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Conversation Partner Programme

EC Boston's Conversation Partner Programme gives our students the opportunity to be paired up with a native English speaker. Meeting at least once a week, students and their partners will have the chance to chat about interests, current events and more!

ABOUT

With EC Boston's new Conversation Partner Programme, an EC student is paired with a native English speaker. Partners meet at least once a week to chat about interests, including hobbies, music, movies, culture, language and more. Currently EC Boston has 20 EC students matched with 17 volunteers!

Partners meet at different locations throughout the city of Boston, and have the opportunity to practice their English while also forming new friendships. The program is designed for students studying with EC Boston for at least 3 months; as this allows the partnership to really grow and contribute toward students' English language learning and their experience studying in the United States.

PROGRAMME PARTICULARS

This is a very flexible program that can be adapted to the needs and programs of the student population.

Facts

- Available to EC students studying 12 weeks or more
- Programme is absolutely free for EC students
- Programme is 10 weeks long
- Volunteers are recruited from US universities and we match volunteers based on shared interests with students
- EC hosts a kick-off party at the school where volunteers and students can meet, students can then meet with the volunteer off-campus if they choose Student Participants
- Must be enrolled at EC Boston for a minimum of 3 months
- Must be in the Pre-Intermediate level or higher
- Must complete the application
- Must be 18+ years old

Community Volunteers

- Must be native English speakers (no exceptions to this rule)
- Must be 18+ years old
- Must commit to 2-3 months
- Must be available 1 hour per week
- Must complete the application process

The Program runs in three, four-month sessions:

Winter: 14th January - 15 April 2015

Summer: 6th May - 12th August 2015

Fall: 16th September - 16th December 2015

Required Orientation

All participants are required to complete a short in-person orientation that ensures they understand the purpose and parameters of the program, what to expect, and that they know what to do if they cannot reach their partner, do not like their partner, or otherwise have issues with the partnership.

Kick-Off Party

At the start of each session, we host a kick-off party to which all participants are invited. At the party, we hold an orientation for any new volunteers and student participants. We provide refreshments and music or games.

Checking In

Periodically, we check in with all participants using e-mail evaluation questions and/or a mid-session group event, like a movie screening at the Center. If students or participants have problems, like getting in touch with their partner, scheduling conflicts, or not getting along with their partner, we resolve these issues.