

MISSION STATEMENT

The Friendship Foundation for International Students (FFIS) is a nonprofit organization that exists to bridge cultures and to promote world peace and understanding through international friendship, personal diplomacy, and exchange of ideas.

Through our programs and activities, FFIS builds trust and fosters goodwill between the local community and University of Oregon international students, alumni, scholars, and their families.

WHO WE ARE

The Friendship Foundation for International Students was founded in 1950 under the leadership of University of Oregon faculty members and community leaders. The leadership is composed of a volunteer steering committee that oversees FFIS activities and programs. During the school year, the steering committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month. If you are interested in a leadership position with FFIS, please contact us for more information.

The University of Oregon endorses FFIS and dedicates staff time and limited financial support through the Office of International Affairs to support FFIS programs and activities for international students and scholars. The majority of FFIS funding comes from individual voluntary donations.



WANT TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER?

To volunteer go online to: www.fffisoregon.org

You will be invited to a new member orientation, after which you will be matched with an international student for the program of your choice.

CONTACT US

 (541) 346-1436  ffis@uoregon.edu

 www.facebook.com/FFISoregon

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FFIS

Friendship Foundation
for International Students

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A Nonprofit Friendship Foundation
for International Students

PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES



SHORT-TERM WELCOME STAY

The Welcome Host Family Program is free to new international students admitted to the UO. FFIS volunteers host newly arrived UO international students at the beginning of fall, winter, and spring terms before they move into permanent housing. This program provides international students with a highly positive first impression of American hospitality and frequently leads to lasting friendships.



SHARE THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving is a unique American holiday that FFIS volunteers share with international students by hosting them for Thanksgiving dinner. Students appreciate the hospitality, good food, and opportunity to make new friends.

YEAR ROUND ACTIVITIES



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY

Each year, FFIS hosts a potluck to recognize active volunteers and their contributions to the FFIS organization and international understanding.



WELCOME PICNIC

Each September, FFIS hosts a picnic welcoming new international students to the UO and our community. University and community leaders often attend to give our visitors a warm welcome.

CONVERSATION FRIEND

The Conversation Friend Program matches volunteers with an international student, visiting scholar, or spouse for one-on-one English conversation. Volunteers meet with their conversation partner for one hour each week for English conversation and practice.



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