

# Frequently Asked Questions

## ***How do I apply for the Intern program?***

- ☐ Submit your application.
- ☐ Complete your file by submitting the required supporting documents as requested by Amity's Ad-mission Counselor.
- ☐ Respond promptly to any requests from Amity Institute.

## ***What are my chances of receiving an assignment?***

In recent years, most of those who have applied and maintained an active application have received an assignment. However, Amity cannot guarantee an assignment. The host school chooses the applicants that are the best fit for their school.

## ***How do I maintain an active application?***

- ☐ Notify Amity Institute of any changes in your availability.
- ☐ Notify Amity Institute of any changes in your contact information such as: address, home tele-phone, cell phone, and email address.
- ☐ Respond promptly to any request from Amity Institute.
- ☐ Communicate with Admissions monthly (interns@amity.org).

## ***How can I improve my chances of receiving a placement?***

- ☐ Maintain a flexible period of availability.
- ☐ Be willing to go to any region in the United States.
- ☐ Be open to working with multiple age groups.

## ***Can I look for my own assignment?***

Once Amity accepts your application you may not contact schools on your own behalf. Doing so would interfere with the official admissions process. Please note that not all schools are eligible to join the Amity Internship Program.

## ***How do I know if I have an assignment?***

Amity contacts participants by email or telephone to confirm an assignment. Often schools will contact participants for an

interview, but they do not extend an official invitation. The invitation for an assignment must come from Amity Institute.

### ***What happens during the Admissions Process?***

- ☐ Host Schools submit their requests for interns to Amity. Requests include preferences such as country, gender, age, educational background, length of assignment, special talents, etc.
- ☐ Admissions matches school requests with available applications that best meet the school's preferences. An applicant is reviewed at one school at a time.
- ☐ If the initial school rejects an application, we continue to send the application out to other schools.
- ☐ Schools are encouraged to interview applicants; however it is not a requirement.
- ☐ In order to officially invite an applicant, schools must submit a signed Letter of Agreement with the written invitation form to Admissions. Admissions will then send an invitation to the applicant via email for review and acceptance.
- ☐ After accepting an invitation there may be a "down period" during which applicants do not hear from Admissions or the school until visa application forms are mailed in the assignment packet.

### ***Before you accept an assignment, you must be:***

- ☐ Available to come to the U.S. for the entire assignment period.
- ☐ Able to fulfill the financial requirements.
- ☐ Prepared to adapt to a new community, home, and school environment.

**If you are unable to accept an assignment, your application may be dropped, deferred or considered for future assignments, depending upon the circumstances.**

### ***What happens after I am invited?***

An Amity Program Counselor will be assigned to you. The Program Counselor will send you a series of detailed documents with information about the assignment, visa, insurance and preparations necessary prior to departure. You must read these documents thoroughly. The Program Counselor also provides guidance, support, encouragement, and assistance during the visa process and from the beginning of the assignment until the end.

***What if I accept an invitation, but cannot come?***

If an emergency occurs and you have to cancel participation prior to arrival, you must inform Amity Institute and the school immediately. You will forfeit the application fee and your visa sponsorship will be cancelled.

***Are all assignments the same?***

NO. Amity assignments vary in **length of stay, location, school, and training opportunities.**

***Common Assignment Lengths:***

Full School Year: (ten months) from August to June.

One Semester: (five months) from August to January or from January to June.

**Note: Per visa regulations, assignments cannot exceed 10 months.**

***Where are the assignments located?***

Amity works with participating schools throughout the U.S. Many schools are in the Midwest, in non-urban locations, and small communities. There are few assignments in major U.S. cities.

***What type of school will I be assigned to?***

Participating schools include public, private, religious, foreign language immersion and bilingual schools. Below is a breakdown of the approximate age and corresponding educational level:

Elementary 5-12 years of age (most assignments are at this level)

Middle/Jr. High 13-15 years of age

Senior High 15-18 years of age

**What are the program costs?** \* \$200 non-refundable application fee paid to Amity Institute. \* SEVIS Fee - \$220\* Visa application

fee (varies by country, approximately \$150). \* Travel expenses to and from the United States (varies by country and season). \* Health insurance costs (approximately \$95 per month). \* Personal expense money, a minimum of \$250 per month. This covers everyday costs for toiletries, clothing, travel, entertainment, telephone, etc.

Consider all costs before applying. Participants receive free room and board (a value of approximately \$900/month). Do not expect to earn additional money during your assignment.

***Do I need health insurance?***

YES! It is a visa requirement that all participants have sickness and accident insurance for their entire stay in the U.S., beginning with the travel date to the U.S. and ending with the date of departure from the U.S. Once invited, Amity will provide information and the enrollment form for a qualifying insurance policy that costs approximately \$95 per month. Other insurance plans that fulfill visa requirements are also accepted.