The Process Fee is only paid once a job offer is made and</i>	

<i>the student accepts the job offer</i>	
Total Visa Fees	\$195
Visa application fee	\$160
SEVIS fee	\$35
Flight to the U.S. (arranged for and paid by the student)	\$1,000-\$1,500

Once a job offer has been finalized, students should be aware that they must then apply for a visa and pay the Visa (\$160) and the SEVIS fee (\$35) in order to get their J-1 visa to travel to the United States. Unfortunately, we have no influence over the visa process. Last year, our approval rate was slightly over 80% but this changes from year to year. International flight costs are also the responsibility of the student and students should not purchase their flights until they have been informed that their visa application has been approved.

What does the Program Fee Cover?

The initial application for the program is free. Program fees cover the following:

- Assistance with the CIEE application process
- DS-2019 document required for J-1 exchange visa to the U.S.
- Assistance with visa application.
- StudyUSA/Applimates support before departing Cyprus for Work and Travel Program in the U.S.
- A mandatory orientation before departing Cyprus for the Work and Travel Program in the U.S.
- CIEE support 24/7 during the Work and Travel program in the U.S.
- Medical insurance for the duration of the program.

Cancellation Policy:

- In the case that the student is denied a visa, the majority of the Program Fee, in the amount of \$950, will be reimbursed. However, neither the visa fee (\$160) nor the SEVIS fee can be reimbursed. Please note that we do not have any influence over the visa process or the outcome of your visa application.
- If a student withdraws from the WAT Program before applying for a visa but after the DS-2019 form has been issued, the Program Fee will not be reimbursed.
- If a student withdraws from the WAT Program after s/he arrives in the United States, there is no reimbursement.

Goals of the Work and Travel Program:

The goals are three fold: to expose students to the United States and the American culture, to gain work experience, and to improve one's English. Students will very often be working alongside other international students on the same program. Students will earn a wage to support their cultural experience and their living expenses, and depending on the salary and hours worked, and if time permits, students may be able to afford to travel after their employment is ended. Students are encouraged to view their job offers in detail before committing to anything.

Stipulations of the Work and Travel Program

- This job is a temporary summer job and is not permanent employment.
- Once offered employment, the student must arrive at the place of employment in the United States, in accordance with the job offer, which will be given on an official document. Similar to any job, students will be expected to take their jobs seriously and to fulfill all the duties set forth by their American employers. Students who fail to do so may lose their jobs and return to Cyprus without completing the program. In cases such as these, students will **NOT** be eligible to receive a cancellation fee. It is for this reason that only serious students genuinely interested in learning about the U.S. and gaining work experience apply for the Work and Travel Program.
- StudyUSA/Applymates nor CIEE can be responsible for obtaining a visa for the student. The issuance of a visa is at the sole discretion of the U.S. Embassy Consular Officer. Students must present themselves for an interview at the U.S. Embassy once the program details have been finalized and visa documents have been obtained.
- Students must return to Cyprus upon completion of the program and in time to resume their studies for the Fall semester at their local university. Students cannot remain in the United States once the visa documents have expired.
- Medical insurance will be purchased for the student that will cover him/her for the duration of the program. This will be arranged by StudyUSA/Applymates and CIEE and is included in the Process Fee.
- Students must show that they have at least \$800 for emergency funds before they arrive in the U.S.
- Students must attend a mandatory on-line orientation before departure to the United States.
- International flights must be arranged by the student according to the date and place of employment. Students should not arrive in the United States more than 5 days before the start date of their employment.
- Students must comply with all CIEE and StudyUSA/Applymates regulations before and during this program.
- Students may not take dependents on this program