

International Student and Family Partnership

ISM - TULSA

This program exists to glorify God in sharing the love of Christ with international students through hospitality, care, service, and conversation while welcoming them into our homes and families while they are “strangers” in our country. The University of Tulsa is home to over 1,300 international students (and growing) from all over the world. Many of them enter college at 17 or 18, leaving close family ties for sometimes a full 4 years. These students often never enter an American home during their time at school. We want to partner with Tulsa families to be good welcomers to these students (and sometimes their families) to provide them a home away from home and form relationships with them in which we can share the love of Christ.

What to expect:

1. ISFP students and families/singles will be expected to commit to partnering for a minimum of one school year unless under extenuating circumstances.
2. As an international family partner, you will be expected to have some sort of interaction with the student a minimum of 1x/month. This can be a meal, Tulsa activity, coffee, grocery run, or a holiday celebration. More interactions are always welcome! We would like to encourage you to invite them to holiday celebrations such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, or Easter. Most of these students will stay in their dorms or try and travel during their breaks but are unable to visit family like domestic students. It is often a wonderful way to love them by inviting them in!
3. As an ISFP you will be expected to be a good listener and support system for your student(s). We also would like you to commit to praying regularly for your student as you get to know them.
4. You will be expected to know how to answer questions these students may have about Jesus, your faith/beliefs, etc. as well as be sensitive to their backgrounds in pointing them to Christ.
5. ISFPs will fill out the volunteer forms (including providing a reliable reference) and attend an ISM volunteer training class (if you are already an ISM volunteer you will need to watch a short additional training video on ISFP or attend the class if you would like a refresher).
6. Gender and nationality preferences will be considered but cannot be guaranteed.