

# ***COMPARISON OF U.S. SUMMER PROGRAMS (COLLEGIATE)***

## ***Work and Travel Programs***

### ***General Description***

As long as 3 months in length

Usually fast food job with 15-40 hours of work each week. Paid/ usually minimum wage.

Apartment housing with other foreign students (often unfurnished). Unsupervised and on your own.

Ample time for touring after program

Little contact with sponsoring company

Use public transportation (if available)

Little, if any, personal development apart from cultural awareness

No exposure to universities

## ***Ascend International's "Passages" Program***

### ***General Description***

Formal program is three to four weeks in length.

Observation, interaction and engagement with people and careers of choice. Unpaid. Valuable experience for life is reward.

Host family provides, supervision, lodging, food, most transportation to events and places of interest, English speaking opportunities and U.S culture instruction.

Ample time for touring before or after program

AI provides many leadership development, social, shopping and recreational activities.

Virtually all transportation provided

Strong emphasis on personal development through exposure to a future career, people and experiences.

Most locations provide introduction to top level universities such as: Duke, University of North Carolina, Georgia Tech, University of Washington, and North Carolina State.

## **READY FOR TOMMORROW?**

As you consider how to use your break, think of "investing" your break vs "using" your break. Many people "use" their holidays for things that provide fun now, but do little to prepare them for tomorrow. Consider how AP's Passages' program can serve as meaningful in so many ways: socially, culturally, developmentally, and recreationally. Contemplate a holiday "investing" in your tomorrow.

