

Citrus College
Winter in Costa Rica
January 8 – February 2, 2010

Application Procedure

1. Complete the AIFS application form, securing the signature of your college's study abroad program coordinator and thus signifying your eligibility to apply.
2. A deposit of \$450 is due with the application.
3. Attach a photocopy of the information page of your passport (the page with your picture). If you do not yet have a passport, please apply for one immediately, and mail a copy once you have received it.
4. Mail or give the completed application form and check to the contact person at your school: Lynn Jamison, Study Abroad Specialist, Citrus College, 1000 West Foothill Blvd., Glendora, CA 91741-1899. Phone: (626) 914-8560, Fax: (626) 852-8080, E-mail: ljamison@citruscollege.edu.
5. The balance of fees should be sent before the dates indicated directly to: American Institute For Foreign Study, Partnership Programs, College Division, River Plaza, 9 West Broad Street, Stamford, CT 06902-3788. Telephone: (800) 727-AIFS.

The AIFS program fee of \$2,995.00 (based on an enrollment of 25 or more participants) includes the following:

- ⇒ housing in individual rooms in homestays with laundry service provided by the homestay family once a week;
- ⇒ three meals per day, seven days per week;
- ⇒ orientation program in Costa Rica consisting of an orientation meeting with AIFS staff, student information packet with local area information, welcome reception, walking tour of the local area and half-day guided sightseeing tour of Santa Barbara and Heredia City;
- ⇒ one cultural activity each week including a Latin American dance class, film night and farewell dinner;
- ⇒ weekly Costa Rican Life and Culture classes (Introduction to Costa Rica, Eco-tourism, and Industry and Agriculture in Costa Rica);
- ⇒ three-day, two-night excursion to La Selva including transportation, accommodation at La Selva Biological Research Station in triple rooms with three meals daily, visit to Poas Volcano and guided hike at La Selva;
- ⇒ three-day, two-night guided excursion to Tortuguero National Park including transportation, accommodations in multi-bedded rooms, three meals daily, transportation, entrance to the park, a tour of Tortuguero Village, a canals trip and a hiking trip;
- ⇒ three-day, two-night excursion to Ensenada including transportation, twin-room accommodation at Ensenada Lodge with all meals, visit to the Crocodile Safari, and guided tours of Carara National Park and Palo Verde National Park;
- ⇒ four-day, three-night guided excursion to Monteverde Cloud Forest and Arenal National Park including transportation, accommodations in multi-bedded rooms, three meals daily, transportation, visit to the butterfly farm and entrances to Monteverde Preserve and Arenal Volcano National Park;
- ⇒ access to the AIFS Program Coordinator and Student Center for information, advice, fax and mail services and 24-hour emergency contact service;
- ⇒ Internet access at the on-site AIFS Student Center;
- ⇒ medical and program fee refund insurance policies;
- ⇒ \$50 non-refundable application fee.

Program fees do not include the following:

- ⇒ round-trip airfare between Ontario and San José, Costa Rica, and transfers overseas between the airport and the program site on the specified program date(s) for \$395;*
- ⇒ mandatory additional U.S. government and airline-imposed departure taxes, fees and fuel surcharges of \$177 (subject to change);
- ⇒ \$125 refundable damage deposit;
- ⇒ community college enrollment fees;
- ⇒ textbooks;
- ⇒ meals not listed above;
- ⇒ passport and visa fees if applicable;
- ⇒ field trips or excursions required by your instructors;
- ⇒ personal expenses;
- ⇒ optional personal effects coverage and medical insurance upgrade.

* AIFS offers round-trip transportation between Ontario and San José, Costa Rica including round-trip transfers overseas between the airport and your program site at a cost of \$395, excluding mandatory U.S. government and airline-imposed departure taxes, fees and fuel surcharges of \$177 (subject to change) for which you will be billed separately. Please mark your application form if you wish to purchase the flight, and you will be billed accordingly.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR AIFS FEES

<u>Winter Term</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Optional</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Enrollment deposit	\$450.00	October 21, 2009	Airfare	\$395.00	November 19, 2009
Balance of fees	<u>\$2,545.00</u>	November 19, 2009	Taxes/Fees/Fuel Surcharges	\$177.00*	November 19, 2009
Sub-total	\$2,995.00	November 19, 2009	Personal Effects Coverage	\$90.00	November 19, 2009
Damage Deposit (Mandatory/ Refundable)	<u>\$125.00</u>	November 19, 2009	Medical Insurance Upgrade	\$65.00	November 19, 2009
Total	\$3,120.00				*subject to change

Checks should be made payable to "AIFS." You may use American Express, MasterCard or Visa. See application form. All students must submit the \$450 deposit with the completed application.

