

International students get a change of scenery

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Many individuals have dreams to travel the globe but not many have the opportunity to make their dreams come true. However, there are programs that give high school and college students the freedom to explore different cultures and find out how other countries' school systems work. Clackamas Community college is an institution that has an international program.

Since 1990, international students are graciously welcomed with open arms to come and study on the CCC campus. They venture here from all over the world to study in one of the many programs our school offers, as well as to be a part of the English as a Second Language (ESL) program. Some students come to CCC simply to study the English language from professors here. There

are currently 30 students in the Program for Intensive English (PIE). Kathryn Long, English as a Second Language Instructor and Program for Intensive English Advisor, mentions that these students are enrolled in the course with the aim of improving their knowledge of the English language.

Students work on their listening, speaking, reading, writing and grammar so that they can transition into all regular college courses. Some of the advanced level students are taking both English classes and regular college courses such as math, art, PE and basic communication (COMM100), among others.

In total there are 45 international students, 15 are in regular courses, but most have already completed the PIE.

"Seventeen of our students are from Saudi Arabia, seven are from Japan, one is from Taiwan, one is from Korea, one is from Vietnam, two are from China, and one is from UAE,"

Long said. "Some have friends or family members who have attended here, some have come through agents, some find it on the Internet and some of our students find out about CCC through their sponsoring country."

These international students hear about CCC in various ways.

When the student navigates to the CCC website, from there, as Enrollment Specialist Maria Dixon informed the Clackamas Print, they will be directed to the international students' portion of the website.

"I am the students' first contact with admissions," Dixon said. "That's when the process starts; it all starts with an application. They need to fill out certain documents on the Student Application Checklist. There are various documents needed and a passport."

Specifically the documents that are needed are an application, \$50 processing fee, financial statement, transcripts of previous post high schools attended,

questionnaire forms and health insurance verification form.

The international students come to study for more than one term and their interests in degrees and classes vary upon the student. Long has recently taken over in advising students in the PIE, she has seen 10 or 11 students go from the PIE into other courses here. A few of them are going to continue here and after fall term is over they will continue with all college classes. Some stay to obtain a degree, however all have enjoyed their experience here.

Shaye Alshaye, 34, from Saudi Arabia, is currently taking classes in English — reading, writing and grammar. Since he already has a bachelor's degree from his country, he expressed that he wants to continue his education here and ultimately receive a master's degree in business.

"I came here last year for spring term," Alshaye said. "I like it here a lot. I found the school from an office in my

country [and] I have read a lot about CCC. I have friends and family that came here with me, we are all international."

To be a student here, Alshaye went through the same process as all of the other international students. He said that he had to show medical insurance forms, a passport, a back statement and his certificate from his bachelor's degree. He went through a process called the F20. It was explained as a form for immigration.

In gathering information from an international student and the faculty that is familiar with the programs, it is apparent that students who attend here, whether they desire to learn English or simply want to study in the United States, all enjoy their experience.



Halloween Safety Tips

American Academy of Pediatrics offers these tips for Trick-or-Treaters to make sure everyone stays safe and has fun this Halloween.

“ Plan costumes that are bright and reflective. Make sure that shoes fit well and that costumes are short enough to prevent tripping, entanglement or contact with flame.

- Consider adding reflective tape or striping to costumes and trick-or-treat bags for greater visibility.

- When shopping for costumes, wigs and accessories look for and purchase those with a label clearly indicating they are flame resistant.

- If a sword, cane, or stick is a part of your child's costume, make sure it is not sharp or too long. A child may be

easily hurt by these accessories if he stumbles or trips.

- Obtain flashlights with fresh batteries for all children and their escorts.

- Teach children how to call 9-1-1 (or their local emergency number) if they have an emergency or become lost.

- Small children should never carve pumpkins. Children can draw a face with markers. Then parents can do the cutting.

- Wait until children are home to sort and check treats. Though tampering is rare, a responsible adult should closely examine all treats and throw away any spoiled, unwrapped or suspicious items.

- Consider using a flash-

light or glow stick instead of a candle to light your pumpkin. If you do use a candle, a votive candle is safest.

- Candlelit pumpkins should be placed on a sturdy table, away from curtains and other flammable objects, and should never be left unattended.

- To keep homes safe for visiting Trick-or-Treaters, parents should remove from the porch and front yard anything a child could trip over such as garden hoses, toys, bikes and lawn decorations.

- Wet leaves or snow should be swept from sidewalks and steps.

- Restrain pets so they do not inadvertently jump on or bite a Trick-or-

Treater.

- A parent or responsible adult should always accompany young children on their neighborhood rounds.

- If your older children are going alone, plan and review the route that is acceptable to you. Agree on a specific time when they should return home.

- Only go to homes with a porch light on and never enter a home or car for a treat.

- Stay in a group and communicate where they will be going.

- Carry a cellphone for quick communication.

- Remain on well-lit streets and always use the sidewalk.

- Never cut across yards or use alleys.

- Only cross the street as a group in established crosswalks (as recognized by local custom). Never cross between parked cars or out driveways.

- Law enforcement authorities should be notified immediately of any suspicious or unlawful activity.

- A good meal prior to parties and trick-or-treating will discourage youngsters from filling up on Halloween

treats.”

For more tips, visit American Academy of Pediatrics at aap.org