

IUHPFL FACT SHEET

Ψ HONORS PROGRAM IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

A LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE

The IU Honors Program in Foreign Languages (IUHPFL) has been providing summer language-immersion programs for Indiana high school students since 1962.

Participants further their language studies through **total immersion** programs in Chinese, French, German, Japanese, and Spanish. Students travel to one of seven countries for five or six weeks during the summer after their sophomore, junior, or senior year of high school.

Students not only make significant strides toward mastering their target languages, but they also gain exceptional knowledge and understanding of their host countries and communities. In addition to daily academic instruction and afternoon activities that focus on sports, theater, and music, students learn about the area's rich history and culture, while participating in community-based activities and projects and enjoying daytrips and overnight excursions.

IUHPFL combines intensive language instruction, cultural immersion, community engagement, host family stays, and fun, educational excursions into one transformative experience.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

- ◆ **Students who attend high school in Indiana**
- ◆ **Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors**
- ◆ **15-18 years old during the program dates**
- ◆ **Emerging, Intermediate, Advanced, and Heritage Speakers of the language**
- ◆ **Level II and above for Chinese and Japanese**
- ◆ **Level III and above for French, German, and Spanish**

IUHPFL is designed for students who desire to be highly proficient in their target languages and are eager for an immersion experience. Applicants must show excellence in their world language classes as well as solid overall academic achievement. The personal qualities that distinguish successful participants of IUHPFL include intellectual curiosity, social maturity, a willingness to adjust to new customs and habits, and sincere adherence to the IUHPFL Honor Code.

A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Significant progress in language and cultural fluency results from living with carefully selected host families. Host families are recruited, vetted, and supervised by IUHPFL Onsite Coordinators, who reside in our host cities. Through their home stays, students experience regional cuisine, have outings to local attractions, meet new friends and extended family members, and develop their language skills in a variety of contexts. Many of our families have hosted IUHPFL students for years, even decades. Most participants comment after the program that they now have another family on the other side of the world.



A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

- ◆ **5 or 6 weeks in June and July**
- ◆ **100% Language Immersion**
- ◆ **IUHPFL Honor Code and Language Commitment**
- ◆ **Living with a host family**
- ◆ **Intensive Language Instruction**
- ◆ **Afternoon Activities in sports, theater and music**
- ◆ **Excursions to historical sites and cultural attractions**
- ◆ **Community Engagement Activities**
- ◆ **Travel and study abroad with a team of students and instructors from Indiana**

EXPLORING REGIONAL SITES AND ATTRACTIONS

All programs offer excursions to beautiful and memorable destinations. Instructors prepare students for these outings, so they are able to fully understand and appreciate the historical and cultural significance of what they are seeing and experiencing. Excursions are a major highlight of the IUHPFL experience for our students and instructors alike.



"I loved the excursions, the classes each day, the free time, my family, and of course, how much I improved with my independence and my French."
~Margaret M., IUHPFL Alum

IUHPFL'S 8 CORE VALUES

APPRECIATION * DILIGENCE * DISCOVERY * EMPATHY * ENCOURAGEMENT * HONOR * RESPECT * UNITY

HONOR CODE AND LANGUAGE COMMITMENT

To ensure their success, well-being, and safety, students must commit to all tenets of the IUHPFL Honor Code. The Honor Code is a set of clear norms of conduct that help ensure student safety and maximize language learning while abroad. A key component of the IUHPFL Honor Code is the Language Commitment, which strictly limits access to English communication and requires that students speak only the target language during the entire program. The IUHPFL Honor Code relies upon the individual student's sense of responsibility and honesty to understand and abide by its tenets.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

IUHPFL significantly advances language skills and fosters cross-cultural understanding, while providing students with one of the most valuable academic and personal experiences of their lives. Although IUHPFL is not a college-credit program, alums place into higher levels of their target languages in college, saving time and tuition expense. Those who take the AP exam in their language are likely to see higher exam scores, which result in college credit and additional savings. Participation in IUHPFL also reflects well on students' college applications. Intangible benefits include personal growth, increased maturity, self-confidence, and lifelong friendships!

"Our expectations as parents were fully realized. Sarah gained self-confidence and became more introspective. She made lasting friendships, both Mexican and American... Your child will have a great summer while being shepherded by the faculty and the local family. Expect your great kid to come home an even greater young adult." ~Craig S., IUHPFL Parent

AN ACADEMICALLY ENRICHING EXPERIENCE

Students attend weekday classes, designed and taught by our highly trained instructors, that focus on Culture, Grammar, Literature, Linguistics, and Communication. They also participate in a variety of Afternoon Activities, including theater, choir, dance, art, and sports.

THE 4 PILLARS OF IUHPFL

1. **Language Commitment**
2. **Academic Focus**
3. **Host Family Experience**
4. **Community Engagement**

ENGAGING WITH COMMUNITIES

Community Engagement Activities allow students to interact with local residents in settings such as schools, academic events, retirement communities, youth centers, animal shelters, and folk dancing lessons. Students come to understand and experience yet another layer of the culture and to see themselves as members of their host communities. These hours count toward the International Baccalaureate Diploma when applicable.

PROGRAM COSTS AND FUNDING

IUHPFL is funded through student Program Fees. While students may qualify for financial assistance through IUHPFL, other resources are also available to offset costs, such as scholarships, fundraising projects, online crowd-funding, and sponsorships. Not included in Program Fees are group flight costs and spending money. For more information about costs and funding, including a list of scholarship providers and fundraising ideas, please visit our website!

APPLICATION MATERIALS AND DEADLINES

IUHPFL is a selective program with an in-depth application process. Following registration, students who meet all eligibility criteria will be invited to complete an application. The full application consists of 7 components, including: student essay questions, writing sample in the target language, official school transcript, parental assessment, and three appraisals. Some students may be asked to complete an in-person interview before final selection. All students must attend a full-day mandatory orientation in April on the IU Bloomington campus, where they meet their team and instructors.

Register on the IUHPFL website from September 15 to November 15!

CONTACT DETAILS

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Or find us on social media



LIVE YOUR LANGUAGE!

"Take the chance. Do this program. If you are a student... debating whether to take the leap of faith and plunge into a culture unlike yours, to speak in a foreign language daily, to make new friendships—do it! It was the best choice I ever made." ~Hannah I., IUHPFL Alum

AUSTRIA * CHILE * CHINA * FRANCE * JAPAN * MEXICO * SPAIN