

International Connections Guide

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in becoming an International Connections guide for the Center for Student Engagement at the George Washington University. The Center for Student Engagement seeks to enhance all aspects of the student experience by fostering communities that promote learning and development to prepare students to make positive contributions in the world.

The mission of International Connections is to build community and develop relationships between domestic and international students at GW as well as assist international students in their transition to their new living and academic environment. The mission of International Connections will be met by:

- Developing and offering educational programs to the campus community to enhance positive interactions between domestic and international students
- Supporting international students in their adjustment to their host country educational system and culture
- Connect international students to the institution and the greater Washington DC area.

International Connections guides will be paired together and each pair will consist of one domestic student and one international student. Guide pairings will work together throughout the year to develop various programming throughout the year.

Requirements and Guide Responsibilities

Requirement for all International Connections Guides

- Guides need to have completed at least one semester at GW in order to be eligible to apply.
- Guides need to be available and attend the International Connection training taking place in the month of April 2017 (one training per week).
- Guides are expected to maintain a high level of professionalism
- Guides may not be placed on disciplinary probation with the University.
- The term of an International Connections Guide is for one year (training in April 2017 and serve as a guide from Fall 2017 to Spring 2018).

Guide Responsibilities

- International Connections guides will be responsible (with their partner) to implement one Learning Lab during the first six weeks of the Fall Semester. Learning Labs are workshops/programs that focus on building and reinforcing interactions between international and domestic while focusing on important adjustment issues that international students face at GW.
- Each International Connection guide will be responsible (with their partner) to organize a follow up outing based on the topic of their Learning Lab. The outing can take place either in the Fall or Spring semester.
- International Connections guides may also be asked to actively participate in other events organized by the Center for Student Engagement, focusing on international and domestic student connections.
- International Connection guides are expected to respond to official communication from the Center for Student Engagement in a timely manner in order to maintain proper follow up and efficient communication

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Qualities We Look for in Candidates

- *Cultural Inquiry* – curiosity to learn about the international cultures that make up the GW community.
- *Reliable & Responsible* - follow through with promises and commitments; complete assignments thoroughly
- *Flexible* - able to prioritize, multi-task, and manage time effectively
- *Detail-Oriented* - capable of seeing not only the big picture, but also the small pixels that compose it
- *Professional* – take the responsibility associated with being a guide seriously ; behaves in such a way as to inspire confidence; takes pride in the quality of service delivered
- *Good Sense of Humor* - able to relate to participants on a personal level, as well as on a professional one
- *Leadership Abilities* - eagerly seek challenges and strive to push personal limitations; *inspire* fellowship
- *Positive Attitude* - strong interpersonal and communication skills, as well as a constant desire to improve
- *Hard-Working* - eager to plan and prepare; understand that diligence facilitates both safety *and* fun
- *Mature* - make sound, rational decisions; cool under pressure; able to appreciate that personal actions reflect on the group as a whole

Selection Timeline

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| February 10th: | Application opens |
| February 24th: | Application closes |
| March 1st through March 10th: | In Person Interview |
| March 17th: | Candidates will be notified regarding selection decisions |
| March 27th through April 17th: | Guide's training (one training session per week) |

Benefits of Being a Guide

- Learn about different cultures and become a more global citizen.
- Enhance the experience of domestic and international students at GW.
- Gain leadership and transferable skills
 - Cross cultural communication
 - Event planning and management
 - Teamwork and facilitation
- Increase cultural awareness