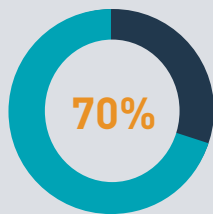


The Intern and Trainee programs, part of the Department of State Exchange Visitor Program, offer international candidates the opportunity to temporarily live in the United States, participate in professional training with host organizations, and experience American culture and society. The Alliance for International Exchange commissioned an independent research firm, EurekaFacts, to conduct a thorough review of the Intern and Trainee programs.

Intern and Trainee Programs Support U.S. National Security



The total contribution of Intern and Trainee exchange visitors to the U.S. economy in 2017



of participants report a more positive opinion about the American way of doing business and about American companies

Intern and Trainee Programs Support the U.S. Economy

- During their stay, Interns and Trainees contribute an estimated **\$662.6 million** to the U.S. economy
- Intern and Trainee participants spend approximately **\$2,000** per month in their local communities on items such as housing, food, entertainment, and travel

Intern and Trainee Programs are Valuable Public Diplomacy Tools in Fostering Positive Attitudes Towards the U.S.

95%

of participants said they had a good or very good experience in the U.S.

75%

of participants developed a more positive opinion of American people after their experience

73%

of participants state they developed a more positive opinion of the U.S. in general after their program experience

70%

of participants developed a more positive opinion of American culture

Building professional skills and learning about U.S. culture are top drivers of participation for Interns and Trainees



79% choose to participate in the program to learn about U.S. culture, and **85%** participate to gain job related experience. In contrast, earning money is the least important reason Interns and Trainees participate.

The benefits to future career aspirations outweigh any cost associated with participating in the program. **95%** feel their program provided them with practical skills and expertise, and **96%** agree that their program experience will help them in the future.



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Intern and Trainee programs add value to American businesses

85% of host organizations consider the programs important to their business

75% of host organizations stated that participants broaden perspectives of current staff through exposure to different cultures

71% of host organizations state that the program helps current staff develop intercultural communication skills

71% of host organizations offer equivalent intern or trainee program opportunities for Americans in the U.S. and reported that these positions are equally or more available to Americans than international participants

70% of host organizations participate to bring a unique cultural dimension to the workplace

60% of host organizations cite that Interns and Trainees bring a unique work ethic that positively contributes to the organization

60% of host organizations would experience a negative impact if the Intern and Trainee programs were no longer available

