**INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL SERVICE PROGRAM**

**GUIDELINES, APPLICATION INFORMATION, & BENEFITS**

**FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

Otterbein University welcomes students from other countries to pursue higher education in Westerville, Ohio. The presence of international students in Otterbein provides residents and students with valuable exposure to the world's cultural diversity. Our desire is that interaction between “Buckeyes” and students from abroad will be mutually beneficial and lead to better understanding among the peoples with whom we share this world. The International Cultural Service Program (ICSP) was developed to involve degree seeking international students in the educational programs of greater Westerville communities and to assist them in meeting the costs of attending Otterbein University.

**BENEFITS AND EXCHANGE FOR FINANCIAL AID:** Students accepted into this program receive scholarship assistance that will reduce tuition. The maximum award amount is based on financial need, merit, and willingness to participate in cultural activities. In return for the scholarship, participating students must provide cultural service in the Otterbein community during each academic year they are in the program.

**EXAMPLES OF CULTURAL SERVICE:** The cultural service requirement can be satisfied in a number of settings. Ideal service is active and not passive. The Center for International Education and Global Engagement coordinates the participant's selection of service activities and participant training. Listed below are some examples of cultural service:

*Speaking or giving demonstrations on campus, to schools or community groups about the heritage, culture, and government of their home country;*

*Assisting Ohio school teachers with programs about their home country;*

*Developing intercultural film series and forums that are of an intercultural nature;*

*Organizing activities that bring awareness of Otterbein University's international community in Ohio.*

**SELECTION:** Selection for ICSP is made by Otterbein University's International Students Committee. Prospective ICSP applicants should contact the Admissions Office at Otterbein University in order to obtain specific information about selection requirements and procedures. A variety of factors are considered in the selection process. Performing the required cultural service in Otterbein makes it necessary that all participants have a good command of spoken English. The program strives to maintain a broad cultural and national representation. Selection will depend upon Otterbein University's ability to utilize the applicant's cultural service. Preference is given to students with strong academic records, who can demonstrate financial need, and who show a history of intercultural involvement.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Students are required to give 2 speeches in the community and 2 speeches on campus per year.

2. Students will check-in with CIEGE at least once a week.

3. Students will attend all required ICSP meetings and orientation programs.

4. Students should have a 2-hour block open during one business day (M-F) so presentations can be made in the community.

5. Students will adopt one 'creative' project to last the academic year.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

1. Applicants must be admitted or admissible to Otterbein University. Preference is given to those degree seeking students who are

 already attending Otterbein University.

2. Applicants must be on an F-1 visa and not eligible to receive U.S. federal financial assistance.

3. Undergraduates must carry a minimum of 12 credit hours each term.

4. Participants must make satisfactory progress toward completion of a degree objective.5. Undergraduate students must maintain a 2.5 and graduate students a 3.0 grade point average each term. Because awards are

 partially merit based, students who do not excel academically may have scholarships reduced.

**APPLICATION:** Submit your application to Otterbein University, 1 current letter of recommendation (written in English) attesting to your ability to perform the required service and to your spoken English skills, and a written description of an ICSP presentation/service program you would make to:

ICSP Scholarships

Center for International Education and Global Engagement

One S. Grove Street

Otterbein University E-mail: cmusick@otterbein.edu

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