



# Korea WEST

(Work, English Study, and Travel)



## **PROGRAM SNAPSHOT**

The Korea WEST program is a partnership between the U.S. Department of State and the South Korean Ministry of Education that supports South Korean university students in studying English and interning in the United States. KWEST participants are nominated and competitively selected by the South Korean Ministry of Education. The program gives organizations and institutions a unique opportunity to host some of South Korea's brightest university students and recent graduates as international interns, bringing fresh perspectives and global insight to their teams.

## **HERE ARE SOME KEY DETAILS ABOUT THE PROGRAM:**

- There are **NO fees** associated with hosting a Korea WEST intern nor are companies/institutions expected to locate or subsidize housing for the intern.
- Korea WEST interns already have a J-1 Intern visa. Cultural Vistas is a State Department-sponsored J-1 visa organization, so all immigration paperwork and processing are done through our organization at no cost to you or your organization.
- Korea WEST interns will have completed 3-4 months of English language training in the U.S. before their internship and have had classes in U.S. business etiquette and culture to prepare for their internship.
- Host organization business should be conducted primarily in English (no more than 20% of internship duties can involve Korean language (translation, writing, speaking, etc.)
- Host organization must have worker's compensation insurance or an exception and must have a Tax ID (EIN).
- Interns' tasks need to be related to their academic/career field.
- Interns are required to intern a minimum of 32 hours and a maximum of 40 hours a week.
- Internships must be at least 60% in person in the office with supervision with up to 40% remote work allowed.
- This is an international exchange program, so interns are not meant to replace American workers.
- Compensation, if any, is at the discretion of the host company. It is encouraged, but if compensation is not available, some companies provide a small monthly stipend to help support transportation costs or other work-related expenses.

## **About Cultural Vistas**

Founded in 1963, Cultural Vistas is a nonprofit exchange organization promoting global understanding and collaboration among individuals and institutions. We develop international professional experiences that create more informed, skilled, and engaged citizens. Our programs empower people to drive positive change in themselves, their organizations, and society. **For more information, please visit [koreawest.org](http://koreawest.org)**