



World Learning  
EDUCATION | DEVELOPMENT | EXCHANGE



# GLOBAL UGRAD

## Information for Host Institutions

The [Global UGRAD Program](#) is designed to increase participants' understanding of the United States and give them the opportunity to take academic coursework and participate in community service. Students are enrolled for one semester as non-degree seeking students (J-1 visa) at your institution. World Learning oversees this program on behalf of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and looks forward to the prospect of working with your institution. Below are key requirements for host institutions' participation in the program.

*Please note: Visa transfers or change of status requests for Global UGRAD students are not allowed and will not be approved by the U.S. Department of State. Students must return to their home country at the end of their exchange program.*



### Course Requirements

Participants are required to take a minimum of 12 and no more than 15 undergraduate credit hours, in-person. Their course load must also include:

- 50% of their course credits in their major field of study
- one 3-credit U.S. studies course
- Additional credit hours can be taken as electives

The total number of credits may differ across campuses based on the cost-share agreement.

**Bridge Programs:** If the student's TOEFL score requires the student to take English language classes and they are allowed to enroll in one non-English language class, the class should be in their major.

Under the Global UGRAD's J-1 sponsorship program, the J-1 visa exchange visitor category, participants may not:

- Engage in clinical care, patient care, or patient contact as part of coursework, community service, or internships.
- Work on or off-campus or receive compensation of any kind.



### Housing & Meals

Global UGRAD students should be placed in on-campus dorms with American roommates and sign up for the most comprehensive meal plan.



### Add/Drop Deadline

World Learning must approve of all student coursework at the start of the semester. Please inform World Learning of the course add/drop deadlines as soon as possible and no later than the week of the deadline.



## U.S. Department of State Medical Form

This is a comprehensive health check completed by all participants prior to their arrival in the United States. If you note that a student is missing an immunization required by your institution, please let us know as soon as possible. Students are encouraged to receive required immunizations before their arrival, but in case this is not possible, they can utilize their ASPE health benefits plan (provided by World Learning) to get vaccinated within the first few days on campus.



## Health Insurance

All Global UGRAD participants will be covered by the U.S. Department of State's ASPE Health Benefit Plan while on your campus. With this in mind, World Learning would like to waive your institution's health coverage if possible. **Please let us know if your institution does not accept ASPE.**



## Virtual Arrival Orientation

World Learning hosts a Virtual Arrival Orientation (VAO) for students once they arrive on campus. Students also receive a VAO packet of information and forms that they must read, complete, and return to World Learning. World Learning will send out a schedule with Zoom links for a morning or afternoon session, requesting a campus to sign up. The intention is to build this session into the pre-existing orientation schedules on campus, so **we prefer to have host's points of contact and the students join the call together** during their first week on campus, ideally from the same location.



## Additional Requirements

Host institutions also agree to provide:

- Assistance establishing third-party billing arrangements;
- Guidance to World Learning and students on course registration and applications for on-campus housing and meal plans;
- Coordination for arrival and departure arrangements and providing temporary housing, if needed;
- An international student orientation and assistance in coordinating the World Learning virtual orientation with students upon arrival;
- An academic advisor in a student's field of study;
- Assistance providing contacts to identify local community service;
- Assistance to World Learning program officers in monitoring students' academic progress and adjustment to U.S. university life;
- Assistance with overall academic and campus life questions.
- Communications with alumni, including involvement in country-specific alumni activities.



We thank you for your support and look forward to working with you on this program.

Please direct any questions to your point of contact at World Learning or email Michelle Bolourchi, Program Manager, at [michelle.bolourchi@worldlearning.org](mailto:michelle.bolourchi@worldlearning.org).

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