

POSITION: GREEN BUILDING INTERN



About The Organization

Long Way Home is a 501(c)3 that **envision communities equipped to innovate and act responsibly in the face of local and global challenges.** Through promoting green building, employment, and education, Long Way Home mobilizes people to actively participate in democracy and create innovative pathways to economic and environmental justice.

Since 2009, the focus of the organization has been on building an 18-building green-designed campus in San Juan Comalapa, Guatemala. We've used more than 450 tons of trash and over 15,500 tires in our construction so far! On the campus, we serve 140 K-11 students who study a curriculum that integrates project-based learning and the green building process to cultivate employability and democratic participation skills for a 21st century, climate-stressed world. In addition to education, we train and employ local green builders who carry out our many green construction projects in Comalapa and throughout Guatemala.

About The Job

We use several alternative materials in our construction projects including earth rammed tires, earth bags, trash bottles, and aluminum cans! We also boast a rain-water catchment system with the capacity to store 45,000 gallons of water. Interns and volunteers are essential components for continuing endeavors crucial to the success of our school. **As the Green Building Intern, you will work alongside our Construction Services Coordinator and will collaborate on a variety of community-responsive and environmentally - friendly/ecologically conscious building projects.** You will learn the “ins and outs” of our building process, while being led by our expert builders who have 10+ years of experience in the field. Most of the school campus is finished and operating as a K-11 school with 150 students and 35 local staff. We work throughout the year, from dry season (Nov-April) to rainy season (May-Oct).

Responsibilities:

- Work with our building team to complete campus and volunteer house projects.
- Help updating the blueprints of the school campus
- Assist the construction services coordinator in managing construction projects
- Support Construction Services Coordinator in taking photos of the construction projects, uploading them to Google Drive, sequencing them, and turning them into Green Building videos.
- Depending on your background and interests, we also encourage project proposals that assess the energy efficiency, water catchment, environmental impact, economic impact, and/or other statistical analyses of our construction projects.
- Participate in staff/event meetings when requested.
- Assist in fundraising events.

Qualifications:

- Intermediate Spanish would be helpful in order to communicate with our building team who will be your day-to-day colleagues. We can arrange for Spanish classes at the local language center for \$5/hours.
- Good attitude, team player, motivation to help out and be flexible.

- Must be able to walk up and down hills at high elevation (7,000ft).
- Able and ready to engage in physical labor for 7 hours/day.
- Experience using Autocad
- Access to Autocad
- Access to personal technology (laptop)

Educational Objectives:

- Become well-versed in the methods and applications of green design and building.
- Understand why and how green design should be made accessible in low-resourced and climate stressed communities.
- Develop intercultural and interdisciplinary teamwork skills.
- Gain insights into opportunities, risks, and limitations for achieving quality education, economic justice, and environmental health in marginalized communities.
- Have opportunities to increase Spanish language proficiency.
- Understand the social and professional “do’s” and “don’ts” of living and working in a new culture.
- Gain experience in the creation of a unique blueprints portfolio

Location

San Juan Comalapa, Chimaltenango, Guatemala

Housing

Long Way Home will arrange your housing in Comalapa. Housing costs do not include meals but in each accommodation, you will have access to a kitchen.

Options:

Volunteer House = US\$25/week (shared rooms)

Homestay = US\$25/week

Hotel = US\$50/week

Due to covid - Volunteer house Option is only available

Academic Level

university students or previous professional experience in architecture or civil engineering

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|--------------|----------------------------------------------|
| • First Year | • Graduate and prospective graduate students |
| • Sophomore | • Working on Master thesis |
| • Junior | • Working on Doctoral thesis |
| • Senior | • Post Doctoral Scholar |

Approximate Hours Per Week

40 hours/week

Compensation

Upon successful completion of the internship, the intern is offered:

- Free admission (food and transport excluded) to our 1 month long Green Building Academy in March/July. Lodging included unless the intern prefers to stay in a hotel or homestay - <https://www.lwhome.org/academy>.
- OR one month of free housing at our volunteer house
- Internship completion certificate
- 25% OFF LWH shirts

Documents Required

- Cover Letter
- Resume
- Blueprint example