

# International Friendships Volunteer Application

195 Chittenden Ave, Columbus, OH 43221 614-294-2434 fax: 614-298-0434 email: [volunteers@ifipartners.org](mailto:volunteers@ifipartners.org)

Website: [www.ifipartners.org](http://www.ifipartners.org) (application also available online)

(Husbands and wives may fill out a joint application, including comments for each in answer to the questions)

Volunteer(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone:(-  
\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date/Year \_\_\_\_\_

May we contact you at work? Yes No If not, how can we reach you during the day? \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status: M (Spouse name \_\_\_\_\_) / D / W / S Please list children and ages:

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Church you attend: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about International Friendships?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies/interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Pets (how many, what type: \_\_\_\_\_

## Area of Volunteer Interest:

Please see attached sheet for descriptions

- Airport Pickup
- Bible Study Leader/Helper
- Building Maintenance & Improvement
- Children's Ministry
- English Conversation Partner
- ESL Teacher/Assistant
- Food for Potlucks & Picnics
- Friendship Partner
- Fund Raising Events
- Garage sale shopping
- Holiday Hosting - Thanksgiving
- Holiday Hosting - Christmas
- Housing - Short Term
- Housing - Long Term
- International Moms Group
- Office Volunteer - clerical
- Professional Mentoring Partner
- Public Relations
- Small Group Missions Opportunities
- Tour of Columbus
- Trip Ministry
- Other. Please explain.

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have an interest in any particular culture or religion? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Tell Us More About Yourself:** (please attach additional sheets)

1. How have you come to be interested in working with international students? What do you see as your primary goal in this ministry?
2. Please describe any involvement you have had with other cultures (travel outside USA, friendships, etc.)
3. Briefly describe how you became a Christian and your current walk with the Lord (attach additional sheets as needed):
4. Please describe your involvement in your church, including how long you have been a part of the church:
5. Please comment on any other ministry experience you have had, including any experience discipling others. What other ministries are you currently involved in, and how much time per week are you involved?
6. If you speak any other languages, please list: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Will transportation to campus and transportation of students who do not have cars be a problem for you? Yes No

**Training** (see enclosed sheet or website). Which date will you attend? \_\_\_\_\_

**References (required)**

Pastor / Small Group Leader (please circle) who knows you well spiritually:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ **Daytime** Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list 2 other references (not family) who have known you for more than 3 years. Please list International Friendships staff or team members if applicable.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ **Daytime** Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ **Daytime** Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that as a volunteer of International Friendships (IFI), I am representing a Christian ministry and thus the Lord Jesus Christ, and I will seek to conduct myself in a manner consistent with a Biblical lifestyle. I am in agreement with the attached statement of faith and have read the Volunteer Policy. I give permission for IFI to contact the pastor of my church as a reference if needed. I understand that because volunteers will represent IFI to the students, IFI reserves the right to make decisions regarding placement.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIPS INC. STATEMENT OF FAITH**

1. We believe in the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments as inspired by God, and inerrant in the original writings, and that they are of supreme and final authority in faith and life.
2. We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary and is true God and true man.
4. We believe that man was created in the image of God; that he sinned, and thereby incurred, not only physical death, but also Spiritual death which is separation from God; and that all human beings are born with a sinful nature.
5. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scripture, as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice; and that all that believe in Him are justified on the grounds of His shed blood.
6. We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, in His ascension into Heaven, and in His present life there for us, as High Priest and Advocate.
7. We believe in “that blessed hope,” the personal and imminent return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
8. We believe that all who receive by faith the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God.
9. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved, and the everlasting punishment of the lost.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION WITH IFI**

