

# BENEFITS OF STUDY ABROAD



## Study Abroad and Careers, Salaries, and Job Skills

<b>97%</b>	Found employment within 12 months of graduation, when only 49% of college graduates found employment in the same period. (1) That means they were twice as likely to find a job. Among study abroad alumni, 90% landed a job within 6 months. (2) A UK study supports US findings that study abroad returnees are more likely to find employment within six months. (12)
<b>25%</b>	Higher starting salaries: that's how much more study abroad students earn than those college graduates who do not study abroad.(1) A British study found their study abroad graduates out-earned their peers by 17%. (12) This equates to approx. \$7,000 annually for US students and £3,120 for UK students. Maintaining this earning advantage translates to earning an extra \$567,500 over one's career in the US. (3)
<b>90%</b>	Applied got into their 1st or 2nd choice grad school. (1)
<b>84%</b>	Believed studying abroad helped them build valuable skills for the job market. (4) A second study confirms this at 85%. (10)
<b>80%</b>	Reported that study abroad allowed them to better adapt better to diverse work environments. (4)
<b>70%</b>	Claimed that because of study abroad they were more satisfied with their jobs. (4)
<b>59%</b>	Employers said study abroad would be valuable in an individual's career later on with their organization. (11)
<b>34%</b>	Claimed that study abroad helped them choose their career field. (4)
<b>19%</b>	Lower unemployment rates were found among study abroad alumni according to a British study. (4)
<b>+</b>	A British study found the greatest increases salary earnings among study abroad alumni (compared to their peers) among seven majors: sociology, computer science, theology and religious studies, electronic and electrical engineering, and physical geographical sciences. (4)

# BENEFITS OF STUDY ABROAD



## Study Abroad, Graduation and Academic Performance

<b>100%</b>	Shown greater improvement in GPA post-study abroad. Student GPAs tend to rise as they approach the completion of their undergraduate degree. Students who studied abroad saw their GPAs rise twice as quickly as a result of going abroad compared to students who stayed in town according to a Georgia study. (8)
<b>19%</b>	more likely to graduate: that describes how study abroad participants are more likely to graduate than non-participants by six years. Even at four years, study abroad participants are 15% more likely to graduate based on a UC San Diego study. (5) UT Austin and Georgia data show a similar trend. (6,7)

## Study Abroad and Personality

<b>97%</b>	Attributed study abroad to increased maturity. (13)
<b>96%</b>	Claimed an increase in self-confidence attributed to study abroad. (13)
<b>89%</b>	Reported that study abroad facilitated a greater tolerance for ambiguity. (13)
<b>+</b>	A German study compared personality development and found that students who studied abroad showed improvements in five core traits compared to their peers who did not study abroad: openness, conscientiousness, extraversion, agreeableness and emotional stability. (9)

## Resources

1	<a href="#">Career Benefits of Study Abroad</a>
2	<a href="#">New Survey Shows College Graduates Who Study Abroad Land Career-Related Jobs Sooner, with Higher Starting Salaries</a>
3	<a href="#">How Higher Education Affects Lifetime Salary</a>
4	<a href="#">AIFS Study Abroad Outcomes</a>
5	<a href="#">UC San Diego Study: 2011 EAP and OAP Retention, Graduation, &amp; Time-to-Degree Combined</a>
6	<a href="#">UT Austin Study: Go Abroad and Graduate On-Time: Study Abroad Participation, Degree Completion, and Time-to-Degree</a>
7	<a href="#">Georgia Learning Outcomes of Students Studying Abroad Research Initiative: The Effect of Study Abroad on College Completion in a State University System</a>
8	<a href="#">Study Abroad May Lead to Better GPA, Graduation Rates</a>
9	<a href="#">Studying Abroad Boost Students' Emotional Development</a>
10	<a href="#">The Impact of Studying Abroad on Recent College Graduates' Careers</a>
11	<a href="#">Employers Value Candidates Who Study Abroad</a>
12	<a href="#">(UK) Mobile students more likely to have a job - Report</a>
13	<a href="#">How More Study Abroad Programmes Could Benefit Society</a>