



# APPLICATION FOR FIUTS HOST PROGRAMS

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 inspire lifelong engagement in experiences that build global understanding. FIUTS connects the international population at the UW with the campus and greater community through programs that enhance global understanding and inspire peace. FIUTS is a place to make friends from around the world, share your culture, and learn from others.

FIUTS Hosting Programs—Homestays and Friendship Connections, are an opportunity for new University of Washington international students to learn about US culture from a local family. Please note: due to the limited number of homestay families, priority is given to students who are arriving in the USA for the first time.



The **FIUTS Homestay Program** provides you with a friendly place to live while you get over jet lag and begin to learn your way around your new city. You will spend a short time in the home of a volunteer American host family who will assist you during your first days in Seattle. 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, current 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.

The **FIUTS Friendship Connection Program** is designed for students with previous living, academic, or work experience in the US, students transferring from another US institution, or students with friends or relatives here in Seattle. This connection may include an airport pickup, but does not include a homestay. Your Friendship Connection will answer questions you might have about the US and Seattle, help you get oriented to the Seattle area, and invite you for occasional activities throughout the year. Friendship Connection hosts are as diverse as the Homestay hosts.

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## Frequently Asked Questions

### **How do I apply?**

Homestay applications and photographs are accepted by mail or fax or submitted online at <http://www.fiuts.org/students/homestay/index.htm>. Completed applications with pictures must be received by the FIUTS office at least one month before your scheduled arrival. Be sure your application contains all the information requested, including your flight 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 \$100 application processing fee for the Homestay for individual students. Fees for couples and family are \$125 and \$150 respectively. The Friendship Connection fee is \$35. The FIUTS Homestay fee is due with your tuition. If you withdraw or cancel your participation in the Homestay or Friendship Connection programs within 10 days prior to arrival, you will be charged a cancellation fee of \$25 for Homestay and \$15 for Friendship Connection. This cancellation fee does NOT apply to students who cancel due to visa or enrollment difficulties.

### **How will I learn about my host family?**

You will receive a confirmation email within two weeks of your application date. Your placement information will be sent via email as soon as you have been placed with a host family. This information will include contact information for your hosts so that you can contact them before you arrive and make any special arrangements for your arrival. Your placement email will also include biographic information about your host family. Remember to keep us advised of any changes in your plans or contact information as they occur. If we are unable to place you with a host family, we will notify you one week before your arrival.

### **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 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.

### **What about permanent housing?**

**On-Campus Housing:** Apply for UW housing as early as possible! University residence halls usually open between one and three days before classes begin. In Autumn Quarter, temporary dorm housing (early arrival housing) is available for students who have already been accepted into UW Housing. Early arrival housing starts one week before the dorms officially open. Space is limited and must be reserved through the Housing office ([hfsinfo@u.washington.edu](mailto:hfsinfo@u.washington.edu)) which you can access after setting up your UWNet ID online.

**Off-Campus Housing:** Seattle can be a difficult place to find housing, so start looking early! If you are planning on renting private accommodations, give yourself at least a week to find a suitable room. The University Off Campus Housing Affairs website: <http://housing.asuw.org>.

### **The Foundation for International Understanding Through Students (FIUTS)**

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Seattle, Washington 98195  
Phone: 206.543.0735 Fax: 206.685.8338  
[homestay@fiuts.org](mailto:homestay@fiuts.org)  
[www.fiuts.org](http://www.fiuts.org)

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-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: 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 UW: \_\_\_\_\_

Field of Study or Department: \_\_\_\_\_

## Arrival 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

*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

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# APPLICATION FOR FIUTS HOST PROGRAMS

-Please type or print clearly-

## Personal Information (please write or circle answer)

Please attach  
your photograph  
here

Are you married? Yes/No      Will your family arrive with you? Yes/No

Number of children: \_\_\_\_\_ Children's ages: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have relatives or friends that live in the Seattle 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:

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.

For Office Use Only

Date Received:

Host Name & Phone:

Date Assigned:

Database \_\_\_\_\_