



City Internships Response to COVID-19

Updated March 30th, 2020

Dear friends & colleagues,

I hope this message finds you safe and well.

I request that you share this message with your students, many of whom may be affected.

On March 2nd, 2020 we elected to suspend all CI programs outside of the US and UK until further notice.

This early action was taken to help ensure safety and minimize disruption for our student body – who are primarily US- and UK-based rising seniors and soon-to-be graduates.

Our foremost concerns are for those who'll be entering the (increasingly unfavorable) job markets this year and next.

Accordingly, over the past three weeks, with considerable help from partnering colleges and employers, we have refocused our resources and redoubled our efforts towards securing – and expanding – our remaining US- and UK-based (and remote) career-readiness programs.

And we have brought forward student aid funds set aside for next year to help class of 2020 and 2021 more readily access CI programs.

In the following pages I have provided up-to-date information with respect to:

- 2020 CI Program Statuses: A shift to domestic (and remote) programs
- Special Financial Aid for class of 2020 graduates and rising seniors
- Other FAQs

We are closely monitoring and adhering to guidelines from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO) and state and local governments. We will continue to provide updates as necessary.

In the meantime, we wish you and your loved ones well. Take care and stay safe.

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2020 CI Program Statuses: A shift to domestic (and remote) programs

i. All CI programs outside of the US and UK -- Suspended

All *Global Explorer Programs* in Continental Europe, Asia and Australasia are suspended until further notice. All affected students have been contacted directly.

ii. Global Accelerator Programs in New York and London -- Increased intake

Thanks to the support of a number of our more durable and forward-looking partnering [host employers](#), we have been able to dramatically expand the intake for our flagship 8-week summer *Global Accelerator Programs* in New York and London.

Accelerator programs are cohort-based experiences beginning in June. They include an 8-week work placement with a leading employer in the student's chosen career field, 8-unit Career Navigator and 4-unit Future Leader in-person courses*, on-the-ground coaching, and a calendar of events.

To learn more and apply, visit www.city-internships.com/apply/.

Please note *Global Accelerator Program* places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis (with priority given to soon-to-be graduates (class of 2020), then rising Seniors (class of 2021), and then all other class years).

iii. Global Explorer+ Programs in Los Angeles and San Francisco -- Now open to all

With the support of [UC Merced's Gallo Management Program](#), we opened our 8-week summer *Global Explorer+ Programs* in Los Angeles and San Francisco – previously only available to University of California system students – to all students from any college or university.

Explorer+ programs, provided in collaboration with US Merced's [MM Program](#), are cohort-based experiences beginning in June. They include an 8-week work placement, 4-unit Career Navigator and 4-unit Future Leader in-person courses*, and on-the-ground coaching.

To learn more and apply, visit www.city-internships.com/apply/.

Please note *Global Accelerator Program* places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis (with priority given to soon-to-be graduates (class of 2020), then rising Seniors (class of 2021), and then all other class years).



iv. New Remote Program and Global Explorer Programs (within US and UK) -- Increased intake

We first launched the *New Remote Program* in 2018 to provide a way for students to more conveniently – and inexpensively – enjoy the benefits of CI’s structured, work-based programs, without needing to travel and relocate from home or school.

Both the *Remote* and *Explorer* programs are structured around 6, 8 or 12-week work placements interwoven with a web-based version of our proprietary Career Navigator and Future Leader courses.

Both *Remote* and *Explorer* program students enjoy a dedicated support group; including formal work buddy, mentor and supervisor at their work placement and regular one-on-one sessions with their dedicated CI coach.

Both *Remote* and *Explorer* programs run year-round with a rolling start.

Remote placements are attended, well, remotely (i.e. virtually). *Explorer* work placements are attended in-person.

To learn more and apply, visit www.city-internships.com/apply/.

Please note *Remote* and *Explorer* participants may attend work placements, virtually and in-person respectively, with host employers based in any one of the following cities: UK:- London, Ireland. USA: Boston, New York, Washington D.C., Chicago, Miami, San Francisco, Los Angeles.

* For more information on ‘in-person’ program elements, please see ‘Notes on Social Distancing’ in ‘Other FAQs’ section on page 5.

Special Financial Aid provisions for 2020 graduates and rising seniors

Our foremost concerns are for those students set to enter – we expect, increasingly – unfavorable job markets this year and next; class of 2020 graduates and rising seniors.

Early-career success is paramount. The overwhelming majority of US adults experience virtually all their lifetime earnings growth between their mid-20s and 30s. In fact, the average earnings growth experienced by US adults between age 35 and 55 is zero.

