

## Things to consider when planning for International or Intranational Placements

(<https://www.ryerson.ca/global-learning/abroad/step2/consider/>)

1. Why do I want to go abroad? What are my goals for doing this?
2. How may my experience shape my future goals, either personally, academically, professionally, or otherwise?
3. How much money am I willing/able to budget? How do the costs of different programming compare? Check out our [Financing Your Participation page](#)
4. How much structure am I looking for? Do you want someone to do most of the organizing for you, or would you like to be more in control of where you go and what you do?
5. When is the best time to go abroad, given my program requirements and any family/work commitments I may have?

### **Goals:**

### **Personal (<https://www.ryerson.ca/global-learning/abroad/step2/diversity/>):**

1. What personal strengths and challenges will you take to this placement?
2. How would you cope with situations that trouble you, or that you disagree with, and over which you have no control?
3. How would you cope with a situation that does not fit your original learning objectives?
4. How would you interpret and react to positive and negative attitudes toward you (e.g. people may assume you are very knowledgeable and competent, or you may experience discrimination for a variety of reasons)?
5. How would you react to gender bias?

1. Is your placement in a hospital or community setting?
2. Is there a specific cultural, language or other population group with whom you wish to work?
3. Is there a specific health issue that interests you?
4. Does your chosen setting have the necessary infrastructure and resources to assist you to meet your curriculum requirements and learning objectives?
5. What kind of living accommodation is available to you? If applicable, how do you adjust to the environment, diet, lack of privacy?
6. How important is it for me to be geographically close to my friends and family while I am abroad? Example: Do I feel more comfortable going somewhere closer to Canada, like the U.S., or would I consider somewhere very far away like India or Australia?
7. What is the relationship between my host country and Canada, and/or my country of origin?
8. Do I want to go somewhere urban or rural? What is daily life like in the area?
9. How will I get to the country/region I am thinking of going to? How much will travel cost?
10. What languages am I comfortable speaking/studying/working in?
11. Are there any travel, safety or medical risks associated with the region?

***Location:***

1. Is housing provided as part of the program I'm participating in or do I need to secure my own housing?
2. How much does housing cost in the region I'll be living in if I'm securing it on my own? What types of options are available (student housing, homestay program, etc)?
3. How soon in advance should I start looking for housing? Are short-term rentals hard to secure?

***Housing:***

***Family and Friends:***

1. How will I explain the process to family and friends?
2. How can I explain to my family that a global learning experience can contribute to the achievement of my academic and career goals, as well as my personal growth and development?
3. How can I demonstrate that going abroad doesn't necessarily mean that my graduation date is delayed?
4. How will I involve my family in my decision to go abroad, if at all? Will they be financing any portion of my experience?
5. How will I address any concerns they may have regarding the cost? (See our [Financing Your Participation](#) section)
6. How will I keep in touch with family and friends while I am abroad?
7. What resources are available for my family and friends?
8. If no one in my family has ever studied abroad, who can help me answer their questions as I plan my experience?