About Peacekeeping

Peacekeeping is a calling that demands both personal dedication and sacrifice. Service in the cause of peace offers real opportunities to help peoples and countries recover from conflict, rebuild their societies, and enjoy the benefits of peace.

United Nations peace operations offer opportunities to make a difference, both in the world and in your own life. Working and living conditions in the field vary. If you serve in a peacekeeping or political mission, or in a humanitarian field operation, the country or region that you work and live in is likely to be emerging from conflict or an emergency situation where the conditions are more arduous; the infrastructure is weak and electricity and clean water are often in short supply. In addition, most peacekeeping, political or humanitarian missions are categorized as “non-family” duty stations, and therefore family members are unable to join the staff member at the relevant location.

Nature of our Work

Integrated mission support is delivered through civilian and military capabilities to provide common services. This enables logistics-related specialists to exercise control over all logistics operations required by the mission support function for mandate implementation covering the mission lifecycle from Start Up, to Sustainment, Expansion, Transition, Downsizing, Drawdown and Liquidation. Logistics-related experts operate in compliance with UN rules and regulations, which also needs to be balanced with the operational principles of flexibility and responsiveness. These specialists are adept at planning, coordinating and delivering common services, enabling a smooth flow of equipment, supplies and personnel within and between field missions, as well as managing staff and budgetary resources.

Working in the Field

United Nations peacekeeping and political missions have evolved over time to respond to different conflicts and changing political landscapes. Civilian peacekeepers work as administrators and engineers, police officers and legal experts, economists and electoral observers, specialists in civil affairs and gender, as well as experts in information technology and public information among other specialized functions. International positions have two categories, Professional and Higher category. A first level university degree with a relevant combination of education, professional training and two additional years of work experience in areas such as transport, logistics operations/management, supply chain management, etc., may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree. For positions in the Field Service Category, a high school or equivalent diploma is required. Technical or vocational certificate in logistics, transportation, supply management, business administration or related fields is a requirement in addition to the specified experience. English and French are the working languages of the United Nations Secretariat. Fluency in oral and written English is required. Knowledge of a second United Nations official language is an advantage.

Logistics

The Logistics Support Division at UN Headquarters oversees a global network of approximately 100,000 civilian, military and police personnel supporting logistics operations across multiple duty stations worldwide. Logistics-related specialists support the Mission Leadership Team to deliver integrated support services at mission level, which enables the mission to conduct its core functions in an effective, coordinated and timely manner. These common services must be sufficiently flexible to adapt quickly to changing circumstances on the ground so that substantive operations are effectively supported. This streamlined service demands effective planning, communication and resourcing through close coordination between the uniformed and civilian components as well as strong integrated planning and prioritization among the mission’s leadership team. The UN Logistics and administrative support model services requirements for contingents deploying with widely varying levels of self-sufficiency, and the differing needs of military contingents, civilian staff, police and military observers.

Gender

The United Nations fosters gender equality and encourages applications from suitably qualified and experienced women across the full range of career opportunities particularly in the more "non-traditional" field careers such as Aviation, Logistics or Engineering.

Helpful Links

- careers.un.org
- hr.un.org
- inspira.un.org
- point.un.org

Education

Advanced university degree (Master’s degree or equivalent) in logistics, business administration, engineering, or related field is required for positions in the Professional and Higher category. A first level university degree with a relevant combination of education, professional training and two additional years of work experience in areas such as transport, logistics operations/management, supply chain management, etc., may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree. For positions in the Field Service Category, a high school or equivalent diploma is required. Technical or vocational certificate in logistics, transportation, supply management, business administration or related fields is a requirement in addition to the specified experience. English and French are the working languages of the United Nations Secretariat. Fluency in oral and written English is required. Knowledge of a second United Nations official language is an advantage.

Related Careers

There are various career opportunities related to Logistics, such as the following:

- Supply Officer (general supply, rations and fuel)
- Property Control & Inventory Officer
- Contingent-owned Equipment Officer
- Movement Control Officer
- Transport Officer

Helpful Links

- careers.un.org
- hr.un.org
- inspira.un.org
- point.un.org
Over time, the United Nations has increased its presence in locations all over the world. There are over 130 field offices, which include peacekeeping and political missions and humanitarian field operations, and they play an essential role in identifying, highlighting, and responding to emerging challenges. While the work may vary greatly, the one unifying factor is the opportunity to make a difference, both in the world and in your own life. Together with its partners, the UN is tasked with a variety of responsibilities, such as providing and coordinating humanitarian assistance; promoting and protecting human rights; promoting the wise stewardship of the global environment; assisting countries to combat the supply of illicit drugs, crime and corruption and; providing information on the Organization and its activities in the various locations in which it operates.

Before you navigate through the existing job opportunities available online, we strongly advise that you read carefully the description of each current UN operation through the links to the mission website. Please apply for the positions that best match your expertise, qualifications, experience and aspirations. The necessary education background/training, experience and skills to perform a specific job are explained in the qualification section of each vacancy announcement.

If you are interested in working for Peacekeeping Operations, please send your resume to Outreachforpeace@un.org and write “WRUD4P” in the subject line of your email.

* Source: Map No. 4259 Rev. 20(E), Cartographic Section, Department of Field Support, UNITED NATIONS, April 2014
** political mission
Disclaimer: due to the mobile and dynamic nature of field careers, profilees may not necessarily feature in their current positions.