



Transatlantic Program 2005 Program Description

A. Brief Program Description

The German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest (GACCoM) offers U.S. students the opportunity to apply for the German Program for Transatlantic Encounters (Transatlantic Program 2005).

The Transatlantic Program 2005 offers an internship opportunity in Germany to 25 motivated and qualified students of U.S. colleges and universities, including one week of fully-funded pre-internship travel and immersion including daily academic language and cultural instruction in Germany. Universities in the whole United States are invited to nominate their best students for this prestigious program. Students who have some German language background (2-years of college German) are asked to apply, with their application supported by one of their professors.

The Transatlantic Program is generally designed to offer young Americans the opportunity to gain a comprehensive perspective in German business, the economy, and the political situation, as well as in the German culture and language. The overall goal is to discover Germany through first-hand experience while making contacts and forming relationships between Americans and Germans. The program aims at making a positive impact on the German American transatlantic relationship. It was established in 1997 and is financed from European Recovery Program (ERP) Special Funds.

The Transatlantic Program especially encourages those colleges and universities to participate who are able to offer course credits for the internship program.

B. Schedule and Program Details

The Transatlantic Program 2005 consists of two parts.

Part one, starting May 20, 2005 includes a fully-funded one-week tour to Germany, with focus on its capital, Berlin. Throughout their trip which will include excursions from Berlin to Hamburg and Dresden, students will meet with government officials, associations, companies, and fellow students to discuss topics of current and future interest. During their tour, the participants will receive first-hand information on a variety of topics, especially about the German economic, political and social system as well as German culture and history. In addition, the students will create valuable social and business contacts with German entrepreneurs, government officials, students and other interesting German parties.

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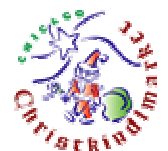
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The full program will be established in Spring 2005. GACCoM also prints a Transatlantic Program 2005 Brochure which will feature all program details as well as a listing of all participants.

During this part of the program the students will be accompanied by Dr. Helga Kraft, Professor of Germanic Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago from whom students will receive a one-week, intensive course on German language and culture. This academically rigorous course will ultimately aid in their acclimation to their new surroundings in Germany. GACCoM works in close cooperation with the University of Illinois at Chicago on this part of the program.

The second part of the program, starting June 1, 2005, consists of an internship with a German company for the duration of either two or three months, depending on the individual student. Internships longer than three months are possible at students' request and are actually greatly welcomed by the German companies.

All internships will be prearranged by GACCoM and its German partner InWEnt after the selection of the 25 participating students. The participant's major area of study and interest will be taken into account in order to create the best fit of the German companies and the U.S. student.

Each American intern will work closely with his or her German counterpart. He or she will see firsthand how a German organization functions from the inside. Not only will the students be there to observe the inner-workings of a German business, but also to act as a productive part of its team.

Part one and part two of the Transatlantic Program 2005 form an inseparable unit. Accepted students will participate in both parts and therefore discover Germany for one week in a group and then continue their internships on an individual basis. All students will meet again once during their internship phase for a mid-term seminar in Cologne which will be conducted by GACCoM's German partner InWEnt.

C. Eligibility

- Enrolled student, majoring in Engineering, Economics, Marketing, Finance, Business Administration, or Computer Science.
- Minors in these areas of study may be considered.
- 2 years of college-level German.
- A maximum age of 30 years.

German companies will consider these qualifications when offering an internship. If the applicant's major does not match these categories yet there is a definite interest in the program, exceptions can be made on a case by-case basis. We encourage and accept recommendations for any student who might be well-suited for this opportunity.





D. Application and Selection Process

For the Transatlantic Program 2005 we look for excellent students from across the United States with the following characteristics:

- Open-minded personality, flexible, curious
- Highly motivated to learn about Germany through first-hand experience
- Interested in being a young ambassador for the US in Germany and vice versa

Each application will be examined with the utmost scrutiny, as each student will be a representative of the German American Chamber of Commerce, their university, and, of course, their country.

The full application must include:

- Resume.
- Statement specifying reasons for his or her interest in the program. (1-2 pages)
- Letter of recommendation from one professor of student's university.
- Filled-out internship questionnaire.

