

## Application to be a Community Friend

To apply online go to <http://bit.ly/FISFriend> (preferred) Or print below. Thank you.

### **Primary Person [who will be meeting monthly with student(s)]:**

Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

### **If other household members will be involved with student(s):**

Spouse/Partner Name \_\_\_\_\_

Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

### **Please list first names and ages of children living with you:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### **Others in household:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

*(list any other family members on another piece of paper)*

If you have pets, please list types.

\_\_\_\_\_

Please list interests and hobbies of you/family

\_\_\_\_\_

*(please fill out other side)*

## Board of Directors

*\*\*As of August 2014*

Jaye Grattan  
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Scott Kelsay  
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A proud sponsor of FIS



### For more information:

- Visit <http://international.uiowa.edu/international-students/make-connections>.
- Find us on Facebook "Friends of International Students"
- Find us on twitter [@iowafis](https://twitter.com/iowafis)
- Send an e-mail to [iowa.fis@gmail.com](mailto:iowa.fis@gmail.com)
- Call UI International Students & Scholar Services at 319-335-0335
- Complete and mail the application to:  
Friends of International Students (FIS)  
PO Box 145  
Iowa City, IA 52244-0145



# Friends of International Students (FIS)



Providing community,  
hospitality and  
friendship to  
international students at  
The University of Iowa

## Friends of International Students

**(FIS)** is an independent, non-profit community organization of people who provide friendship and support to international students and scholars attending the University of Iowa.

### *Who can be an FIS Friend?*

Anyone genuinely interested in international exchange is encouraged to apply. "Friends" range in age from students to senior citizens; they are singles, couples and families. Participants come from all walks of life and have all kinds of experiences.

### *What is expected of FIS Friends?*

- Friends are encouraged to make contact monthly by phone, e-mail or meeting.
- Once matched, together you can decide what to do depending on time and mutual interests.
- Students appreciate invitations to American holiday festivities and meals. Typical activities such as watching a film, making soup or cookies, athletic events, visiting local museums or attending a downtown festival are ways to get to know each other.
- Most students do not have a car so you may need to provide transportation.

### *How do I get matched with a student?*

**Fill out a Friend Application.** FIS tries to match the requests and hobbies of applicants, but be open to the variety of students that come to the University of Iowa. Most are single students; some Friends have found it easier to invite two or more students to an event.

It takes 2-4 weeks to match Friends and students once an application has been made. Please contact your student and arrange a meeting as soon as you have been matched.

**Attend our New Friend Orientation.** An orientation for new FIS Friends is offered each academic semester. During orientation you will be provided more information about FIS, ideas on activities you might do with your student, as well as cross-cultural resources to answer questions that will inevitably arise.

### *What will I gain from the experience?*

As a Friend, you (and your family) will enjoy the pleasure of getting to know a student who comes from a different background, yet shares the value of cross-cultural friendship. You will have the opportunity to learn about the cultural, religious and political beliefs and personal background of your student in a way that comes only from an ongoing friendship.

Your student will appreciate practicing English conversation and learning about life in the U.S. from you as you offer hospitality and share our culture.

Many Friends continue with their students after the initial academic year and some maintain contact for years.

Each semester there are FIS sponsored events to which Friends and students, as well as the broader community are invited. Become a Facebook Friend and read the monthly emails for more information. Join us for our kick-off picnic in late August.

## Application to be a Community Friend

*(continued from other side)*

### **Preferences in student match(es):**

FIS considers requests by Friends, however in an attempt to match all students who apply, your preferences may not be available.

Undergraduate  Graduate  No preference

Requests you would like considered (example: vegetarian) \_\_\_\_\_

How many students are you willing to be matched with? \_\_\_\_\_

Willing to have a married student or family?  
 Yes  No

How did you learn about FIS? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Please provide two references we can contact**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

As an organization affiliated with the University of Iowa, Friends of International Students (FIS) has a duty to protect students who participate in FIS programs. FIS does not release student information to third parties under any circumstances except as part of the Friend-Student matching program. FIS reserves the right to screen potential Friends. This screening process may include phone interviews and/or reference and background checks.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Return form to:**

*FIS, PO Box 145, Iowa City, IA 52244-0145*