

Going Global: The Basics

Ten Ways to Increase Your Chances of Going Global

1. Perform your current duties with excellence.
2. Make your international desires known often and broadly. Incorporate talk of an international assignment into your formal performance reviews.
3. Find a mentor to advocate for you, especially one with an international network.
4. Learn and/or practice a foreign language.
5. Research those countries you might be transferred to so that you can make an informed decision.
6. Demonstrate your cultural awareness and sensitivity while still in your home market.
7. Point out ways you can make a difference for your organization overseas.
8. Package yourself and your accomplishments in a non-self-serving way that demonstrates your potential value.
9. Volunteer for special projects involving international work.
10. If you believe that you will not be transferred by an organization, you can move to the country of your choice on your own.

Professionals Who Know Say...

- 85% agree that their international experience accelerated their careers
- 78% agree that it had a significant, positive impact on compensation
- 71% agree they were given greater responsibility earlier in their careers because of their international assignments
- 49% first went abroad to work in the beginning of their careers, 31% as middle managers, 15% as senior executives, 5% as executive management
- 73% lived abroad for more than four years
- 53% lived in more than three countries

SOURCE: *Get Ahead By Going Abroad*

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Top Tips for Dealing with a Global World

- Learn to think globally and cross-culturally.
- Acquire international/multicultural experience in college if not before.
- Master at least one foreign language, starting as early as you can.
- Cultivate listening skills and other personal traits that enhance cross-cultural interaction.
- Do your research, and never stop learning.
- Network. Network. Network.
- Find good mentors, and learn when to listen to them, and when to break away.
- Monitor global business trends, especially in your chosen field.
- Minimize school debt to allow for greater flexibility upon graduation.
- Don't be afraid to take calculated risks.
- Know that global jobs sometimes begin on home turf.
- Be prepared for the ups and downs of going global.
- Emphasize your international skills to the same degree that you do your experience.