Deadline for application is January 31, 2005. An earlier submission of applications is highly appreciated. Please mail your application to:

**German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest
Ms. Barbara Zollmann
401 N. Michigan Avenue Suite 2525
Chicago, IL 60611**

GACCoM will conduct phone interviews with the students who apply for the program. Personal interviews might be conducted, depending on the regional distribution of the applications.

The final selection of participants will take place on February 10, 2005. The final number of participants is limited to 25. Selection criteria will be the qualification of the student, his/her motivation for the program, decent German language skills and a distribution between the different regions within the United States.

GACCoM will then inform all students. Students accepted in the Transatlantic Program 2005 will be asked to provide some further information, and the matching of the 25 participants with German companies offering internship opportunities begins.





E. Stipends

The stipend for accepted students in the Transatlantic Program 2005 includes:

- Round trip air fare from the U.S. to Germany.
- One full week of travel in Germany prior to students' internship, including: travel expenses, housing, meals, guided visits.
- One week of German language and culture instruction (credit possible).
- An introductory 1-day seminar to prepare for the internship as well as a mid-term seminar to discuss experiences and observations.
- EUR 500 during the internship in Germany if the company does not pay a salary.

F. Participant's Responsibility

The participant's responsibility is the following:

- Providing his/her own health insurance during the whole stay in Germany
- Arranging his/her own round trip air fare (will be refunded by GACCoM)
- Providing his/her own housing during the internship (assistance provided)
- A one-time, non-refundable administrative fee of \$ 125 upon acceptance for the program
- Being a worthy representative of the United States and the Transatlantic Program at any time during the trip

G. General Information

Overall, this is a fantastic opportunity for motivated, well-qualified U.S. students and we look forward to working with you. Should you have any questions at any time, please contact Ms. Barbara Zollmann of the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest (email: zollmann@gaccom.org, phone: 312-494-2174).

GACCoM has conducted three Transatlantic Programs in the past years which were designed for U.S. professionals and entrepreneurs. The past programs were very successful and perfectly met the program's objectives of educating American participants about modern Germany and helping them establish life-long personal and professional relationships. The Transatlantic Program 2005 focuses on U.S. students and, therefore, GACCoM works closely with colleges and universities across the United States.

Please also take a look at our website to read more about the past programs as well as the current program: www.transatlanticprogram.org.





Transatlantic Program 2005 Schedule

December 2004	Information about Transatlantic Program is mailed to U.S. universities and colleges Professors are kindly asked to pass on the information to interested and qualified students and nominate them
January 25, 2005	Deadline for professors to nominate students
January 31, 2005	Deadline for students to submit applications to GACCoM
February 1-10, 2005	Review of applications and phone interviews with applicants
February 10, 2005	Selection of participants. Accepted students will be informed immediately
March 2005	Students will be matched with appropriate German companies
April 2005	Detailed program and further information will be mailed out to participants
May 20, 2005	Students will fly to Berlin, Germany (individually arranged)
May 21, 2005	Check-in in the provided housing in Berlin, Germany
May 23-29, 2005	Group program in Berlin, Hamburg, Dresden including meetings, visits, language/culture instruction
May 30, 2005	Day off
May 31, 2005	Introductory workshop to prepare students for internships
June 1, 2005	Trip to individual internship locations
June 2, 2005	Beginning of individual internships
June 2005	Mid-term seminar with all participants in Cologne
July 31 or Aug. 31, 2005	End of internship
Aug. 1 or Sept. 1, 2005	Individual flights back to U.S. Return dates may vary due to individual plans but ought to be no earlier than August 1, 2005

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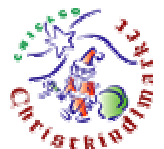
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Transatlantic Program 2005 General Student Internship Information

A. Duration of Internship

The minimum duration of the internship is two months; three months or any time longer is highly appreciated. Students do not need a work permit in Germany. GACCoM's partner in Germany, InWEnt gGmbH, will apply for an exemption for the duration of the internship.

B. Age and Citizenship Requirements

The maximum age for all program participants is **30**. You must be a **U.S. citizen** or, citizens of other countries must be enrolled students at a U.S. college or university. Non-U.S. citizens will be responsible for obtaining a visa to Germany.

