

## Work and Travel USA

### VETTING STANDARDS AND PROHIBITED POSITIONS LIST

Our sponsors are continually reassessing their policies to ensure that we remain in compliance with program regulations and achieve our vision for the Work & Travel USA program. As a reminder, for any job, the sponsor must confirm the position is compatible with the rules, regulations, and intent of the J-1 Exchange Visitor Program. Participants must be able to balance their work responsibilities with time spent exploring their local community, learning about the U.S. and getting to know Americans. Our ability to approve any job placement will be assessed based on community safety and support, the availability of affordable and convenient housing and transportation to the job site, as well as the sponsor's ability to support the participant and provide sufficient program opportunities. Job placements may be restricted due to job type, location or housing availability.

#### PROHIBITED JOB TYPES

The following job types are prohibited or have restrictions:

- Lifeguard with a pool management company
  - o Prohibited for all employer types
- Vacation home cleaning crew
  - o These are defined as cleaning companies that take their staff on the road to clean rental properties (so, not the same as housekeepers) or the cleaning of private homes not owned by the employer.
  - o Prohibited for all employer types
- Housekeepers, Dishwashers, Laundry o Placements will be carefully reviewed for their level of interaction with Americans, opportunities to practice English, level of supervision, and risk of isolation in the workplace.
- Apartment building doormen
- Moving companies
- Multiple Sites of Activity (e.g. tent set up, catering, landscaping)
  - o All participants must check-in and check-out at the Site of Activity each day
  - o Participants must have consistent housing that they return to each day
  - o Participants are not permitted to drive
  - o Participants are not permitted to cross state lines for day work
  - o Participants are not permitted to travel or stay overnight for their job
- Bouncer or security positions
- Positions that are filled by a different type of J-1 visa (camp counselors, interns, etc.)
- Positions obtained through staffing or employment agencies
- Positions designated by the U.S. Department of Labor as "hazardous to youth"
- Positions where students are hired independent contractors (using 1099 forms)
- Positions where students works the majority of their hours between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.
- Sales Positions that require students to invest their own money to pre-purchase inventory
- Positions that are mostly commission-based and thus do not guarantee minimum wage
- Positions with exposure to dangerous chemicals (such as pesticides)
- Positions that require a professional license
- Positions that displace U.S. workers

- Positions with employers who have experienced layoffs within the last 120 days
- Positions with employers who have workers on strike or lockout
- Domestic help positions in private U.S. households, such as au pair, servant, gardener, or chauffeur
  
- Modeling or Positions in the adult entertainment industry
- Positions on casino gaming floors
- Positions in warehouses, factories/manufacturing, moving companies, or catalog/online distribution centers
- Positions in the fisheries industry
- Positions at mall kiosks or cart stands
- Positions as operators or drivers of vehicles or vessels for which drivers' licenses are required
- Operators of pedicabs, rolling chairs, other passenger carrying vehicles for hire, and/or vehicles requiring a commercial driver's license
- Farm or ranch Positions
- Positions with traveling carnivals / concessions
- Positions providing clinical care, medical services or involving patient contact, hands-on therapy, counseling, administering treatment or making diagnoses of medical, psychiatric or psychological patients, or veterinary work involving hands-on care
- Positions as ship or aircraft crew members or as pilots, except as crew members on ships that travel only within domestic U.S. waters
- Positions as teachers, teaching assistants, or coaches
- Positions entailing sustained physical contact with customers, such as, body piercing, tattoo parlor work, or massage)
- Positions with domestic cleaning companies
- Positions that could bring notoriety or disrepute to the Exchange Visitor Program
- Positions in home-based businesses
- Positions in warehouses or factories
- Administrative positions handling sensitive/personal information
- Positions in door-to-door sales or canvassing
- Positions in industrial style/scale service sector
- Position where an exchange visitor is solely responsible for the safety of others (e.g., as a lifeguard); does not have regular on-site or timely on-call supervision by the host entity and/or would be without reasonable time off for breaks and meals
- Positions that involve the use of deli slicers
- Positions that are not compensated hourly (e.g. piece wages, stipends, etc.)
- Position with a host entity that participates in the Summer Work Travel Program on a basis other than seasonal (e.g., for more than two seasons during the year, or that covers a total period of employment longer than eight months in a single calendar year)
- Locations where telephone and Internet communication is not accessible.

