

2018-2019

IPO Buddy Program



CALLING ALL UMASS AMHERST STUDENTS:

Are you interested in meeting new undergraduate students from all over

the world? Did you know that UMass is home to nearly 3,400 international undergraduate and graduate students from 115 countries? IPO Buddy is a Buddy program designed to enable you to meet new undergraduate international students and help them to transition into life in the United States and at UMass, Amherst. Newly arrived international students need an IPO buddy like **YOU** to answer their questions and help them to adjust to a new academic and personal experience here at UMass.

"I was an IPO buddy to a girl from Manchester, England last year. I just thought you would appreciate knowing that now I am studying abroad in Canterbury, and visiting her in Manchester this weekend. We never would have been friends without the IPO buddy program."

First-year undergraduate students are full of questions about their new lives in Amherst. This is your chance to reach out and assist someone new to the area and provide advice, support and friendship.

Your responsibilities and commitment as an IPO Buddy/Mentor:

1. Attend an IPO Buddy Orientation session.
2. Initiate and exchange e-mails and phone numbers with your International Buddy.
3. Meet with your International Buddy at least once in the first week/month of their arrival for a cup of coffee/tea, visit a local restaurant or have a meal at the dining commons, attend a sporting event or an arts event, or whatever activity you prefer.
4. Be willing to be contacted by your International Buddy to answer questions during their first semester.
5. Keep track of meetings and provide feedback to the program coordinator
6. Be a friend and resource to your International Buddy throughout the school year.

If you are interested in this program, please complete an [IPO Buddy application](#). Any questions can be directed to ipobuddyprogram@gmail.com.

ATTENTION UNDERGRADUATE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:

Are you interested in meeting a current UMass Amherst student?

IPO Buddy is a Buddy and Friendship program designed to help you meet current UMass students to help you transition into life in the United States and at UMass Amherst. Newly arrived undergraduate international students like **YOU** may need a friend to answer your questions and help you to adjust to your new academic and cultural life at UMass. If you are interested in having an IPO Buddy to provide advice, support and friendship throughout the school year, **please complete an IPO Buddy Form** to be paired with a student. **Any questions can be directed to ipobuddyprogram@gmail.com.**



International Coffee Hour Event

“It was an awesome experience. My buddy is really helpful and we went to the cookout and the coffee hours together.”

“My IPO buddy is awesome! Learned Lots of things about Amherst. She basically answered any question that I had in mind. Great program. Keep it up. It's really useful.”

“I have been in contact with my IPO buddy and all is well. I think the system is great and although I've been able to make a few new American friends, this gave me a lot more confidence coming to UMass and made me feel more secure.”

IPO Buddy Program

PAST EVENTS!



IPO Buddy Welcome Party



IPO Buddy Program Field Trip to Mt. Sugarloaf, Sunderland MA

For Further Information Contact:

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS OFFICE

International Student & Scholar Services

University of Massachusetts

70 Butterfield Terrace

Amherst, MA 01003

Tel: 413.545.2710

Fax: 413.545.1201

Email: ipobuddyprogram@gmail.com

Web: www.umass.edu/ipo/iss

IPO Main Office Hours: Monday-

Friday

8:30am - 4:30pm

