

HOW TO LAND YOUR INTERNATIONAL JOB



8 steps to kickstart your global career

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STEP 1 — Define Your Target

- ☐ Identify countries that match your lifestyle, visa options, and career field
- ☐ Research industries with international demand (tech, consulting, healthcare, etc.)
- ☐ Write down 3–5 target companies per country
- ☐ Check if your profession requires local certification or licensing
 - Doctors, psychologists, lawyers, teachers, and healthcare workers often need re-certification
 - Tech and business roles may require vendor certifications (e.g., AWS, SAP, PMP) recognized locally
- ☐ Recruiters look for what other activities do or will do, what makes you unique compared to others (mentorship, coaching, sports, volunteering, working with children, etc.)

STEP 2 — Build a Global CV & LinkedIn

- ☐ Adapt your CV to international standards (achievement-focused, 2 pages max)
- ☐ Remove local jargon and irrelevant details
- ☐ Optimize LinkedIn with a global headline (role + industry + geography)
- ☐ Add keywords recruiters abroad search for

STEP 3 — Activate Your Network

- ☐ Reach out to alumni or colleagues already abroad
- ☐ Join expat and professional associations (SIOP, STEM, PMI, etc.)
- ☐ Use LinkedIn proactively (comment, share, message)
- ☐ Ask for informational interviews, not just job leads

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STEP 4 — Apply Smart, Not Hard

- ☐ Focus on quality applications, not 100+ generic ones
- ☐ Tailor CV + cover letter to each role and market
- ☐ Highlight relocation-readiness in your application
- ☐ Use both job boards and company websites (hidden jobs are often there)

STEP 5 — Prepare for International Interviews

- ☐ Research cultural expectations (directness, small talk, decision-making style)
- ☐ Practice STAR stories with global examples
- ☐ Prepare for “Why here? Why now?” questions — link to your international motivation
- ☐ Do a mock interview with someone abroad if possible

STEP 6 — Understand Visa, Certification & Logistics

- ☐ Check visa requirements early (don't wait until offer stage)
- ☐ Highlight if you already have visa options (student, partner, work permit)
- ☐ Confirm if you need a local degree, certification, or training before you can practice in your field
 - Action: Research the professional authority in your target country

STEP 7 — First 90 Days Plan

- ☐ Draft a 30-60-90 day plan before you start
- ☐ Focus on: Learning → Contributing → Leading
- ☐ Share the plan with your manager to show proactivity
- ☐ Build credibility through early wins

BEFORE YOU MOVE ABROAD MASTER CHECKLIST



STEP 8 — Mindset & Etiquette

- ☐ Be yourself – authenticity travels better than perfection
- ☐ Be brave – applying abroad is bold, lean into it
- ☐ Do your homework before reaching out (research the person, their role, mutual value)
- ☐ Frame outreach around career development and genuine advice, not just “can you get me a job?”
- ☐ Look for mutual value: share insights, resources, or connections in return
- ☐ Respect cultural differences in networking (formality, pace, directness)
- ☐ Ask for actionable next steps, for example:
 - A monthly catch-up if there’s a good fit as a mentor or a coach
 - An introduction to another manager, colleague, or recruiter
 - The chance to shadow someone in their team
 - A project you could help with short-term
- ☐ Consistency beats luck: keep showing up, even when rejection hits

Pro tip: Landing an international job isn't just about applying – it's about mindset, strategy, and turning conversations into action. Play the long game but start today.

Job hunting across borders? You don't have to figure it out alone. Find free resources + a global community at yourinternationaljourney.com and join the conversation on Instagram @[borderlessdiariescommunity](https://www.instagram.com/borderlessdiariescommunity).

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