Reed College Host Family Program

"The relationship that we share has been an essential part of my transition to Reed College, and it is also one of the most valuable experiences that I have shared throughout my time at Reed."

—Javed Parkes, Jamaica

REED COLLEGE

The Host Family Program

Reed College's host family program, coordinated by International Student Services (ISS), is a nonresidential friendship program. ISS pairs international students and scholars with local families who befriend them, get them acquainted with Portland, support their experience at Reed, and enjoy the opportunity for cultural exchange.

As a host family, you provide a feeling of "home away from home" for international students and scholars in their first year at Reed whose families are often very far away. You will often play an important part in helping your student or scholar adjust to Reed and the US.

Getting to Know Your Student or Scholar

Your relationship begins when you and your student or scholar communicate over the summer to coordinate airport pickup, transportation to campus, and help settling into the residence halls. During the school year, you and your student or scholar establish and define a relationship that works for both of you.

"Hosting has been a wonderful experience. [Our student] is basically a member of our family now."

—Willie Koo, host

"Participating in the host family program has been a wonderful experience. My host family has truly been a home away from home."

—Yuka Esashi, Japan

Support Throughout the Year

ISS organizes three structured on-campus events to bring international visitors and their host families together as a group. Outside of these activities, we request that you connect in person with your student or scholar monthly.

Typical host family activities include
- inviting your student or scholar over for dinner;
- sharing holiday celebrations;
- introducing your student or scholar to many of the wonderful activities that are available in the Portland area.

Many families stay connected with their student or scholar throughout the visitor's time at Reed. However, the program is structured as a one-year commitment.

International student city tour

How to Become a Host Family

ISS believes that finding a good fit between a family and an international student or scholar is important. The process of becoming a host family is as follows:

Ongoing: host family applications received and screened

June: new host family orientation session

Mid-June: host families complete survey with matching preferences

Mid-July: host families receive student or scholar match information and make initial contact

Mid-late August: students and scholars arrive

Late August: first organized event, during International Orientation

"We just had our first Reed international student come back for his 10th reunion. He and his wife stayed at our house. Another one of our Reedies, from India, graduated from Lewis and Clark Law School last year. She has all of her holiday meals (and more) at our house. Another German student of ours sends me an email every year on my birthday. It goes on and on. Hosting was a great experience for us."

—Mike Parr, host

More Information

To obtain a host family application or learn more about the program, please contact the International Student Services office or visit our website.

>>> 503/517-5538
iss@reed.edu
www.reed.edu/iss/

Where do Reed's international students and language scholars come from?

Australia	Cyprus	Ivory Coast	Nepal	Romania	Thailand
Austria	Egypt	Jamaica	New Zealand	Saudi Arabia	Turkey
Bangladesh	France	Japan	Nigeria	Singapore	Uganda
Bolivia	**Germany**	Kenya	Norway	South Africa	Ukraine
Brazil	Ghana	Latvia	Pakistan	South Korea	United Kingdom
Bulgaria	Hong Kong	Malaysia	Peru	Spain	Vietnam
Canada	Hungary	Mexico	Philippines	Taiwan	Zimbabwe
China	India				