



## 11 Suggestions For a Career in Microfinance

The following are recommendations to get a job in international development broadly and microfinance in particular.

1. Learn or already speak a foreign language
2. Start while in school. Make use of student status and time now
3. Work 2 + years in a developing country and/or with a hard-to-serve population
4. Start for free. Amortized over your career, this 'cost' is negligible
5. Work for a bank or in finance to get a foundation and technical tools
6. Do background research BEFORE talking to people
7. Consider organization size & type – big/small, formal/informal, donor, private, etc.
8. Who do you know and who can you access in your network? (Professors, alumni, family, friends, contacts, etc.)
9. Make a list of the top 5 organizations and jobs you want. Go after those first
10. Be tenacious, but polite. If you don't hear back from someone, try again
11. Be true to yourself and what you want to do for work on a daily basis

Have another one, not on the list? Contribute to the top 20 list. Earn fame and fortune. Email [info@socialenterprise.net](mailto:info@socialenterprise.net) with your name, email, and affiliation. All selected options will be attributed.

### About Social Enterprise Associates

Social Enterprise Associates is a consulting firm providing business oriented 'triple bottom line' results – generating financial, social, and environmental returns. We enable for- and non-profit entrepreneurs, in the U.S. and around the world, to put ideas into action. Our primary sectors are Microfinance, New Ventures & Non-Profit Earned Income Strategies. More information can be found online at [www.socialenterprise.net](http://www.socialenterprise.net).

### Intern at Social Enterprise Associates

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Internships are tailored to specific projects and needs. Consideration is given to applicants' skills and desired professional learning goals. Preference is given for unpaid and virtual opportunities. Applicants should be clear about their timeline and realistic about their availability.

For more details, visit [www.socialenterprise.net](http://www.socialenterprise.net), click on "WORK WITH US". Email resume and cover letter as one document to [info@socialenterprise.net](mailto:info@socialenterprise.net). Make sure to include your strengths, learning goals, and something fun about you.