



Frequently asked questions

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Volunteering or interning

What is the difference between a volunteer and internship placement?

Volunteer placements can be fulfilled by anyone of any age, on any project, or with any local partner. We match your (group's) interests and qualifications with the local needs. You will receive support and guidance, and you are expected to report on your activities, however you will not receive a grade from us, and your placement does not require us to communicate with your education.

For internship placements we match the local needs with the criteria of the involved partner school and the interests and qualifications of the student. We communicate with the student and the supervisor to assure your placement meets all criteria. We can supervise scientific research, or practical internships at local health care facilities, child care facilities and schools. We provide guidance before, during and after your time in Ghana, to assure you complete your internship successfully.

[Topic overview](#)

What are the costs of volunteer placements?

Every volunteer pays for the coordination of the placement (i.e. preparation, implementation and evaluation of your stay), the airport pick-up, the accommodation while in Ghana (including three meals a day) and the airport drop off. Your flight ticket, insurance, drinks, telephone costs, internet costs, local transport costs (to from projects) and local traveling are not included in these prices. If you would like to know the most current prices, please send an email to our recruitment team.

From Europe send an email to team.europe@unitedprojects.org,

from any other place send an email team.americas.oceania@unitedprojects.org

[Topic overview](#)

What are the costs of internship placements?

Every intern pays for the coordination of the placement (i.e. preparation, supervision and evaluation of your stay), the airport pick-up, the accommodation while in Ghana (including three meals a day) and the airport drop off (the latter is optional). Your flight ticket, insurance, drinks, telephone costs, internet costs, local transport costs (to from projects) and local traveling are not included in these prices. If you would like to know the most current prices, please send an email to our recruitment team.

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[Topic overview](#)

How much pocket money will I need?

This depends on how much you would like to spend on drinks, phone and internet, visiting tourist sites and buying souvenirs, or other items. You can keep the weekly pocket money as low as USD 15 a week if you don't buy any extras, besides a drink once in a while and the necessary phone and internet credit. In this amount we budgeted for about USD 8 for local transport to your project site. Most project sites are within a short taxi ride of your host accommodation and can also be reached by foot. The more remote areas are harder to reach and therefore more expensive. UNiTED does not cover the transport costs, however fieldwork in remote areas is only organized in communication with you, to assure your budget allows you to pay for the transport.

[Topic overview](#)



Can you host groups?

Yes, we can. We have successfully hosted many groups in the past and it is our pleasure to discuss your group's placement with you. For more information, please contact our recruitment team.

From Europe send an email to team.europe@unitedprojects.org,

from any other place send an email team.americas.oceania@unitedprojects.org

[Topic overview](#)

Can you host families?

Yes, we can, we have hosted families with children in the past. Young children mainly follow their parents and spend time playing with other children in a local children's home. We have accommodation that is suitable for families. For more information, please contact our recruitment team.

From Europe send an email to team.europe@unitedprojects.org,

from any other place send an email team.americas.oceania@unitedprojects.org

[Topic overview](#)

Do you have group discounts?

Yes, we do. A group is a team or family that comes for a short term placement (between one and four weeks) and that consists of four to ten members. We have reduced prices, which can be requested by emailing our recruitment team.

From Europe send an email to team.europe@unitedprojects.org,

from any other place send an email team.americas.oceania@unitedprojects.org

[Topic overview](#)

Where do UNiTED volunteers work?

UNiTED volunteers work on projects that are coordinated by our local team, or they work in local organizations (like health care facilities and child care facilities). We customize each placement by assessing the local needs and matching them with your interests and skills. For more information on the various projects we have, please visit our website www.unitedprojects.org.

[Topic overview](#)

What kind of accommodation does UNiTED have for volunteers and interns?

We have various types of accommodation available for volunteers and interns. Placement is coordinated by our local team based upon availability. Young volunteers and interns mostly stay with our local host family. This family has three shared rooms, a shared indoor shower and toilet, and a common porch where you will have your meals. This family lives central and close to the most common project sites. Families and volunteers of 30+ normally stay with our second host family, which has two self-contained rooms and a common kitchen / office. This family lives just outside town, but is still close to most project sites. We also have the option of living in a local children's home for volunteers and interns that mainly work there and stay for a month or longer. Except for breakfast, meals are shared with all available volunteers and interns. This gives you the opportunity to share ideas and experience, and learn from each other. Where you will stay, will be communicated to you once you have finalized your placement. [Topic overview](#)

Does UNiTED provide work space?

