



**INTERNATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAM**  
**Belize \* Costa Rica**  
**Graduate Student Application 2019-2020**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the MSC Leland T. and Jessie W. Jordan Institute for International Awareness International Service Program (ISP) is to provide an opportunity for Texas A&M University students to gain meaningful international work and cultural experience through a six-week, service-oriented program in Belize or Costa Rica.

**THE PROGRAM**

The MSC Leland T. and Jessie W. 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 or private accommodations.
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 **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 Leland T. and Jessie W. Jordan Institute **ISP Costa Rica** shall have satisfactorily 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 Texas A&M 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

**ISP Belize and Costa Rica** applications are all due by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 25, 2019** at the Leland T. and Jessie W. Jordan Institute office (2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Memorial Student Center in the Student Programs Office, Room 2293.)

Please include the following in a manila envelope, labeled clearly with your name and program of choice:

- **Two copies of your application** (including 2 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** attached to each application 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 (979) 845-8770, or e-mail the ISP Director at [ji-isp@msc.tamu.edu](mailto:ji-isp@msc.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 a Partner Academic Department
  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 complete an evaluation describing their experience. In addition, students will have the opportunity to create a presentation to share their work with others on the Texas A&M University campus.**

## FUNDING/FINANCING

The MSC Leland T and Jessie W. Jordan Institute, International Service Program Partners, and private donors will supplement the cost of the program. Students participating in **ISP Belize or ISP Costa Rica** will be required to pay a program fee of **\$2,900 for six weeks**. If selected for the trip, participants will be required to pay a **non-refundable** down payment of **\$200**.

## REQUIREMENTS

Participants must attend biweekly orientation and planning seminars during the **Spring 2020 Semester**. Full participation in these orientation sessions is mandatory. Additionally, upon return to Texas A&M University, participants will be required to write a paper regarding their experiences serving in their host country. If selected for the trip, participants will be required to pay a **non-refundable** down payment of **\$200** in **December 2019**. This deposit will be applied to participants' overall cost for the service program.

## PERSONAL DATA SHEET

For MSC Leland T. and Jessie W. Jordan Institute  
2019-2020 International Service Program Applicants

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT:

<b>Name</b>	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Preferred Name
<b>Local Address</b>	Street	City	Zip Code	Phone
<b>Permanent Address</b>	Street	City, State	Zip Code	Place of Birth
<b>Personal Details</b>	Texas A&M Email	Alternate Email	Gender & Preferred Pronouns	Date of Birth
<b>Academic Details</b>	UIN	Major	Minor	Classification

How did you hear about ISP?

I hereby acknowledge that the information stated in the 2019-2020 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 Leland T. and Jessie W. Jordan Institute for International Awareness  
2019-2020 International Service Program**

**1. Is your GPR at least a 3.25?**

YES  NO

**2. EDUCATION**

List all colleges or universities attended.

Institution	City & State	Dates Attended (From –To)	Degree obtained/yr.	Major

**3. INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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

Country visited	Period of stay	Purpose of visit (study, travel, visiting relatives)

**LANGUAGE COMPETENCY**

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

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

**SHORT ANSWER RESPONSES: Please answer all questions thoroughly and limit answers to 3 pages, single spaced.**

6. What are your goals for the future, and how do you think ISP will help you achieve those goals?
7. What do you hope to gain from the experience of living with a host family?
8. What goals do you have for your anticipated project while in your host country?
9. What would you like to see in the pre-trip preparation meetings that will make you feel most prepared for your trip?
10. What excites you the most about international service?

**PROGRAM SELECTION:**

Please select one or more of the programs you would like to be considered for. Upon final selection, participants will only be able to participate in one trip:

\_\_\_\_\_ **ISP Belize**

\_\_\_\_\_ **ISP Costa Rica**

**\*\*Any questions regarding these programs or applications can be sent to [ji-isp@msc.tamu.edu](mailto:ji-isp@msc.tamu.edu)\*\***

**REFERENCES**

Please submit your remarks in a sealed envelope to the:

**MSC Leland T. and Jessie W. Jordan Institute  
1237 TAMU  
College Station, TX 77843**

or send through campus mail to:

**Mail Stop 1237  
Attn: Jordan Institute**

Emailing references is allowed to [jiwork@msc.tamu.edu](mailto:jiwork@msc.tamu.edu). Be sure to mark subject line with the name of the student, and we will respond when received.

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 Number

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

**11. Please check one response for each question:**

**Yes No**

Are you willing to share a room?		
Are you allergic to any foods/animals?		
Explain:		
Do you have special dietary requirements?		
Explain:		
Would you mind family pets?		
Would you like a family with children? Age range:		
Are you a smoker?		
Would you mind being placed in a family with members who smoke?		
Do you have any medical conditions of which your host family should be made aware?		
Explain:		

**12.** 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 2 copies of both letters along with the application form stapled in sets.**