Additionally, in certain geographical areas, housing has become an area of concern as affordable, suitable housing options that offer safe transportation options to job sites are limited. In order to ensure student safety and support program success, we will be limiting students' job placements in certain locations in regard to housing. The following communities and/or U.S. States are restricted to employer placements that provide

suitable employer housing or where participants have secured housing at least two weeks in advance of their arrivals. If housing is not provided with the job offer, participants should be advised to start early in seeking housing in these areas and work with their employer to source housing.

#### RESTRICTED JOB LOCATIONS

We will be limiting students' job placements to parts of the U.S. which offer a traditional SWT experience in a place where the sponsor has a volume of participants that allows us to provide participants with support while they are on the program. The following communities and/or U.S. States are restricted to approved sponsor managed accounts that provide suitable housing and have a positive record from at least one prior season. Placements in neighboring towns will also be subject to careful review and may be denied.

**Alabama (AL)** – Gulf Shores/Orange Beach

**California (CA)** – Santa Barbara, Isla Vista, Goleta

**Florida (FL)** – “Panhandle” including the following cities; Apalachicola, DeFuniak Springs, Destin, Fort Walton Beach, Marianna, Panama City, Panama City Beach, Pensacola, Tallahassee.

**Hawaii (HI)**

**Kansas (KS)**

**Louisiana (LA)** – New Orleans

**Maryland (MD)** – All cities previously restricted, please visit the following link for a full listing of restricted locations: <http://batchgeo.com/map/aee6dcb21d78e947a5f267686167fe00>

**New Jersey (NJ)** – Atlantic City

**New Mexico (NM)**

**Nevada (NV)** – Las Vegas

**North Dakota (ND)**

**Pennsylvania (PA)** – All cities previously restricted, please visit the following link for a full listing of restricted locations: <https://batchgeo.com/map/fb2a73838adef35fe1630031bf331fa7>

**South Dakota**

**West Virginia (WV)**

#### SECOND POSITIONS IN RESTRICTED LOCATIONS

Second Positions are subject to the same rules that apply to primary Positions, with the exception of rules regarding housing. If a participant's primary placement is in a location where only sponsor managed accounts are approved, non-sponsor employers may be considered for second Positions.

#### RESTRICTED JOB LOCATIONS REQUIRING HOUSING

In certain geographical areas housing has become an area of concern as affordable, suitable housing options that offer safe transportation options to the job site are limited. In order to ensure student safety and support program success, we will be limiting students' job placements in certain locations in regard to housing. The following communities and/or U.S. States are restricted to employer placements that provide suitable employer housing:

**Maine (ME)** – Kittery

**New Jersey (NJ)** – Cape May and Wildwood: Participants living in Wildwood but working in Cape May will not be allowed to bike back and forth to work. Housing in Cape May is required for participants working in Cape May and will be reviewed for suitability.

**New York (NY)** – Bridgehampton, East Hampton, Montauk, Southampton

**Wyoming (WY)** – Jackson Hole

The housing details for placements requiring employer provided housing should be provided on the Job Offer Form. The sponsor may request additional information and documentation to confirm the availability and suitability of pre-arranged housing prior to approving placements in these areas.

The following communities and/or U.S. States have become areas of concern as suitable housing options for participants are limited. Participants must secure housing at least two weeks in advance of their arrivals. If housing is not provided with the job offer, participants must be advised to start early in seeking housing in these areas and work with their employer to secure housing.

**Delaware (DE)** - Rehoboth Beach

**Massachusetts (MA)** - Cape Cod

**Maryland (MD)** - Ocean City

**South Carolina (SC)** - Myrtle Beach

**Virginia (VA)** - Virginia Beach

### **Important notes about Work and Travel in large cities**

If a large city (e.g. Miami, New York, or Los Angeles) is submitted as a potential place of employment, the following must be demonstrated:

- The job is seasonal or temporary in nature.
- The employer has reasonably attempted to hire locals for the season and the placement will not displace U.S. workers.
- There is access to suitable, affordable, and safe housing.

**NOTE:** Housing concerns continue to be under close watch by the Department of State and an issue closely monitored by the sponsor. This past season, sponsors invested heavily in relocation support due to insufficient housing and overcrowding issues.