UNiTED provides a work space for you to prepare your activities. We have an office in which you can focus on preparing the projects you work on. This office is also used for our regular meetings. Our office has both books that you can use for your project work and reading books. Unfortunately, our office is not equipped with laptops, or other devices and there is no internet access. However, most of our projects have full manuals. You follow the steps of practical implementation based on research outcomes and all materials are available, which means you do not need a computer or internet. You can report through our



meetings and in writing. If necessary, our staff will assure to digitize the work or help you do this. An internet café and print / copy shop is nearby if necessary.

[Topic overview](#)

What does UNiTED organize?

UNiTED organizes your full placement. This includes the coordination of your stay (before, during and after your time in Ghana), the airport pick-up, your accommodation and the airport drop off (the latter is optional). During your stay we are available to guide you during office hours (Mon – Fri, 8:00 – 16:00) and 24/7 in case of emergencies and illness. The costs for your stay can be found in our most recent brochure. For more information, you can email our recruitment team.

From Europe send an email to team.europe@unitedprojects.org,

from any other place send an email team.americas.oceania@unitedprojects.org

[Topic overview](#)

What do I have to organize?

You have to organize your flight ticket, insurance, vaccinations, malaria prophylaxis, visa for Ghana, your pocket money (for phone credit, drinks, traveling, local transport) and anything else you can think of before coming to Ghana. If your placement is linked to your education, you also need to organize the approval from your education and coordinate the communication between UNiTED and your supervisor.

[Topic overview](#)

I have a health concern, can I still come?

Please inform our recruitment team about your health concern. We will handle this information with the utmost discretion. The recruitment team will discuss your health concern with our team in Ghana to assure we can meet your health needs, whether they are [dietary restrictions](#), or other physical or mental issues. Our team in Ghana will advise you on the possibilities.

[Topic overview](#)



Applying for a position at UNiTED

How do I apply for a position at UNiTED?

To apply for a volunteer or internship position at UNiTED, please follow these directions:

1. Send us an e-mail with motivation letter and resent resume, both attached in either Word or PDF file.
2. We will send you a brochure with prices and our application form and ask you to fill this.
3. Send the filled form back to us.

Once we have received the requested documents, we will process your application and inform you of the next steps.

From Europe send an email to team.europe@unitedprojects.org,

from any other place send an email team.americas.oceania@unitedprojects.org

[Topic overview](#)

Do I need to apply long before my intended trip?

We can process placements up to a month, or even a few weeks, before arrival in Ghana. As long as you can assure you have enough time to apply for your visa and organize everything on your end (e.g. vaccinations, insurance, ticket). However, if you intend to apply for an internship or long-term stay, we advise you to apply at least two to three months before your intended trip.

[Topic overview](#)

How does the placement process work?

Once you have applied for a position at UNiTED your placement will be processed by the recruiting team. You will receive a proposal on the projects you will be involved in. As it is a proposal, these projects will not be your final and only projects, but will give you an indication of the activities you will do. In case you are intending to do an internship, or applying for a stay longer than a month, we also propose a (phone / Skype) conversation with you. Once we have agreed on a proposal for your stay, you will book your flights. After sharing your flight details with our recruitment team your placement is final. You will now be introduced to our team in Ghana and start preparing for your stay with us.

[Topic overview](#)

When is my placement final?

Once you have agreed on the timeframe and proposed projects for your stay, your placement is temporal. You are given a final date to book your flights and share the details with our recruitment team. In general, you are given two to four weeks to finalize your placement. Once we receive your flight details, your placement is final. There are however exceptions; click [here](#) to find out what the exceptions are.

[Topic overview](#)

What if I need approval from my education before I can book my flights?

In case you sign up for an internship through UNiTED it is very likely that your education will not allow you to book your flights, until you have obtained approval from their end. We have been supervising internships for almost ten years, and know of these requirements. We will work with you on drafting your assignment in Ghana, whether it is a scientific research or practical placement, and will exempt you from booking your flight until you have received approval from your education. We do however expect you to pay our coordination fee up front.

[Topic overview](#)