Today’s un- and under-employment rates – [3.9 and 41.0 percent](#) respectively – for recent graduates are already a cause for concern. And, as they did after the 2008 financial crisis, we expect them to worsen.



Early-career success – or not – in such economic conditions can have significant and lasting effects.

CI programs are designed to dramatically enhance college outcomes. Accordingly, we have set about making them more accessible to class of 2020 and 2021 students.

i. Frozen CI Student Aid

Our seasonal reduction in CI-derived Student Aid – a finite resource awarded on a first-come, first-served basis – for 2020 programs has been delayed indefinitely. We have instead brought-forward reserves allocated for 2021 programs to ensure all students receive the maximum award possible.

Students may use the *Student Aid Calculator* to ascertain their CI-derived student aid award in minutes on our [Fund Your Future](#) webpage.

Additionally, we encourage schools to direct students to institution-derived funding for experiential education/work-based learning/study abroad endeavors.

ii. No upfront cost funding method available on all CI programs

We have partnered with one of the market-leading originators of ISAs, Leif, to provide students a way to benefit from a CI program with no upfront cost.

For soon-to-be graduates (Class of 2020) and rising seniors (Class of 2021), ISAs are now available for all 2020 programs (previously only available for Global Accelerator Programs).

Students can learn more about, and apply for, our expanded ISA scheme [here](#).

Additional FAQs

Naturally, conditions concerning COVID-19 remain fluid. As we react to ensure the safety of- and minimize disruption to- our students, partnering schools and employers, we will continue to provide proportionate and timely actions and updates.



We have compiled a brief list of the most frequently asked questions relating to COVID-19 and our response below.

i. What is CI's stance on Social Distancing?

Our *Accelerator* and *Explorer+* programs are cohort-based.

Under normal circumstance this means, while you may not necessarily attend your work placement with alongside other CI students, you will attend regular group-based classes and workshops as part of the program. (In particular, the Career Navigator and Future Leader courses are delivered via twice weekly in-person sessions throughout program.)

We are instead currently set up to deliver all group-based events virtually. The events will still adhere to the regular timing and schedule and, critically, be delivered live and in an interactive fashion.

Should conditions in June, July and August – when the *Accelerator* and *Explorer* programs take place – allow us to safely host events in-person, we will gladly do so too; maintaining the option for students to attend virtually or in-person at their discretion.

(*Remote* and regular *Explorer* programs aren't affected, since they do not include in-person events.)

It is also worth noting that all processes undertaken prior to the start of any program, including the placement matching stage, are conducted remotely.

Given the popularity of our summer programs, the lion's share of these processes take place between October and May in any given year. These elements will continue as normal and unaffected by COVID-19.

ii. I've joined (or am planning to join) a CI program. What if my plans change?

We are in unprecedented times. We feel it is incumbent on people and organizations to be unprecedentedly accommodating and supportive of one another.

If at any time circumstances prevent you from joining your selected program, you may:

- Switch to an alternative Program and/or Location at any time, and/or;
- Switch to a New Remote Program at any time, and/or;
- Delay or defer your Program start at any time.



iii. How does the New Remote Program work?

The pre-program processes are identical to all other CI programs – with the enrollment, career planning and coaching, placement matching, and pre-arrival planning handled remotely in unison with and under the expert coordination of our Student Experience and Employer Engagement teams.

Students undertake a remote work placement with an employer in their chosen career field, which is complemented with a web-based version of proprietary Career Navigator and Future Leader career-readiness and commercial skills and awareness training courses.

All students are assigned a formal supervisor, and buddy and mentor – junior and senior team members respectively – at their host employer with whom they'll work with on a regular basis.

Additionally, all students are assigned a dedicated CI career coach. Coaches liaise with students (and host employer supervisors) twice per week. They serve as your guide throughout your placement, helping you to progress through the training course material, coordinate your mid- and end-of-program appraisal, and develop your resume and career strategy.

To receive a copy of the *New Remote Program Student Handbook*, click [here](#).

Should you have any additional questions, contact us via the following methods:

+1 310 438 5329 or +44 020 3808 4790 or studentexperience@city-internships.com

Our normal working hours are 8am to 4pm PST. However, you'll likely find we are reachable at almost all hours. We take seriously our ability to limit the effects of COVID-19 – and the resultant near- and long-term economic effects – on our students.

Further, all CI staff remain employed and at work (albeit remotely).

About CI

CI was founded in London in 2011.

CI provides outcomes-focused experiential education programs, which combine work-based practical training, class-based seminars and workshops, and on-the-ground coaching.

CI creates globally engaged, career-ready graduates.

CI alumni secure graduate-level employment 3 times sooner and starting salaries 30% higher than the US national graduate average.