

OVERSEAS OVERWHELMED

Issue 3.32
November 12, 2003

A Bulletin for Canadian International Education Professionals

Let's Go Canada - Foreign Students To Work Off-Campus

In a previous issue of *Overseas, Overwhelmed*[®], we reported on the initiative between Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) and Alberta to expedite the student visa process for applicants from certain Asian countries. Manitoba also hopes to present itself as an attractive alternative to more popular provinces by allowing international students to work off-campus. Under this new pilot project, students will be able to work for 20 hours per week with any employer. They must sign a contract accepting the program's terms with their institutions. Addressing the recent CBIE conference, Sheena Trimble, International Education Branch Director of Manitoba Advanced Education and Training, advised that participating institutions would have increased administrative costs, partly subsidized by her Ministry.

Trimble later informed Higher-Edge that Manitoba recognized an opportunity to participate with CIC in a manner different from Alberta. Student visa abuse with regards to employment is an issue that the Province recognizes. Trimble says that employers will be educated on the parameters of the project and "will be asked to return a letter indicating that they understand the conditions under which an international student can be employed."

Source: "[Canada and Manitoba launch International Student Off-Campus Work Pilot.](#)" [Government of Manitoba Press Release](#) •

Over the Counter - Dealing With Nigerian Applications

Is your office facing an influx of Nigeria-based applications? Is it concerned with verification issues? There are certain steps that can ease the pressure. First, be extra wary of applications received in bulk from a single sender. Second, similarly be wary of applications sent from agents with whom no previous contact or connection has been made. Nigeria, a country replete with large numbers of qualified students for the full gamut of overseas academic offerings, is also home to a vibrant trade in using fraud to generate ill-begotten income. More questions?

Higher-Edge's Yemi Sarayi, visits from Nigeria this coming week. Send queries to editor@higher-edge.com for personal follow-up. Issues of wider interest will receive published replies. •

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Please direct questions and comments to editor@higher-edge.com

Abroad Perspective - IB Interest In India

With a growing number of Indian students seeking to study abroad, internationally recognized curricula or qualifications, like the International Baccalaureate (IB) program and the A-levels, are gaining interest in India. There exist a variety of reasons why such programs are attractive in Asia (in China, the fact that the IB is conducted in English is most appealing). Indian students place importance in the international recognition of such programs, while educators point to how the IB offers a well-rounded education.

Currently India has thirteen authorized IB schools and twenty more on the way. Calcutta International School (CIS), one of the few Indian schools that offer A-level teaching and exams, is now considering IB. Principal Dr. Anuradha Das told Higher-Edge last week in her Kolkata office, that CIS is looking to IB as a "broader alternative" to A-levels at a new campus it will build outside the city.

Source: "[International schools changing face of education.](#)" [The Times of India](#), 9 November 2003. •

Globe Tipping - Cabs In China

Our Lisa Roosen-Runge recently returned from a trip through China and offers tips for travelling in cabs in Chinese cities. This week, we look at the benefits of a receipt. Chinese taxi drivers are always supposed to use their meter, and should be able to issue a receipt. You can ask for the receipt by saying "fā piào" when paying the fare. In Beijing and Shanghai, these receipts include the start and end time of the trip as well as the amount. In case you leave something in the cab, the car number is also on the receipt. If there are any highway tolls, the taxi driver will give you those receipts as well and you are expected to pay them on top of the meter fare.

Furthermore, whenever you are travelling in China and you don't speak Mandarin, make sure to carry your hotel's card to show to drivers, or get your hotel to write down your destination's address.

Next week, comparing the taxis in Beijing and Shanghai. •

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