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Working as a volunteer abroad is a common way for many people to travel around the world. If you are a healthcare student though, the best way you can benefit local communities is to travel abroad and work in developing country hospitals and clinics. Although some use their summer holidays to work abroad, many healthcare students are using their penultimate year work experience placements as an opportunity to see the world whilst learning about healthcare in developing countries.

One of the most popular destinations for [medical placements](#) abroad has always been Africa. If you'd like to experience a very friendly environment in a busy hospital treating some unknown to the West tropical diseases then that is definitely a great choice. Africa also offers up lots of amazing travel options. If you go decide to go to Tanzania, for instance, you can try a dental outreach project in Zanzibar, which is an amazing island with pristine crystal clear water, lots of beautiful beaches, whales, dolphins and great food. A very good choice for nursing or medical students are the big hospitals in the bigger cities because they offer more choices. Another possibility for the more adventurous is participating in one of Africa's best safari experiences at the unique Ngorongoro crater where wildlife is easy to spot. If this wasn't enough, you can also climb Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Africa. Reaching its peak at about 6km high, it is an unforgettable experience!

Ghana is another fantastic choice for [nursing placements](#). Some may find it extraordinary that pregnant women have to deliver their babies without any medical assistance, while being forced to remain quiet. Acceptance is a key factor as cultural differences are immense and you won't have much time before the next culturally shocking experience. Whenever you have some spare time you can get a bit deeper into the culture of one of Africa's gems.

Asia, is also another popular destination for electives abroad. Again, there are many opportunities whether you decide to travel in the glorious Nepalese mountains or just get lost in Sri Lanka's jungles. Many students choose [medical electives in India](#). Getting to know cultures that still believe in traditional healing is an unforgettable experience and you will definitely experience colourful ceremonies in any of those countries.

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