

## How to apply to a 2010 IUSD International Service-Learning Program

Applications are available and should be submitted using the Online Program Application through the IUPUI Office of International Affairs, Study Abroad. The website for this application is <http://www.iupui.edu/~abroad/apply/>. All of the International Dental Service Learning electives are processed through this one site. In addition to submitting the online application you must submit an *original Agreement and Release Form* to the Study Abroad Office (see address below). The Study Abroad office will collate the applications and will run university checks to verify the applicant is in good academic and disciplinary standing.

### **Required Essay/Paragraph:**

E-mail your essay, 350 words or less, to Dr. Timothy Carlson, Chair of the IUSD Committee on Community Engaged Scholarship ([tcarlson@iupui.edu](mailto:tcarlson@iupui.edu)), and to the Study Abroad Office ([abroad@iupui.edu](mailto:abroad@iupui.edu)). Dr. Carlson will forward them to all the country directors for decisions.

The first sentence must state your name, class and the country/program you are applying to. If you are applying to more than one, you must rank the countries beginning with your first choice. If you do not prioritize your choice, it is possible to still get selected, but the directors will use other criteria for program placement. It is helpful to the selection committee to list more than one program for consideration unless you only are interested in one program. If you would like to be considered for assignment to the same program as a friend, you may identify *one* person to be paired with, and that person should identify you. The directors will take that information into consideration, but there is no guarantee that friends will be able to be assigned together.

In your essay, please let us know why you are applying to this program, what you expect to learn, and what strengths you bring to this program. Describe previous international experiences, level of language fluency, and anything else you would like us to know to help the directors place you into the appropriate program. Language ability or prior experience is not a requirement to be accepted.

*The deadline for submission for our 2010 programs is midnight, Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009.* Applications received after that date will be considered on a space-available basis only.

### **IUPUI Study Abroad Office Contact Info**

902 W. New York St., ES 2129

Indianapolis, IN 46202

Email: [abroad@iupui.edu](mailto:abroad@iupui.edu)

Phone: 317-274-2081

## **IUSD Student Participation Criteria for International Service-Learning Programs**

Students who participate in IUSD International Service-Learning are chosen from among those who apply. Criteria will vary from site to site because of different program emphasis. For example, the Mexico program involves field clinical and educational presentations; therefore, students skilled in speaking Spanish are given priority. Other programs are primarily clinical; therefore more clinically advanced undergraduate students will have priority in the selection process. Proficiency in the language of the country is an asset. The faculty directors of the International Service-Learning courses will consider at least the following items in selecting students: Student grade level (D4, D3, DH2, etc), clinical and academic achievement, prior experience, student motivation and compatibility based on essay, interview and clinic director input, language proficiency, and team balance related to grade level and gender. University regulations allow only students in good academic and disciplinary standing to participate.

Applications for participation in IUSD International Service-Learning will be invited annually during the fall semester. For more information contact Dr. Karen Yoder (kmyoder@iupui.edu), Dr. Timothy Carlson (tcarlson@iupui.edu) Dr. Angeles Martinez-Mier (esmartin@iupui.edu), Dr. Armando Soto (arsoto@iupui.edu), Dr. Andréa Zandoná (azandona@iupui.edu), Dr. Michael Stropes (lstropes@iupui.edu), Dr. Steven Blanchard (stblanch@iupui.edu) Dr. Lawrence Garetto (lgaretto@iupui.edu), or Dr. David Brown (dbrown@iupui.edu).

Students who wish to participate agree to (at least) the following terms:

- Complete and sign the Indiana University International Affairs forms (liability release, health history and emergency contact), and the forms (if any) provided by the sponsoring in-country organization.
- Purchase international health and evacuation insurance (approximately \$26).
- Obtain immunizations at participant's expense (if required/recommended by CDC, ranges from \$0-200).
- Obtain a passport at participant's expense (original applications are now \$100.00) (does not apply for Montana program).
- Travel on the dates determined for the group.
- Attend and participate in all preparation and evaluation sessions, including intramural coursework.
- Inform a faculty mentor of any personal medical problems that could require their help while traveling (epilepsy, diabetes, etc.)
- Observe appropriate infection control and obtain appropriate consent and medical histories to protect patients and students.
- Be responsible for trip expenses. The current cost for the programs varies from approximately \$1,000 to over \$3,000 per student and varies by airfare and in-country costs. The program cost includes airfare, local transportation, local housing and most food. All participants must also participate in group fund raising activities (pizza and coupon sales, presentations to potential funding groups etc.) to raise funds needed to cover additional group costs of the trip and supplies. (see scholarship opportunity below)
- Participate in collection of products and supplies as needed.
- Conduct themselves in a manner that represents IUSD well; follow instructions of the faculty mentor.
- Only provide patient treatments that are consistent with the professional degree program they are enrolled in.
- Observe and follow appropriate cultural rules and customs as expressed by in-country sponsors and faculty mentors.
- Be willing to present information about the programs to diverse groups of interested individuals.

