



What is CultureConnect?

Every semester, a new group of international students arrives at USF. These students will face all of the same challenges as a student from the US, as well as facing the challenges to dealing with life in a new country.

Through CultureConnect, USF students will help to welcome and ease the transition for incoming international. The program will create opportunities for international and internationally-aware American students at USF to connect on a more personal level and develop a friendship that will help foster greater global awareness for both students.

International students will be able to make a personal connection with their culture connect mentor throughout their first year at USF.

Do you want to be a CultureConnect Mentor?

The International Programs Office accepts applications continually for CultureConnect mentors. Students selected to serve as mentors will be able to move into the residence halls early, and will be invited to participate in a fun-filled day in downtown Chicago hosted by the International Programs Office.

Requirements for Prospective CultureConnect Mentors

- Must have completed at least one year of study at USF
- Must attend CultureConnect Mentor Orientation (you will be notified of the date no later than one month before)
- Must complete the application
- Must have a desire to learn about other cultures and patience to help students who may not be fluent in English

Expectations

- Be available to help your buddy get situated and comfortable on the day of their arrival and take them to lunch (or dinner, depending on the time of their arrival) in the cafeteria on their first day on campus
- Maintain at least bi-weekly contact with your buddy throughout the year
- Attend at least two passport events with your buddy each semester
- Once a month you will complete a CultureConnect Update Form and return it to the International Programs Office



Acceptance Process and Timeline

- Complete the CultureConnect Mentor Application
- Mentors will be notified of acceptance into the program no later than one month before the international students' arrival
- All Mentors are required to attend CultureConnect Mentor Orientation

Extra Information

CultureConnect Mentors will receive a monthly email message from the International Programs Office informing them of events that they might be interested in attending with their buddy. Also, if you know of any upcoming events or activities that you think would be something CultureConnect participants should attend, please let the International Programs Office know.

CultureConnect Advisor Contact Info

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