

Countries:

Ethiopia, Ghana, and Mozambique

Ascend Alliance:

The Hinckley Institute of Politics partners with the **Ascend Alliance** to offer international internships in Ethiopia, Ghana and Mozambique. The Ascend Alliance is a unique organization where caring people make an individual impact at home and across the world. The Ascend Alliance works to build Sustainable Development Programs that transcend political, cultural, and language barriers to answer requests for life-saving programs in education, enterprise, health and simple technology.

Job Description:

Interns will assist with life-skills mentoring with sustainable solutions in Education, Enterprise, Health, and Simple Technology. See Ascend Alliance fact sheet below on more detailed job descriptions.

Language Requirements;

Ethiopia: English

Ghana: English

Mozambique: Portuguese

Prerequisites:

Matriculated undergraduate student at the University of Utah

Junior or Senior Status

Cumulative 3.0 GPA

Students must register for Political Science 4900 “political internship” to qualify.

Preference Given to Students Who Have:

Completed previous Hinckley internships in Washington, DC, the Utah Legislature or with local/state agencies.

Prior international experience including (study abroad, personal travel, humanitarian and/or religious service).

Semester/Dates:

<http://www.hinckley.utah.edu/internships/index.html>

Cost:

Students must pay tuition and be prepared to cover flight, living and transportation expenses, personal expenses, health insurance, and fees for visa and passport applications.

Financial Assistance:

Apply for a **Hinckley Institute of Politics International Scholarship**

<http://www.hinckley.utah.edu/internships/international/internationalscholarshipapplication.pdf>.

The Hinckley Institute of Politics also offers the **Bill Rischel Loan**, for more information contact Jayne Nelson at jnelson@hinckley.utah.edu. Financial aid for tuition may be obtained through University of Utah financial aid or scholarships.

Housing:

Housing will be provided by Ascend Alliance.

Application Process:

Complete the application online at:

<http://www.hinckley.utah.edu/internships/application/index.html>

Once your application is submitted, e-mail intern manager [Courtney McBeth](#) to set up an appointment. She will interview you and will help you find an internship that matches your interests and qualifications.

Also, you will need to apply through Ascend Alliance at <http://ascendalliance.org/>

Orientation:

All students who are accepted as an international intern are required to attend a mandatory orientation (with Hinckley Institute and Ascend), complete the academic requirements, send weekly emails during the internship, and set up a post internship debriefing with [Courtney McBeth](#).

In-Country Intern Duties and Responsibilities
Introduction



The projects and tasks that you will be performing are specific to the four Program Solution Areas 1) Education 2) Enterprise 3) Health 4) Technology & Construction. There are several things to keep in mind that will enable you to be more effective and have a positive experience in Ethiopia.

- 1) Be sensitive and respectful to the in-country staff. The staff members are well-educated, highly qualified men and women. They are also very kind and fun. You will love them! It is important to remember that you are the guest and that you are there to assist and not take charge.

It is also important to keep in mind they are responsible for your safety while in the country. Keep them informed of your plans and where you are going so they don't have to worry.

- 2) Be observant and mindful of cultural differences. It is recommended that you have a meeting with the staff when you first arrive to discuss the differences between the two cultures. Here are some questions you might want to consider:

- What are some of the most important issues that come up with foreigners?

- What words or statements should I avoid?
- 3) Logistics can be frustrating. Ascend works in multiple clusters and villages in every country. Areas and villages are often vast and spread out. As an intern, planning activities and appointments with villages can be difficult because of the language barrier and transportation restrictions. Life in other countries, especially those in the developing world, moves at a different pace—often one that is slow and frustrating. Projects that could be completed in a couple of hours in the United States (thanks to Home Depot and good freeway systems) often take a couple of days in these countries. Be patient and try to let people learn at their level and pace.

Duties & Responsibilities

1) Education

- a. Help staff with the following
 - i. Community worker training
 - ii. Maintaining and updating lessons being taught/ quarterly reports
 - iii. Working to find acceptable supplemental learning materials
 - iv. Working to find acceptable implementing and funding partners
 - v. Thank you cards and follow-up

2) Enterprise

- a. Help staff with the following
 - i. Train community workers in areas such as sewing, brick making, bee-keeping, soap making, etc.
 - ii. Train Staff and community workers in the ABT program
 - iii. Assess community needs, abilities and desires
 - iv. Maintain and update lessons being taught and quarterly reports
 - v. Work to find and develop acceptable supplemental learning materials
 - vi. Work to find acceptable implementing and funding partners
 - vii. Work to partner with banks or other MFIs
 - viii. Work to find mentors and role models for ABT students
 - ix. Visit and help current and graduated ABT students
 - x. Thank you cards and follow-up

3) Health

- a. Assist the staff in the following:
 - i. Community worker training in health, family planning and AIDS topics
 - ii. Assess community needs, abilities and desires
 - iii. Maintain and update lessons being taught and quarterly reports
 - iv. Work to find and develop acceptable supplemental learning materials relating to specific local health needs
 - v. Work to find acceptable implementing and funding partners

- vi. Work to partner with governments and other public and private health care providers
- vii. Thank you cards and follow-up

4) Technology & Construction

- a. Assist the staff in the following:
 - i. training community workers in topics such as latrine and stove construction, agriculture and irrigation, water filters, etc.
 - ii. Maintain and update lessons being taught and quarterly reports
 - iii. Work to find and develop acceptable supplemental learning materials using local technologies
 - iv. Work to find acceptable implementing and funding partners
 - v. Work to partner with governments and other NGOs
 - vi. Thank you cards and follow-up

You do not need to work on all of these areas and projects. Together with the staff you can work to develop your job description based on your interests and the needs of the communities and the office. As you spend more time working on the projects you will find other areas that may need attention and improvement. Present the ideas and suggestions to the staff and together you can develop an action plan.