

Dear New Student:

Welcome! We at Lane are happy that you have decided to attend Lane Community College. I coordinate activities and events, arrange homestays, and provide other support services for international students. Hopefully, we can help make your experience at Lane a very rewarding one.

Included in the information provided by the Admissions Office is a Homestay Application and Guidelines. There is a \$75 homestay application fee for students who request a homestay. The homestay monthly stipend (including food) is \$550. Students live in their host home for a minimum of one term. When students decide to move out, they are required to give a 30-day notice to the host family.

When arranging homestays, I consider information from your homestay application and compare it with applications from host homes in the Eugene/Springfield area. I attempt to consider the needs and desires of both you and the host family. I want to make the homestay placement a happy and compatible one for all involved. To help me do this, please fill out your application as honestly and completely as possible. Please expect several weeks for your homestay placement to be finalized; it is necessary to send your application at least 30 days in advance of your arrival. Remember, the earlier I receive your homestay application, the easier it will be to make a great match.

When you arrive in Eugene, whether by bus, train or airplane, I may be able to arrange to have someone meet you, if needed. If that is the case, please provide specific arrival information (date, time, flight name and number) well in advance of your arrival. Either I or your new host home family member(s) will meet you. Please note that we are not able to pick you up in other cities of Oregon. It is possible that your homestay will not be available upon your arrival; if this occurs, you will need to plan to stay a few nights in a local motel. I can recommend and make motel reservations for you, if necessary.

If a host home arrangement is not for you, there are apartments and room rentals that are available. I can send you a list of rental agencies, apartments, and alternative housing opportunities. However, I can not make the arrangements for you. I will try to assist you in finding housing by showing you where to look online and answering your questions.

Once you arrive, please watch your mail for information about upcoming events and trips we will plan throughout the year. These trips are a great way to meet new students and make new friends. We invite you to join the fun and look forward to meeting you in Eugene soon.

Sincerely,

Beth Schenderlein, Advisor
International Student Program
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International Student Program

Guidelines for Homestay Students

Living in a homestay is a unique opportunity to learn about the local culture and customs by experiencing them daily. Hosts open their home and their hearts to students by helping them become more familiar with the new country, city, school and culture.

If you are seeking homestay assistance, please complete the attached questionnaire and return it to the International Student Program office. Include a photograph of yourself along with the date, time and place of your arrival in Eugene. There is a \$75 non-refundable homestay application fee, payable to LCC, and mailed with your homestay application. Requests for homestay assistance should be made at least 30 days before your expected arrival date. If your request comes less than 30 days before your arrival, please be prepared to stay in a hotel until a family can be found for you. We can help you with hotel arrangements, if necessary.

Homestays

Homestays may be in one of many types of family situations. A “family” may be made up of all kinds of racial, religious, or ethnic groups and come from all different socio-economic levels. Not all families consist of a mother, father and children. A family could consist of a single mother with children, 2 adults with no children, or a single adult. Also, most of our homestays homes have a pet or two, this is pretty normal for most American families.

- The cost of a homestay is \$550.00 per month and must be paid to the host in advance, at the beginning of each month. For a partial month, the stipend is pro-rated at \$18.00 per day. This stipend is to be paid directly to the homestay family within the first day or two after arriving. Long distance phone charges and/or connecting a private phone line, if installed, are the only other fees that the host will charge you.
- The monthly stipend includes an evening meal and food for you to make your breakfast and lunch. Meal times will be discussed at the time of arrival. A private bedroom with bed & bedding, closet, chest of drawers, desk, chair, and a good reading light is provided. Bathroom linens and laundry facilities will also be provided. You buy your own personal soaps, shampoo, laundry soap and other toiletries.
- We ask that you stay in your homestay for at least one term. It takes at least that long to adjust and for everyone to get to know each other. Homestay families ask for a 30-day verbal notice prior to moving out. If you fail to give the 30-day notice, you may still be expected to pay the stipend for the 30-days following notice of your departure from the homestay, even if you vacate the homestay early.
- If you leave for vacation for 15 days or more, Lane recommends that you pay 50% of the monthly stipend while you are gone. Arrange this with your homestay host.

Guidelines and Tips for a Successful Homestay

- Please ask your family any questions or talk about any concerns you may have. Communication is key to your relationship with the host.
- Homestay families will discuss house rules, responsibilities, expectations and guidelines with you soon after you arrive.
- Homestay families often assist their students in locating a bank, libraries, hospitals, shopping centers, cultural events, and in riding the bus. Most homestays are close to local buses that take you to and from Lane Community College. LCC is a commuter college and no homestays are within walking distance. Again, ask questions so they know how to help you best.