Should enrollment exceed 24, the program fee will decrease by \$200 to \$2,995.

Please note: A \$35 returned check fee will be charged on all checks returned by the bank for insufficient funds.

AIFS TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE

Participants have the option of purchasing a round-trip ticket for the flight arranged through AIFS. Participants choosing this option should note the following restrictions: Tickets purchased from AIFS are exclusively on scheduled airlines (not charters). They are not endorsable to another carrier. Flights are not necessarily direct or non-stop, and frequent flyer miles are not applicable. The AIFS Transportation Package includes round-trip ground transportation from the airport in Costa Rica to your accommodations on the regularly scheduled program dates. AIFS will book flights on the dates indicated on this application only.

Participants wishing to purchase the Transportation Package must notify AIFS in writing by Wednesday, October 21, 2009. Participants wishing to cancel from the flight must notify AIFS in writing by Thursday, November 19, 2009. Cancellation penalties will apply. Tickets are non-refundable after this date.

AIFS Airfare Regulations: Return must be to original U.S. departure point. Tickets are subject to airline availability. No refunds are available for any unused portion of ticket. Tickets cannot be rerouted, and stopovers are not permitted. Once in Costa Rica participants may be able to change their return date, but only if that date is available and in the same class of service in which the ticket was booked. Only the ticketing agent can provide this information. Participants are subject to agency and airline-imposed change fees and space availability. Group round-trip ground transportation to and from the airport in Costa Rica is on the regularly scheduled program dates only.

AIFS cannot guarantee that all passengers will be booked on the same flight.

AIFS will not make your flight arrangements for you unless you clearly indicate your travel preferences on your application.

A minimum of 10 students must take the AIFS flight for it to be offered.

PROGRAM DATES

Winter, 2010

Friday, January 8, 2010	AIFS flight departs U.S. for San José, Costa Rica.
Friday, January 8, 2010	Arrive in San José, Costa Rica. Transfer to your accommodations.
Tuesday, February 2, 2010	End of program. AIFS flight departs for the U.S.

PART E – HEALTH AND HOUSING INFORMATION

Please complete the following questionnaire carefully. Your housing assignment will be made based on the information that you provide. All requests are taken into consideration.

Name _____ School _____ Term _____

HOMESTAY

Please note that specific housing preferences cannot be guaranteed.

Father's name _____ Occupation _____

Mother's name _____ Occupation _____

Ages of brothers and sisters _____

Major _____ Year _____

Jobs done in the past _____

Do you smoke? Yes No Do you object to a roommate who smokes? Yes No

Would members of the host family who smoke elsewhere in the house/apartment bother you? Yes No

Roommate preference (if known) (1) _____ (2) _____

Would you prefer to live in a household with children or without? With Without

Would you object to being placed with a single-person host? Yes No

Do you consider yourself a quiet person? Yes No

Do you have any allergies to household pets? Yes No

If there are any more details about yourself that you think would help your host to get to know you better, please state below:

PART F – OPTIONAL DATA

Studying in another country requires considerable adaptability. This is part of both the challenge and the reward. Your willingness to answer these questions will assist the AIFS staff in providing you with an accommodation that is most likely to meet your needs.

Do you have any special dietary needs?* If yes, please describe _____

Do you consider yourself a conservative or liberal person? Conservative Liberal

Do you have any allergies or chronic ailments? Yes No If yes, please describe _____

Are you presently under treatment for any mental or emotional matters? Yes No If yes, please describe _____

Are you presently taking any prescription medication on a regular basis? Yes No If yes, please list and state purpose _____

Studying abroad requires a great deal of physical mobility. Do you feel you are able to perform the essential functions of studying abroad with or without any special requirements?* If you do have special requirements, describe the requirement you would need and how this would enable you to participate.

**AIFS cannot guarantee an accommodation.*

Agreement and Release Form

I, the undersigned, (and my parents or guardian if I am a minor), an Applicant for an overseas study program of the American Institute For Foreign Study, Inc. (the "Institute"), acknowledge that I have read and accept the terms and conditions set forth in the AIFS application/brochure, which are incorporated in this agreement. This agreement is a legally binding contract. I acknowledge and accept the terms of the refund policy as outlined below:

If a participant withdraws in writing

On or before November 19, 2009

After November 19, 2009, but on or before December 29, 2009

After December 29, 2009

She/he receives

All fees paid less \$250 plus any non-refundable deposits paid either by the student or by AIFS on the student's behalf.

All fees paid less \$450 plus any non-refundable deposits paid either by the student or by AIFS on the student's behalf.

No refund, and student is responsible for entire program fee.

