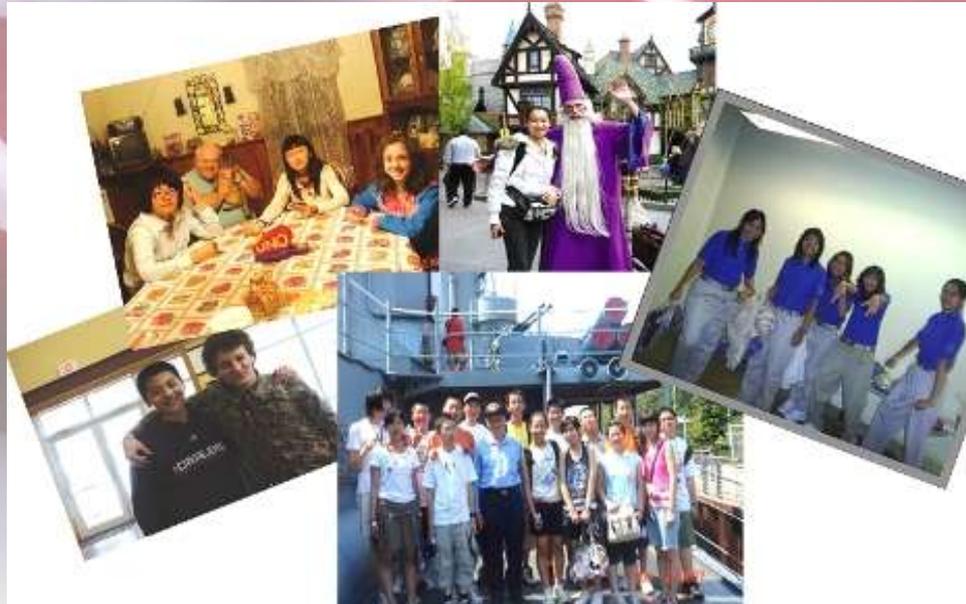


**Exchange Visitor Program  
(J-1 visa):  
SUMMER WORK & TRAVEL**



# Exchange Visitor Program

To foster mutual understanding between Americans and the people of other countries through educational and cultural exchanges.



# Exchange Visitor Program

After exchanges, visitors return to their home countries to share their exchange experiences in the United States.



# Summer Work & Travel (SWT)

To provide post-secondary students an opportunity to become directly involved in the daily life of the U.S. for a period up to **four months** during their school vacation.



# What kind of jobs are available?

Non-skilled service positions at:



Theme Parks



Hotels & Resorts



Fast Food & Other Restaurants



Convenience Stores



# Work that is NOT allowed



- Selling that requires you to purchase inventory that you must sell in order to support yourself
- Domestic help in private homes (e.g. child care, elder care, gardener, chauffeur)
- Pedicab or rolling chair drivers or operators
- Driving vehicles or vessels that carry passengers for hire or for which you need a special driver's license
- Medical care that involves patient contact
- Adult entertainment industry or any other work that would bring a bad reputation to the program

# When does it happen?

*Thai SWT season* = March-July

*Time to travel:*

- Can enter the U.S. up to 30 days before program start
- Can leave up to 30 days after program ends

***BUT:***

- These dates are maximum range, not a reason to miss school here.
- Your academic studies here are **the most important thing.**



# Do I qualify?

- Full-time, post-secondary student
- Sufficient English proficiency
- Successfully completed at least one semester
- **Recommended** minimum GPA 2.00
- Flexible in working and living with others
- Have a good attitude towards working in a non-skilled service positions



# How do I apply?

You must be sponsored by a **designated sponsor** authorized by the U.S. Department of State.

The designated sponsor will place you with an **employer**.

Designated sponsors use **local agencies** to recruit.

The **local agency** here will assist you with the visa application

- Consulate's list of agencies





# Sponsor Responsibilities

*(might use local agency for some of these)*

- Give you pre-arrival information before you leave Thailand and an orientation when you arrive in the United States.
- Find you a safe and secure place to live.
- Find you employment and inform you about your contractual obligations to the employer.
- Inform you about minimum wage requirements and your rights as a worker.
- Ensure that you have appropriate medical insurance or help you find an appropriate insurance plan.
- Give you their 24/7 hotline information for emergencies.
- Contact you every month to check on your well-being.