C. Educational Background

This internship program is for enrolled students majoring in engineering, computer science, business, finance, or marketing. If the applicant's major does not match these categories yet there is a definite interest in the program, exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis. Practical experience is preferred.

D. German Language Requirements

In most instances at least 2 years of post-secondary study in German is required.

E. Host Companies

GACCoM and its partner InWEnt work with all types of German host companies: small family-owned businesses, medium sized companies, and multinational holdings. Many companies are experienced in accommodating foreign interns and have been working with InWEnt for years.

More than 90 % of all German companies are small and medium sized companies. While a "big name" certainly sounds attractive, be assured that smaller companies will provide for excellent internship experiences. It really depends on what you make of it.

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F. Financial Compensation for Internship Work

It depends on the individual company if the internship will be paid. Usually, the longer the student stays the more likely it is that the company pays a salary. Two or three months internships are considered short-term internships, therefore the likelihood to receive a substantial payment is low. If the company does not pay any compensation at all, GACCoM will provide the student with a one-time stipend of EUR 500 during his/her internship in Germany.

G. Regional Preferences

The host companies are located all over Germany. Our foremost goal is to provide the applicant with an internship placement at a company that is most suited to his/her individual qualifications, and thus location is not our primary focus.

H. Housing

The student is responsible to provide his own housing, once his placement in a company is confirmed. GACCoM and InWEnt will though provide leads and assistance to find housing.

I. Health Insurance

You must have health insurance for the duration of the program. As an enrolled student, you should either keep your US insurance or purchase insurance coverage yourself. InWEnt offers insurance coverage, so let us know if you need our assistance.

J. Cost of Living

The cost of living in Germany for a student will be approx. EUR 700/month (approx. \$ 900/month). This includes housing, meals and entertainment to some extent. Remember: If the company does not pay for the internship, the student will receive a one-time stipend of 500 EUR (approx. \$ 650) through GACCoM to help covering the cost.

Do you have any questions?

In this case, please contact Ms. Barbara Zollmann, German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest, Chicago, email transatlanticprogram@gaccom.org, phone 312 494 2174.





**Transatlantic Program 2005
Internship Questionnaire – To be returned to GACCoM with application!**

This form is designed to inform us of your preferences and ideals. It will not be forwarded to companies. We encourage you to list your first, second, and third preferences and to be receptive to alternatives. Although we cannot guarantee a placement based on the information on this sheet, we will certainly do our best to accommodate your preferences and to make your internship experience in Germany worthwhile.

Name _____ University _____

What length of internship are you looking for? Please indicate/specify.

Two months Three months Longer _____

Preferred field/department/projects you would be interested in:

Do you prefer a _____ large _____ medium _____ small-sized company?

Names or types of German companies you would like to intern with:

Have you already established personal contact(s) with a German company that you would like us to follow up?

Other things you would like us to consider:

Do you already have any experience with internships in U.S. or companies in Germany? If so, please specify.

No Yes _____

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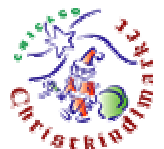
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Transatlantic Program 2005 The Who is Who

Project executing organization and project coordinator:

German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest
Ms. Barbara Zollmann
401 N. Michigan Avenue Suite 2525
Chicago, IL 60611
Phone: 312 494 2174, Fax: 312 644 0738
Email: transatlanticprogram@gaccomm.org;
Website: www.transatlanticprogram.org; www.gaccomm.org

Students: If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Zollmann

Partner organizations:

U.S. Partner – Academic part

University of Illinois at Chicago
Helga W. Kraft
Professor of Germanic Studies
Department of Germanic Studies
601 S Morgan St (MC 189)
Chicago, IL 60607
Tel. 312-996-3205
email: kraft@uic.edu
<http://www.german.uic.edu>

Universities: If you have any questions concerning the academic part, you may either contact Prof. Kraft or Ms. Zollmann

German Partner – Internship part

InWEnt – Internationale Weiterbildung und Entwicklung gGmbH
Capacity Building International, Germany
Mrs. Dawn Price-Diegel
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