Guidelines and Tips, continued

- Smoking and alcohol are not acceptable in most homestays. If you smoke, please discuss the homestay rules concerning this openly with the family. Possession and use of illegal drugs is forbidden.
- Homestays often have pets. Indicate on your questionnaire form if you have allergies to animals.
- Please give your American family an emergency telephone number. If your family does not speak English, try to provide at least one international student contact from your country to assist with emergency telephone calls.
- Inform your homestay host if you will not be home for a meal or if you plan to be away from the home overnight or for vacation. Common courtesy is always appreciated. The hosts know you are an adult but they also know they have some responsibility for you and may worry if you don't come home.
- Overnight guests in your homestay must be discussed and approved by the homestay host well in advance. Most hosts are more than happy to entertain visiting family members.
- You may possibly have your own telephone line to accommodate your personal calls, fax, and computer modem. If this is possible, you will be responsible for the hook-up fee of the phone line (about \$25) and the monthly bill. Otherwise you will need your own telephone calling card for long distance use.
- Homestay families are not your maid and not your parent; therefore, you are responsible for your laundry, and cleaning your bathroom and bedroom. Discuss household responsibilities with your family. You are expected to maintain a clean room throughout your stay and to leave your room and bathroom clean when you move out. Be respectful, please.
- Homestay families enjoy conversing about your culture. Bring photographs, reading material and interesting items from your country to share with your family. Possibly offer to treat them by making an authentic meal from your country, if you'd like.
- Homestay families like to share their surroundings. They may offer to go on a picnic, bicycle ride, to the coast or to mountains. (Expenses may or may not be included in the invitation.) If your time permits and you choose to join them, please do so and enjoy your the time away from your studies. However, if the time is not convenient, politely decline the invitation or ask to join them another time. Your homestay family will understand.
- Homestay families are usually good helpers and have lots of answers; therefore, communicate openly with them and you will learn much from them about the American culture while they learn a lot from about yours.

If you are interested in information on apartment rentals, please let us know. We will be happy to send you an apartment rental list and rental resources in the Eugene/Springfield area. International students are welcome to place ads in the international student office if looking for a roommate, apartment or if selling things from an apartment.

We look forward to assisting you and we welcome you to Lane Community College!

If you have questions and need additional help contact:


Beth Schenderlein, International Student Services Coordinator, Lane Community College

Tel: (541) 463-3409. Fax: (541) 463-3991. Email: schenderleinb@lanecc.edu

Mailing address: ISP, LCC, 4000 E. 30th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97405-0640, USA

Lane Community College International Student Homestay Application

**For accurate and compatible placement, please fill out application completely and honestly.*

Last Name:		First Name:		Middle Initial:	Date of Application:
Present Address:					Please attach a recent photo of yourself here 
City:		State:		ZIP Code:	
Country:					
Telephone (include country code):		FAX # (include country code):		Nationality:	
E-Mail Address:			<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female	
Birthdate:	Age:	Birthplace:		<input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Single	
Permanent Family/Home Address:					
City:		State:		ZIP Code:	
Country:		Telephone # (& country code):		FAX # (& country code):	
My Family	Relationship	Age	Occupation		

Education:

How well do you speak English? Good Fair

How well do you read/understand written English? Good Fair

How many years have you studied English?

What was the last school you attended? _____

Course interests or Major: _____

Arrival Information:

What date will you arrive in Eugene? _____ Arrival Time? _____ AM/PM

If arriving by plane, what Airline name and flight number? _____

Please list your travel itinerary starting with city/country you depart from via all other cities and countries _____

Personal Information: (* For compatible placement, please fill out completely and honestly.)

- Do you feel comfortable living with a family with small children? Yes No Maybe
- Do you feel comfortable living with a family with older children? Yes No Maybe
- Do you consider yourself an independent person? Yes No Sometimes
- Do you smoke? Yes No Sometimes
- Would you prefer to provide your own meals in your homestay? Yes No Sometimes
- Is religion an important part of your life? Yes No Sometimes
- What is your religious preference? _____

Homestay Information:

- How long do you plan on living in a homestay? (You are asked to remain in their homestay for at least 1 term.) _____
- Do you plan to purchase a car while in Oregon? _____
- Are you allergic to anything? If yes, what? _____
- _____
- Do you take medication regularly? If so, explain. _____

Please write a paragraph about yourself. Include any information you would like your host family to know or that would help with your placement. List your talents, hobbies, interests and ways you enjoy spending your free time. _____

What are your academic and work related goals for studying and staying in the United States? _____

I have read and agree to the homestay guidelines. I will make every effort to live with my homestay for at least one full term. This length of time gives me a chance to develop a relationship with my homestay. If I have any problems or questions about my homestay, I will discuss it first with my family then, if necessary, with the LCC ISCP Advisor/Coordinator. When I choose to leave my homestay, I understand I need to give a 30-day notice to my host home.

Enclosed is the \$75 homestay application fee (payable to LCC). I acknowledge that I am solely responsible for all other financial arrangements with the host family concerning payment of the required monthly stipend. Lane is not responsible for any contractual matters between my host family and myself.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Office use only: Date of application: _____ Placement: _____
Comments: _____ Fee paid: _____

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USA

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