# Employer Responsibilities

- Provide you the number of hours of paid employment per week they promised in the job offer to the designated sponsor
- Pay you overtime in accordance with applicable state or federal law
- Notify your designated sponsor when:
  - when you begin working there
  - if they change the job
  - if you are not meeting the job requirements
  - if you leave before the scheduled end of your program.
- Contact your designated sponsor immediately if there is an emergency or any situation that affects your health or welfare

# Why are we telling you this?



## **Some local recruiting agencies “overselling”:**

- jobs not as nice as promised or harder to find
- housing not as nice or more expensive than promised

## **Some Designated Sponsors:**

- not reacting in a timely manner to complaints
- providing housing far from work or in an unsafe area
- arranging work not allowed by program rules

## **Some Employers:**

- contract not clear
- reducing work hours substantially
- withholding money to pay sponsor

# Prevent Problems Before they Happen:

## *Ask questions and get answers*

- What kind job will I do? What are its exact duties? What are all the obligations of my contract?
- Who is the employer? Where is the work site?
- Who will meet me when I arrive in the United States?
- Where will I live? What is the address? How much will it cost? Are utilities and all other charges included?
  - Use this information to do research on Internet: How far is it from the worksite? Is it a safe neighborhood?*
- What fees will I pay to: the local agency? the designated sponsor?
- What other costs will I have (e.g., living expenses)?
- Who provides health insurance? What is the cost? What does it cover?

# What happens if I have a problem in the U.S.?



Every designated sponsor is **required** to have a **24/7 hotline** to handle problems from SWT participants.

**Be sure you have that number!**

**Also, make sure your family here has that number, so they can contact you in an emergency**



# What do I do next?

Check out local agencies.

*Be a smart participant – get good service for the fees you pay.*





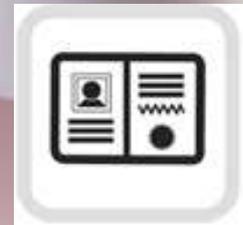
# Role of the Consulate

Work directly with **local agencies**; all contact with SWT participants through their agencies.

**Local agencies** prepare and submit visa applications on behalf of SWT participants.

Visa interview with **SWT participants**:

- Assess if plans are realistic in light of student's personal situation
- Check English language ability





# U.S. Consulate, Chiang Mai, Thailand

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## U.S. Consulate, Chiang Mai, Thailand

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### First Lady Michelle Obama

First Lady Michelle Obama serves as a role model for women who strive to balance their professional careers with their roles as mothers and wives. Click here to learn more about "Woman of Influence" Michelle Obama.  
[http://www.america.gov/michelle\\_obama.html](http://www.america.gov/michelle_obama.html)

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**U.S. Consulate, Chiang Mai, Thailand** Curious about how you can work for the United States? The Federal government offers a wide range of opportunities and options from volunteering to employment...and even the chance to live and work overseas! Visit <http://www.usajobs.gov/infocenter/>...**Read More** ▾



### USAJOBS - Info Center

Source: [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov)

USAJOBS is the official job site of the US Federal Government. It's your one-stop source for Federal jobs and employment information.

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Welcome to the U.S. Consulate General, Chiang Mai, Thailand  
<http://chiangmai.usconsulate.gov>

### Information

Location:  
 387 Wichayanond Road  
 Amphoe Muang Chiang Mai, Thailand,  
 50300

Phone:  
 +66 53 107 700

Mon - Fri:

Create an Ad

### Travel with a purpose



Volunteer with Habitat for Humanity during the 2009 Carter Work Project! Build in Thailand or Cambodia this November.

Like

### The pH Miracle Retreat



June 4-6, 2009 The pH Miracle Retreat is designed to be an enriching lifestyle experience filled with education and relaxation.

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the United States flag, showing the stars and stripes in a wavy pattern. The colors are somewhat muted and soft. The word "Questions?" is centered in a bold, blue, sans-serif font with a slight drop shadow.

**Questions?**