



International Internship Program: India

Since 2001, Bridges has been a partner of the Tibetan Children's Village (TCV) in Dharamsala, India, the home-in-exile of His Holiness the Dalai Lama since 1959. Opened in 1960, TCV was established by the Dalai Lama to care for the many children who had been orphaned or separated from their families during the arduous escape from their homeland. In this internship, you will have the opportunity to be a part of Bridges highly valued partnership with Tibetan Children's Village, while experiencing the Tibetan culture and building lifelong friendships

Today, more than 1,900 students of Tibetan descent study at TCV in Dharamsala with the majority living at the school. There are an additional eight branches of TCV located throughout India. After the successful completion of their school education, TCV continues to take the responsibility for sending the students for further education.



Devoted to the preservation of the Tibetan language and culture, the school is marking the 50th anniversary of its founding during 2010. While a celebration of a truly amazing place, this jubilee year also reminds us of the endurance and strength of the Tibetan people (<http://www.tcv.org.in/utcv.shtml>).

Bridges' interns have the opportunity to live at the Tibetan Children's Village Peace Center on the Upper School campus. Interns can get around easily by walking or riding in tuk-tuks. The town is rich with cultural institutes and arts centers (<http://wikitravel.org/en/Dharamsala>). There are 181 Tibetan Buddhist monasteries and eight Buddhist nunneries in the area, and many spiritual as well as cultural study centers.



Bridges interns work closely with the Tibetan teacher in charge of the after-school photography program each day, with time in the morning for other pursuits. As a member of the school community, you are expected to take part in campus life, including a chore schedule and help with meal preparation. Mornings and weekends provide time for exploration. The final Bridges Film Festival (organized by you!) brings the program to a close and celebrates the unique stories of Bridges students with their teachers, classmates, families, neighbors and friends in the audience.

Bridges supervisors serve as liaisons for interns and the community. Bridges staff in Seattle will be available to address program needs. It is expected that students will be entirely responsible for themselves while engaged in non-internship related activities (see "International Internship Policies and Responsibilities" for more information about requirements and responsibilities).

Bridges India Internship costs \$6,000.00 (not including airfare). Bridges covers the following: in-country travel related to internship, travel insurance, housing, cell phone, meal stipend, local transportation related to internship, small discretionary fund, language classes, management fees and concurrent enrollment fees at select universities. (Additional details will be sent upon application.)