



APPLICATION FOR FIUTS HOST PROGRAMS

-Please type or print clearly-

Request for Homestay with host

Request for Friendship Connection

Contact & University of Washington Information (please write or circle answer)

Name: _____
Last or Family First or given

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Home Country: _____ Sex: M/F Age: _____ Birthdate (m/d/y): _____

First quarter at the UW will be: Autumn/Winter/Spring/Summer Transfer from another US college? Yes/No

Level: Graduate/Undergraduate UW Student ID number: _____

Department advisor or contact person at the UW: _____

Approximate length of stay at the University of Washington: _____

Field of Study or Department: _____

Please attach your photograph here

For Office Use Only

Date Received:

Date Assigned:

Host Name & Phone:

Arrival & Personal Information

 (please write or circle answer)

Do you need an airport pickup? Yes/No Date of departure from home: _____

Airline and Flight #: _____ Will you go through US customs in Seattle? Yes/No

Seattle Arrival Date: _____ Arrival Time: _____ am/pm

Are you married? Yes/No Number of children: _____ Children's ages: _____

Will your family arrive with you? Yes/No Will they arrive at a later date; when? _____

Do you have relatives or friends that live in the Puget Sound area? Yes/No

Do you smoke? Yes/No Are you allergic to pets? Yes/No Please specify: _____

Do you have any dietary restrictions? Yes/No Please specify: _____

Other restrictions we should know about: _____

Your housing plans: applying for UW dormitory housing plan to rent private or shared housing

Have you ever visited, lived or studied in the United States? Yes/No

In this space, or on a separate page, write a personal Letter of Introduction to your host. Please include information about your family, your studies, your hobbies and anything else that helps describe you. The letter helps the FIUTS Homestay Coordinator place you, so the more personal you make the letter, the better. Please note that your application will not be considered complete if this section is left blank.

I am applying for a FIUTS Welcome Week Host or Friendship Connection. When I arrive at the UW, I agree to pay FIUTS the appropriate application processing fee.

Your Signature

Date

What is FIUTS?

The Foundation for International Understanding Through Students (FIUTS) is a community nonprofit organization that was established on the University of Washington campus in 1948. Our mission is to connect the international population at the UW with the Puget Sound community—both on campus and off. FIUTS aims to create an environment where ideas, issues and the spirit of internationalism can be fostered. Part of this tradition includes our Hosting Programs—Homestays and Friendship Connections. While our offices are on the UW Campus to better serve our constituency, we are not a formal part of the University.

What is a Homestay?

If this is your first time to study and live in the United States, the Homestay Program is designed for you. The homestay will provide you with a friendly place to live for the first few days while you get over jet lag and get your bearings. You will spend up to one week in the home of a volunteer American host who will pick you up at the airport and assist you during the first few days. Hosts are **unpaid volunteers** from the local community who offer a homestay as a gesture of friendship. They may be single adults, working or retired couples, housemates, currently UW students, or families with or without children. They are from a variety of ethnic, economic and educational backgrounds reflecting our diverse culture. They may live near campus or up to a one-hour bus ride away. The Homestay Program is for one week maximum.

What is a Friendship Connection?

The Friendship Connection is designed for those with previous living, academic, or work experience in the US, those transferring from another US institution, or those with friends or relatives here in Seattle. This connection may include an airport pickup, but **does not** include a homestay. We have only a limited number of homestay families and we must give priority to students who are arriving in the USA for the first time. If you request an airport pickup, your Friendship Connection will deliver you to your temporary or permanent housing. Housing arrangements must be made in advance. Your Friendship Connection will help you get oriented to the Seattle area and also invite you for occasional hospitality throughout the year. Friendship Connection hosts are as diverse as the Homestay hosts.

How do I apply?

Applications are accepted by mail or fax directly to the FIUTS office at the address indicated below. Or, you may submit an online application (<http://www.fiuts.org/forStudents/HomestayFC/applyNow.php>) but be aware that you will still need to forward us a photograph of yourself as well. Complete applications with pictures must be received by the FIUTS office at least three weeks before your scheduled arrival. Be sure your application contains all the information requested, including your arrival information and a personal letter of introduction to your host. Because of the high demand for this program, we cannot guarantee placement. However, most students who submit applications are placed.

How much does it cost?

There is a \$75 application processing fee for the Homestay for individual students. Fees for couples and family are \$100 and \$125 respectively, while the Friendship Connection fee is \$35. This fee will also provide you with a one-year student membership to FIUTS. Because of the difficulty and expense in arranging US funds, you may pay this service fee directly to the FIUTS office when you arrive on campus. If you withdraw or cancel your participation in the Homestay or Friendship Connection programs 10 days or less prior to arrival, you will be charged a cancellation fee: \$25 for Homestay and \$15 for Friendship Connection. This cancellation fee does NOT apply to students who cancel due to visa or enrollment difficulties. A FIUTS membership is not included in your cancellation fee.

How will I hear about my host?

Once you have submitted an application, please stay in touch with the FIUTS office. You will receive a confirmation letter after we receive your application and have begun to process it. We tend to do our primary communication via email, so it is highly likely that you will hear of your host that way. Remember you need to keep us advised of any updates in your plans or contact information as they occur.

How many days in advance of classes should I arrive?

This depends on what time of year you are arriving. If you are starting the UW in Autumn Quarter, International Student Orientation begins approximately 10 days before classes officially begin. Winter, Spring and Summer Quarter Orientations are either the Thursday or Friday before the first day of classes. Whenever you arrive, it is important to schedule free time for both orientation and settling-in tasks. University residence halls open between one to three days before classes begin, but in the Autumn Quarter temporary dorm housing is available for those who have been accepted into UW Housing a week before the dorms officially open. Space is limited and must be reserved through the Housing office (hfsinfo@u.washington.edu) Apply for UW housing as early as possible! If you are planning on renting private accommodations, give yourself at least a week to find a suitable room. The University maintains a website with off campus housing options (<http://housing.asuw.org/listings.html>) which you can access after setting up your UWNet ID online. Please also take advantage of the FIUTS website when you are looking for housing—we have links on our site to major Seattle newspapers.



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