

## **Bridges International Seattle Academic Internship Program**



Bridges International is a national ministry of Cru (formerly Campus Crusade for Christ), focused on serving and reaching international students with the message of Christ on college and university campuses, including those in the greater Seattle area. For more information, see the Bridges Web site <[www.BridgesInternational.com](http://www.BridgesInternational.com)>.

Our focus is on **welcoming** international students to our country and city, **winning** them to Christ in the context of our outreach programs and person-to-person relational evangelism, **building** them in their faith through mentoring/discipleship, and **sending** them back to their home countries equipped for a lifelong walk with Christ, for an effective witness in the marketplace, and for active participation in the body of believers (the Church) back home.

### **Purpose of the Academic Internship**

This internship program is designed to provide students at Christian colleges, universities or seminaries with a practical learning and ministry field experience in working with international students.

The internship is tailored to meet the requirements of the students' academic program in the areas of both deeper learning and practical field experience.

Those accepted into the internship program through the application process will be assigned a Bridges staff supervisor/mentor who will guide them through both the learning and practical phases of the internship. Our staff will be in communication with each student's academic advisor or professor to insure that all requirements of the institution are satisfied in the course of the internship and that the student receives proper credit.

This internship will broaden the student's knowledge, understanding, appreciation and practical skills of working with those who have come here from abroad to study.

### **Internship Format**

**Settings:** Various campuses around the Seattle area (i.e. the University of Washington, Bellevue College, etc.)

**Education/Training:** Interns will be equipped with both the ministry skills and people skills needed for relating to international students. A focus will be placed on understanding various foreign cultures/people-groups, how to relate to them, and how to reach them for Christ. Interns will also have an interactive experience with our staff and learn to work well within a team context.

Interns will spend a minimum number of hours per week/academic quarter (as defined by their academic requirements) on campus with Bridges staff and directly interacting with and ministering to international students. Students will also be given optional opportunities to attend Bridges' large events (for example, the Bridges annual national student conference) to further their knowledge and practical experience.

### **General Job Description:**

- Recognize that the position is unpaid (although the student may be reimbursed for transportation costs).
- Devote 10-20 hours per week over 1-4 academic quarters.
- Participate in various Bridges activities with international students.
- Develop relationships with students.
- Master three tools: one in **evangelism**, one in basic **follow-up**, and one in **sending**.
- Seek to share the gospel in such a way that students may come to know Christ.
- Build Christian international students through personal discipleship, group Bible studies, etc.
- Meet each week with a Bridges trainer/mentor.
- Complete personal study projects related to understanding and reaching international students.
- Work with a trainer to craft a personal development plan for continued growth.
- When possible, attend Bridges staff meetings, student retreats or conferences.

### **Student Prerequisites**

- Good academic standing with the sending institution
- Acceptance through the Bridges short-application process, which includes a referral from the sending school's academic advisor or professor
- A consistent and growing walk with Christ
- Agreement with both the Doctrinal Statement and Ministry Distinctives of Bridges/Cru (attached)
- A heart for befriending and reaching internationals
- Agreement with Bridges' approach of taking the initiative in the context of relationships to share the gospel
- A willingness to learn from and be under the guidance and direction of Bridges staff
- Regular and consistent weekly availability
- Reliable transportation