1. Completed new volunteer application form, signed agreement with IFI’s Statement of Faith, and acknowledgement of reading this Volunteer Policy.
2. Reference from pastor/small group leader.
3. Completion of an IFI background check- Those wishing to have students in their home for a meal or house them overnight must also have their spouses undergo the background check. If the results of the background check show something of concern a Volunteer Recruitment Committee will convene and evaluate each situation on a case by case basis also taking into account responses on the application form and from references.
4. Participation in General Training Session- Issues related to befriending and sharing faith with someone from a different culture will be covered as well as basic IFI vision and expectation.
5. Evidence of personal relationship with Jesus- The volunteer must demonstrate faith in and followership of Jesus consistent with Biblical teaching and be able to communicate a statement of their faith.
6. Active in a Biblical local church- Because living in Christian community is essential to a healthy spiritual life, volunteers must maintain involvement in the local church for fellowship, accountability, and Biblical teaching.
7. Biblical Lifestyle- Because our single goal is to assist internationals to know Jesus and experience Christian love, volunteers must exhibit a life style consistent with Biblical teaching including maturity, emotional stability, healthy relationships, and a stable living situation.
8. Teachable Spirit- Working with other cultures requires that the volunteer take the role of a learner have a willingness to understand and accept cultural differences and to learn how to effectively and sensitively share their faith cross-culturally.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Airport pickup:** Be the first welcoming face a newly-arriving international student sees when he/she arrives in Columbus. Transport them either to campus or a temporary home..

**Bible Study Leader/Helper:** Visit our Friday night Bible study and consider becoming involved in a small group, building friendships with international students and sharing your faith.

**Building Maintenance and move furniture:** Needs include cleaning, painting, and remodeling. Help is also needed to be on call to move furniture when donated or when students move.

**Children's Ministry:** We offer special programming for children nursery age and older during our Friday night Bible study. Volunteers are needed to assist with the children.

**English Conversation Partner:** Meet with one international student for 1 hour each week practicing conversation and building a friendship as well!

**ESL Teacher or Assistant:** Assist or teach at IFI's English as a Second Language classes on consecutive Saturdays during the school year. Assistants need not be experts in ESL - just willing helpers with a decent knowledge of English.

**Food for potlucks & picnics:** Make food for our quarterly picnics or potlucks. Sign up, and we will call you as needs arise. No training unless you plan to continue relating to students. In that case, we ask that you complete the application and training process.

**Friendship Partner:** Build a friendship through monthly activities with international student. They join your/your family's activities or plan a special outing together.

**Fundraising Events:** You can help with planning, set up/clean up, registration, publicity, and more. Training is not required to participate in fundraising events.

**Garage Sales:** This popular service is offered to students on one Saturday in early September. Drive students to designated garage sales, and help them select furnishings for their apartments.

**Holiday Hosting - Christmas:** Share the warmth of your Christmas table, and you may have an opportunity to share the Christmas story with an international student. Transportation to and from campus is usually needed.

**Holiday Hosting - Thanksgiving.:** Invite 1 or more students to join your Thanksgiving celebration and share your family's joy and Christian hospitality. You will be given names of students to contact. Transportation to and from OSU campus will be needed.

**Housing (Short Term or Long Term):** Welcome an international student into your home for 4 days upon their initial arrival to Columbus while they look for more permanent housing. Transportation to and from campus certain days is necessary. For long term, offer a room in your home to a student for a quarter or longer. You may offer this free of charge or ask for a rental payment.

**International Moms Groups (IMG):** Befriend an international mom at our morning group. Also help with children, Bible study, English conversation, or crafts.

**Office Volunteer - clerical:** Help is needed to answer phones, enter data into the computer, help with mailings, etc.

**Public Relations:** Help promote IFI needs at your church through bulletin inserts, display tables, or in small groups.

**Small Group Missions Opportunities:** Along with your small group, you can volunteer to host groups of students for meals, bring food and help with special events, and more.

**Tour of Columbus:** Help show new international students what makes Columbus special. Each fall IFI volunteers take new international students on a tour of the city and share a meal in host homes.

**Trip Ministry:** Travel as a member of the leadership team on one of our ministry trips. Help drive, share your life and faith with the students traveling with you - a short-term mission trip!

**Other:** Do you have a special skill or interest, or something you would be willing to help an international student with? Let us know!