

Friendship Family Program - Families

Information for UC Riverside Staff, Faculty and Administrators

Why join the Friendship Family Program?

- Give your family the opportunity to get acquainted with another culture in a new, personal, and unique way.
- Help introduce an international student to American culture and traditions.
- Attend Friendship Family events once a term with your student and meet other Friendship students and families!

What can the Friendship Family Program bring to your Family?

International students bring with them fascinating backgrounds and fresh perspectives which can enable your family to learn about and better appreciate the diversity of cultures right here at UC Riverside.

We anticipate that Friendship Families and students will enjoy informal dinners, holiday celebrations, outings, and campus events together as time permits. Through this cross-cultural relationship, our hope is that families and students will be able to enhance their global perspectives and gain a meaningful, fulfilling, and lasting friendship.

As a Friendship Family, you will have the opportunity to truly touch the life of an international student by becoming his/her family away from home and introducing him/her to the unique culture of your family.

How can you and/or your family become involved in the Friendship Family Program?

If you would like to become a Friendship Family, please download and complete the Friendship Family Application Form (for Residents). You can either return it as an enclosed document via e-mail to wendy.hernandez@ucr.edu, or via fax to (951) 827-3778, or mailing it to UC Riverside, International Education Center, 900 University Ave, University Village, Suite 204, Riverside, CA. 92521. If you have questions or difficulty with the form, please call us at 951-827-4113.

Applications to be a 2011-2012 Friendship Family must be received by Tuesday, February 7, 2012. However, applications are accepted year-round. Applications received prior to Tuesday, February 7 will automatically be considered for participation in the 2011 program. The program is for the duration of the academic school year, so until June 2012.

****Please note:** If more families than students apply, families that are not matched with a student this year will be put on a priority wait list for the following year.

What happens when you apply to be part of the Friendship Family Program?

Once you have completed the Friendship Family Application Form (for Residents), the information you submit will be used to pair your family with an international student. All matches between matriculating international students and interested Friendship Families are made once per year prior to the start of the program.

There is a training for all staff/faculty participants on Thursday, February 10, 2012 from 11:00 AM- 1:00 PM and a welcome reception for all families and students on Thursday, February 16, 2012 . During the reception, Friendship families and students will meet for the first time and officially begin the International Friendship Family Program for the academic year.