Participation in International Service-Learning for dental students is based on enrollment and full participation in the International Service-Learning Intramural Course. Students who don't fulfill course and service requirements will receive reduced course grades and/or reduced intramural course credit.

The program cost will be assessed to student's bursar account as a course fee in the spring or summer of 2010, depending on the date of the trip. Scholarships to partially offset program fees are expected to be offered. Candidates who are interested may apply to the IUSD ISL Scholarship Committee through Dr. Carlson. Criteria for scholarship awards will be partially based on individual merit (independent student fundraising) as well as need. In the past, students have been very successful raising money by writing letters to friends, family or professional and faith-based groups. The faculty mentors will provide articles and a draft letter for students interested in fund raising in this manner. All students are encouraged to solicit donations to the IUSD ISL Scholarship Fund through the IUSD Service Learning account (#38-D008-54-6) at the IU Foundation.

## Description of the Programs

### **Mexico Spring Program:**

Directed by Dr. Angeles Martinez-Mier and Dr. Armando Soto-Rojas, as well as faculty from the nursing and medical schools. This experience is located in mountainous villages in rural Mexico, and is in conjunction with students from the Universidad Autonoma del Estado de Hidalgo (Mexico). Teams travel to villages from a community center base facility in Calnali, do health and dental educational presentations for school children, and also provide clinical services. The dental team of eight to twelve students sets up mobile dental units for examinations, restorative services and limited exodontia. This program is directed to pediatric patients and speaking Spanish is a great asset. There are required introductory classes and reflection sessions during and after the trip. The international portion occurs during Spring Break.

### **Ecuador Spring Program:**

Directed by Dr. Timothy Carlson and Dr. Samuel Campbell. This program utilizes the in-country logistical support provided by Medical Ministries International (mmint.org) to organize transportation, meals, and housing. MMI is a faith-based organization; students of all faiths are welcome. MMI combines teams of physicians, nurses, dentists and students to provide care for underserved patients, generally using schools in small villages. The dental team of eight to ten students sets up mobile dental units for examinations, preventive and restorative services and exodontia. Child and adult patients are treated. Speaking Spanish is an asset. There are required introductory classes and reflection sessions during and after the trip. The international portion occurs during Spring Break.

### **Brazil Summer or Winter Program:**

Directed by Dr. Andréa Ferreira Zandoná along with faculty from a local dental school in Brazil. Students will provide direct and supportive dental health care to the underserved population in a boy's school in Mandirituba, State of Paraná, Brazil. Students from the Dental School at UnicemP in Curitiba will be matched to up to six IUSD students, and will be hosting them. There will be a requirement to host these students when they come to IUSD in the fall. Fluency in Portuguese or Spanish is helpful. There are required introductory classes and reflection sessions during and after the trip. The international portion typically occurs during one week in June, although an option at the end of the fall semester will be discussed with the participants.

### **Guatemala Spring Program:**

Directed by Dr. Michael Stropes, participants treat the dental needs of children in an orphanage in Guatemala City. This facility has an existing dental clinic, and is supported by the Greek Orthodox Church, although dental students of all faiths are welcome. Speaking Spanish is an asset. There is room for two students. There are required introductory classes and reflection sessions during and after the trip. The international portion occurs during Spring Break.

### **Haiti Spring Program:**

Directed by Dr. Lawrence Garetto and an IU dentist in cooperation with St. Malachy parish of Brownsburg, Indiana. This program will work in the community of Port Margot, Haiti through a parish-partner relationship with the St. Marguerite Parish of Port Margot, which maintains a small medical and dental clinic on the parish grounds. This is a faith-based partnership, although dental students of all faiths are welcome. Speaking French or Haitian Creole is an asset but not required. There is room for up to six students. There are required introductory classes and reflection sessions during and after the trip. The international portion occurs during Spring Break.

### **Honduras Spring Program:**

This program was directed by Dr. Steven Blanchard for the first time in 2009, in cooperation with Honduran dentists who are members of the International Lion's Club. Participants treated underserved child and adult patients at an existing Lion's Club community service compound that includes a community center, optometry clinic and dental clinic in Comayagua, Honduras. Local transportation is provided by the local Lion's Club members, and participants are invited for free room and board in the homes of local Lion's Club members. Speaking Spanish is an asset but not required. There is room for approximately six students. There are required introductory classes and reflection sessions during and after the trip. The international portion occurs during Spring Break.

