

# BENEFITS OF STUDY ABROAD

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

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|------------|---|
| <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)  |

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## Study Abroad, Graduation and Academic Performance

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|-------------|---|
| <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

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| <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

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| 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>   |