

LEX World Intern Project (WIP)

Eligibility

Any flexible, curious person (age 18-99 at time of application) who is a citizen or resident of the U.S. or Canada and has a genuine interest in LEX / Hippo Family Club may be eligible to participate. LEX members and members of our partner organizations (4-H, ERDT, PIE, and TGE) are particularly encouraged to apply.

Applicants should have a strong interest in languages and cultures, working with people of all ages, and living with a host family. Prior knowledge of a particular language is not required, but applicants must be willing to immerse themselves in the language of the country and other languages. An openness to all languages and people is important. Previous participation in LEX activities and homestay programs is encouraged, but not required.

All citizens and residents of the U.S. and Canada must apply through LEX America. Citizens and residents of Mexico should apply via LEX Mexico. Citizens and residents of Korea should apply through Hippo Korea. Others may apply directly to LEX Japan.

“Job” Description

Interns will act as cultural and friendship ambassador, assistant exchange program coordinator, and language club promoter. Duties will vary depending on the time of year and country but may include some of the following:

- Visiting language clubs as an active participant, and in order to promote the language clubs
- Working together with other interns to plan special events promoting LEX programs to young people from other countries
- Giving presentations on North American holidays and culture to elementary and junior high school students
- Participating in preparation meetings, workshops, and orientations
- Helping to plan and lead the Snow Camp (March in Japan); Nature Camp (August in Japan); or Congreso (August in Mexico)
- Helping write and edit English language documents
- Helping collect and review delegate applications
- Helping with English interviews for prospective delegates (yearlong)
- Helping send off students to other countries
- Orienting delegates to North American life, high school life, cultural differences, etc.
- Counseling foreign students
- Acting as communication liaison with the USA/Canada, as well as other countries

Work Week

WIP interns will come to the LEX office 3-5 times per week, Monday to Friday 10:00 to 5:00. Interns are expected to participate in LEX / Hippo Family Club activities at least once a week (in the evenings or on the weekend). Some flexibility of schedule will be required for occasional special events, such as evening workshops and weekend conferences, camps or orientations.

School visits

Interns will also visit elementary and junior high schools to make presentations sharing

languages and cultures. These school programs will be prepared with LEX Fellows (language club facilitators) and staff.

Monthly Report

Interns will write a monthly report at the end of each month that will include their duties in the office that month, new things tried, host family information, and any other relevant experiences. The report will be shared with Hippo Family Club members, and LEX staff, as well as representatives of 4-H, ERDT, TGE, or PIE, if relevant.

Homestay Programs

Interns will be matched with one or more carefully selected and oriented host families. LEX staff will choose the family, and information about the family will be sent to the intern prior to their departure from their home country.

Supervisors

Interns will be assigned to a Coordinator. She/he will serve as a direct mentor and will help with the adjustment to daily life and the office. She/he will also arrange the intern's homestay families, transportation, schedules, etc.

Finances

Program Fees Include:

- Predeparture orientation and support throughout the program
- Accommodations with one or more carefully selected host families
- A host family stipend of approximately \$100 per week (varies according to receiving country)
- Medical insurance and travel insurance
- Admin fees for the hosting organization
- Admin fees for LEX America

Program Fees DO NOT Include:

- Airfare
- Passport or visa fees
- Transportation to and from your departure airport in the U.S.
- Hotel nights in the U.S if necessary
- Living expenses in the host country (meals taken away from the host family, transportation, spending money, etc.)

LEX Staff

Interns will find that one of the benefits of working with LEX / Hippo is the great people! Interns work with terrific people, from the staff to Hippo members and fellows, who will provide a lot of support and encouragement!