



**MSC L.T. JORDAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS
INTERNATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAM
2009-2010**

PURPOSE

The purpose of the MSC L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness International Service Program (ISP) is to provide an opportunity for Texas A&M University students to gain meaningful cultural experience through an eight-week, service-oriented program in the Dominican Republic (DR) and Honduras.

THE PROGRAM

The MSC L.T. Jordan Institute ISP shall arrange for:

1. Cross-cultural orientation to the customs, society, and government of the host country during the spring semester prior to participants' departure in the form of four orientations and planning seminars.
2. Living accommodations with a host family who will provide three meals a day for six weeks.
3. Six-week service project related to academic studies or career goals as available.
4. Frequent contact with a Texas A&M University faculty or staff member, or the in-country coordinator while in the country.
5. Air transportation to and from the country.
6. Group ground transfers (to and from the airport) within the country.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Currently enrolled Texas A&M University or TAMU System Health Science Center graduate students who are citizens/permanent residents of the U.S. ***Students graduating prior to program's departure are ineligible to participate in ISP.***
2. Preference will be given to students with little or no international travel or living abroad experience but with a demonstrated interest in international affairs.
3. Students applying for the MSC L.T. Jordan Institute ISP shall satisfactorily have completed at least two semester courses of Spanish at the college level or two years at the high school level or must demonstrate ability in Spanish in another manner. ***Basic conversational ability is required.***
4. A valid and current passport is required of all students prior to departure.
5. Students must have a demonstrated ability to function effectively in a cross-cultural environment and to uphold the image of TAMU as a world-class university.
6. Upon selection as a participant, the student must complete a contract and release form that includes all rules, regulations and requirements.

PROCESS

1. Applications are due *by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 20, 2009* to the L.T. Jordan Institute office (2nd floor of Koldus in the Student Programs Office, Room 233.)
 - FOUR COPIES OF YOUR APPLICATION** (including 4 copies of your essays)
 - ONE **REFERENCE FORM** from a professor in your field of study or someone who is familiar with your academic performance
 - The names and phone numbers of two additional references who may be contacted
 - A **PERSONAL RESUME** detailing extracurricular activities and work experience
 - An official Texas A&M University **TRANSCRIPT** and unofficial transcripts from any other colleges and/or universities attended
2. For further information about the International Service Program, please feel free to come by the Jordan Institute office, call 845-8770, or e-mail the ISP Director at amahajan@tamu.edu.
3. Applicants will be interviewed by three or more members of the International Service Partnership, which includes:
 - A. Jordan Institute staff director or designee
 - B. Jordan Institute student chair or designee
 - C. Student director of the International Service Program
 - D. Representative of the Department of Multicultural Services
 - E. Representative of the School of Rural Public Health
 - F. Representative of the TAMU Medical School
4. Applicants shall be notified of the interview outcome by e-mail within five working days of the final interview.
5. After returning from the country, participants will be required to write a paper and present their experiences to students both on campus and in local high schools.

FUNDING/FINANCING

The MSC L.T. JORDAN INSTITUTE, International Service Program Partners, and private donors will supplement the cost of the program. Students participating from the School of Rural and Public Health and the A&M College of Medicine will be required to pay a program fee of **\$750**. Students from other departments will pay a fee of **\$1750**.

REQUIREMENTS

Participants must attend four orientation and planning seminars during the Spring 2010 Semester. Full participation in these orientation sessions is mandatory. Additionally, upon return to Texas A&M University, participants will be required to make presentations on campus and/or in local high schools regarding their experiences serving in their host country.

PERSONAL DATA SHEET

**For MSC L.T. Jordan Institute
2009-2010 International Service Program Applicants**

PLEASE TYPE

- 1) Name Mr./Ms. _____
(Last) (First) (Middle or Maiden) (Preferred)
- 2) Local Address _____
(Street) (City and Zip Code) (Phone)
- 3) Permanent Address _____
(Street) (City)

(State) (Zip Code) (Phone)
- 4) Date of Birth _____ 5) Place of Birth _____ 6) Gender _____
- 7) Classification _____ 8) Major _____ 9) Minor _____
- 10) Last five digits of your UIN# _____ 11) E-mail address _____
- 11) How did you hear about ISP? _____

I hereby acknowledge that the information stated in the 2008-2009 International Service Program Application is true to the best of my knowledge and give my permission for an authorized MSC staff to verify my GPR.

DATE: _____ Signature of Applicant: _____

**MSC L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness
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1) Is your GPR at least a 3.0?

YES NO

2) EDUCATION

List all colleges or universities attended.

Institution/City & State	<u>Dates Attended</u>		Degree obtained/yr.	Major
	From	To		

3) INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE (if any)

List each country visited, precise period of stay and purpose of visit (i.e. study, travel, visiting relatives, etc.).

4) LANGUAGE COMPETENCY

A. What is your degree of fluency in Spanish? (Conversational? Written? Comprehension?)

5) RELEVANT HONORS, EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING OFFICES HELD), AND EMPLOYMENT (please limit to space provided)

Please include **one** completed recommendation form filled out by a professor in your field of study or someone who is familiar with your academic performance. List two other individuals, of which one should be a personal reference who may be contacted in order to comment on your strengths as an applicant for this program. References should come from Texas A&M University Faculty or Staff members, advisers, employers, or other individuals who know you well.

Name	Title	Relation to Applicant	Phone #
a)	_____	_____	_____
b)	_____	_____	_____
c)	_____	_____	_____

Completion of the following section will help in your placement with a family.

10)	Please check one response for each question:	YES	NO
	Are you willing to share a room?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Are you allergic to any foods/animals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Explain: _____		

	Do you have special dietary requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Explain: _____		

	Would you mind family pets?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Would you like a family with children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Age range: _____		
	Are you a smoker?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Would you mind being placed in a family with members who smoke?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Do you have any medical conditions of which your host family should be made aware?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Explain: _____		

11) On separate pieces of paper, please write two letters: one directed to your potential project leader and one directed to your potential host family. In the letter to your host family, tell them a little about yourself, your preferences and your goals for your stay. The letter to your project leader should include: a short biography (name, hometown, academics); a list of practical experiences and University studies that relate to your project preference, including useful skills you have acquired (technical, professional experience, lab work etc.); a statement of present language ability; and a brief discussion of what you hope to accomplish during your stay.

Please turn in 4 copies of both letters along with the application form.