



## Career Opportunities in the UN System

Detailed information on career opportunities within the United Nations can be found on the [UN careers website](#)

### The UN Young Professionals Programme

The Young Professionals Programme (YPP) is a recruitment initiative for talented, highly qualified professionals to start a career as an international civil servant with the United Nations Secretariat. It consists of an entrance examination and professional development programmes once successful candidates start their career with the UN.

Requirements:

- You must have the nationality of a participating country
- You must hold at least a first-level university degree relevant for the exam subject you are applying for
- You must be 32 or younger in the year of the examination
- You must be fluent in either English or French

Full details of the programme can be found on the [UN Careers website](#)

### Associate Expert Programme (Associate Professional Officer/Junior Professional Officer)

If you are a skilled graduate with energy, enthusiasm and an eagerness to join the United Nations, the Associate Expert Programme may be the right route for you.

Requirements:

- You must have an advanced university degree
- You require a minimum of two years of relevant work experience
- You should have a strong command of one of the working languages of the United Nations, English or French; an additional official language is an asset
- Your age should normally be 32 or younger, but this varies by donor country

Search for [AEP on the UN Careers website](#)

### United Nations Internships

Each [UN organization](#) has its own modalities/schemes

### UN Volunteers Programme

[Volunteering](#) provides a good route in to a career with the UN.

Volunteers receive a living allowance however the amount varies depending on location and local living costs. Details on conditions of service for volunteer placements in your home country and abroad are explained on the website above.

### **Top Tips**

- Complete all sections of the UN Personal History form clearly and correctly
- Research the organisation (recent work of the Organization/Division, values, experience)
- Consider where you want to work e.g. HQ vs field office
- Be clear on why you want to work for the UN?
- Be able to give examples of 3 strengths and 3 weaknesses
- Provide evidence of transferable skills e.g. communication, teamwork, organisation and planning
- Describe previous experience of working in a multi-cultural work environment
- Have an example of a time when you had to deal with conflict with a supervisor/colleagues
- Maintain a network of relevant contacts
- Be enthusiastic and positive

### **Flexibility**

Be prepared to be flexible about:

- Type and duration of contract
- Location (duty station)