All requests for refund must be made in writing, signed, and addressed or faxed to: **Registrar, AIFS, Partnership Programs, College Division, River Plaza, 9 West Broad Street, Stamford, CT 06902; fax number (203) 399-5597. Unsigned withdrawal statements will not be processed.**

I unconditionally release the Institute from any claims for damage, injury, loss, or expense of any nature resulting from events beyond its control, including without limitation: Acts of God, war, strikes, crime, terrorism, sickness or quarantine, government restrictions or regulations. This release also applies to any losses arising from the use of any vehicle or from the selection of, or from any act or omission by any host family, bus or car rental agency, steamship, airline, railroad, taxi or tour service/organizer, hotel service, hotel, restaurant, school, university/college, or other firm, agency, company or individual, unless the loss is caused by the gross negligence of the Institute.

I understand that I am responsible for exercising caution and common sense at all times to avoid injuries, and that the Institute cannot provide supervision or support during periods of independent travel.

I agree that if I become ill or incapacitated, the Institute or its emergency assistance company may take such actions as it considers necessary under the circumstances, including securing medical treatment for me and transporting me to the United States. I release the Institute from any liability relating to this medical care. I also authorize the Institute to take whatever action it deems to be necessary and in my best interest (including transporting me out of the host country or back to the United States, at my own, or my parents' expense) in the event of political unrest or any other unforeseen event or condition. If the Institute incurs on my behalf any costs not covered by its general liability insurance, I (and my parents) agree to make immediate repayment upon my return.*

I will comply with the Institute's rules, standards and instructions, and understand that failure to do so may result in being sent home at my (or my parents') expense, with no refund. I understand that my participation may be terminated if I am expelled from school or otherwise disciplined by school or civil authorities, or if the Institute, in its sole discretion, determines that my conduct is incompatible with the interests, harmony, comfort or welfare of the other students. I (and my parents) agree to indemnify the Institute if I do anything that causes the Institute to sustain financial loss or liability.

I understand that the Institute provides insurance coverage for my benefit while in the program, including limited health, accident, accidental death, personal effects and tuition refund insurance. I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to understand the limitations of this coverage and agree that the Institute is not responsible for any uninsured losses.

I understand that the Institute reserves the right to make changes, cancellations or substitutions in cases of changed conditions or emergency, or based upon the interest of the group. I understand if I am terminated from the program, there will be no refund of AIFS fees.

I understand that obtaining a passport and any other required travel documents is my sole responsibility. I agree to hold the Institute harmless in the event that I am unable to obtain the necessary documents for participation in the program and to indemnify the Institute for any costs to it that result from my failure to obtain the required documentation.

I understand that if I am not a U.S. citizen, a visa may be required for entry to the countries I plan to visit (or travel through) while a participant on this program. I further understand that it is my sole responsibility to determine my visa requirements and obtain the appropriate visa(s), and I agree to hold the Institute harmless in the event that I am unable to obtain the necessary documents and visas for participation in the program and to indemnify the Institute for any costs to it that result from my failure to obtain the required documentation.

I understand that from time to time the Institute's publicity material may include statements by its participants and/or their photographs, and I consent to such use of my comments and photographic likeness.

This agreement will be effective when my application is accepted by the Institute and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Connecticut. This agreement cannot be modified except in writing by the Institute.

I agree that any dispute with the Institute that is not settled informally will be submitted to binding arbitration, to be conducted in substantial accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association. The location of the arbitration and identity of the arbitrator will be decided by mutual agreement, with the costs to be shared equally between the parties, and the decision of the arbitrator shall be final. By signing this agreement, I understand that I am giving up my right to have any claim against the Institute decided in Court before a judge or jury.

References in this agreement to "the Institute" shall include the American Institute For Foreign Study, Inc., and all of its agents, employees, affiliated companies, campus directors, chaperones, group leaders, teachers, host school and school officials. All references to "parents" of the applicant shall include the legal guardian or other adult who is responsible for, and authorized by law or court order to make legal decisions and to enter into binding contracts on behalf of the applicant.

If I am using financial aid to pay for all or part of my AIFS program fees, and if that aid is canceled or reduced by my institution or lending agency after I have embarked on the AIFS program, I am immediately responsible for full payment of all fees. Failure to make payment will result in my administrative withdrawal from the program.

Signature of Applicant

Date

I certify that I am the parent or legal guardian of the Applicant, and that I have read the foregoing Agreement and Release (including such parts as may subject me to personal financial responsibility), and hereby waive any claim that I might have against the Institute or its agents (as set forth above), both in my own behalf and in my capacity as legal representative of the Applicant, any claim arising from the Applicant's participation in the program.

Signature of Parent/Guardian if Applicant is under 18 years of age

Date

*A special substitute paragraph is available to members of the Christian Science faith.