### **Honduras Summer Program:**

This program first opened for IUSD students in 2009, but at this time is not expected to be available in 2010.

### **New Summer Programs**

Two new programs are in development for June of 2010. The following programs are still in the application process, and students are encouraged to sign up for them, as final University approval of these programs is anticipated this fall.

### **Kenya Summer Program:**

Directed by Dr. Karen Yoder and Dr. Keith Yoder, this is not a clinical dental program. IUSD students will partner with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year Kenyan dental and medical students from Moi University in Eldoret, Kenya, and potentially with 1<sup>st</sup> year IU Medical students, to participate in "COBES" (Community Based Education and Service) experiences in a community or clinic. Potential experiences may include participating in medical rounds at Moi hospital or assisting at a Moi-associated clinic or helping with community health surveys. Students will stay in the Moi University student dormitory or at IU housing. There is room for up to four students. Student participants are expected to host Kenyan dental students when they visit IUSD and will be asked to help with fundraising for the Kenyan's travel. English is the teaching language spoken at Moi University. There are required introductory classes and reflection sessions during and after the trip. The international portion of two weeks occurs during the summer. Students should plan a third week for travel and touring.

### **Blackfoot Summer Program:**

Directed by Dr. David Brown and two non-IU prosthodontists, this program is located in the Indian Health Service hospital on the Blackfoot reservation in Browning, Montana. This is part of the Outreach Program for Removable Prosthodontics of the Academy of Prosthodontics. Participants will provide complete dentures for Blackfoot Native Americans from impression to post-op in 2-3 days, including all clinical and laboratory phases. Students will stay in a local motel, and most food is provided at the hospital. There is room for two students. There are required introductory classes and reflection sessions during and after the trip. The travel portion of the course occurs June 19-26, 2010.

## **General Information**

International Dental Service-Learning is an elective experience that satisfies intramural hours in the 1 credit hour Intramural Electives module of the T840 or T850 Clinical Sciences IV courses for senior dental students. Dental students also qualify for clinic attendance credit for active clinic days while in-country. A committee comprised of the country program directors and Dr. Karen Yoder, Director of Community Dentistry oversees all of the International Service-Learning courses. This group reports to the Dean through

the Committee on Community Engaged Scholarship, Dr. Timothy Carlson, Chair. There is a core curriculum of four two-hour didactic sessions that all students are required to attend, in addition to individual pre-trip orientation sessions organized by each country director.

Members of the service-learning teams are expected to cover all costs associated with their trips through a course fee that is posted to the student's bursar account. The course fee covers airfare, room, board and in-country logistics and transportation. The dental school and university provide no funding. IUSD ISL Scholarships are available upon application to help defray the program costs. Students are encouraged to do individual fundraising to support the IUSD ISL Scholarship Fund. Faculty members raise or provide financing for their own expenses and group equipment. Faculty fundraising provides limited additional assistance through the scholarship fund. Everyone in the group is responsible to develop and participate in group fundraising activities (pizza and coupon sales, etc.) to raise funds needed to cover additional group costs of the trip and supplies. Participants also agree to locate supplies and participate in promotional events as needed. An application and personal essay are required. The application form and a full description of student participation criteria are available through the Office of International Affairs website:

<http://www.iupui.edu/~abroad/apply/>.

The following are the estimated expenses for each program (including: airfare, room and board, and local transportation to the clinic sites in-country). Actual costs will vary depending on flight costs. This amount will be billed to the student's bursar account at the beginning of the semester in which the international portion of the course occurs.

Mexico (Spring Break) \$1200  
Ecuador (Spring Break) \$1900  
Brazil (June or December) \$2100  
Guatemala (Spring Break) \$1000  
Haiti (Spring Break) \$1200  
Kenya (June) \$3000  
Blackfoot (June) \$1000  
Honduras (Spring Break) \$1100

In addition, student expenses include:

IUPUI Study Abroad fee \$75 (bursar account)  
Travel Insurance \$26 (included for Ecuador)  
Passport \$0-\$100  
Visa (Brazil-\$270)  
Immunizations \$0-\$250 see CDC website  
Exit tax (Ecuador \$45, Honduras and Haiti \$35)  
Food not in plan \$10-\$40  
Spending money \$30-\$200

Student generated donations will be paid through the IU Foundation, Service Learning account # 38-D008-54-6, donations are tax deductible.