

WINTER 2020 COSTA RICA APPLICATION TIMELINE

The winter intercession in Costa Rica program is open to all college students. Eligibility requires a cumulative GPA of 2.5 and completion of 12 college level units. If it is your first semester, we will accept a progress report. Undergraduate students from outside colleges may submit unofficial college transcripts. Student must be 18 years old by the departure date.

(Step 1) Contact the study abroad office **OR** go to Citrus College's study abroad [website and complete the Interest Form](#). **(Step 2)** Once this is completed and approved, your advisor will send you a link to the **AIFS online enrollment** page. Completion of the **initial application**, the **AIFS online enrollment**, and **(Step 3)** payment of the **\$450 deposit** will secure your place in the program.

\$450 deposit DEADLINE: Pay the \$450 deposit by **October 4, 2019**. **The complete balance of payments is due November 15, 2019**. Please see the Fee Schedule information sheet for more detail.

FINANCIAL AID

While financial aid is not available during the winter intercession, students may use financial aid from the previous fall semester. Students may also apply for loans late in the fall semester. Check with the financial aid office for the final day to apply for loans (usually before October). Students **are** eligible for the Promise Grant (former BOGW) during the winter intercession.

WITHDRAWING FROM PROGRAM AND REFUNDS

The AIFS refund policy is on the AIFS student web portal. **Withdrawal notice must be sent via email to Patty Cardenas (see AIFS contacts below).**

REGISTRATION FOR CLASSES

Once you have paid the deposit, you will be able to register through [Citrus' Wingspan student portal](#) on your designated registration date.

COSTA RICA ORIENTATION – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 at 10 a.m.

The MANDATORY student pre-departure orientation will be held at Citrus College in CI 159 for all students participating in the program. Instructors and AIFS student services representatives will attend. Family members are welcome.

CITRUS COLLEGE CONTACTS: 1000 W. Foothill Blvd., Glendora, CA 91741

John Morris, Study Abroad Specialist (626) 914-8560 studyabroad@citruscollege.edu

Dr. Jennifer Miller-Thayer, Anthropology Instructor (626) 852-8086 jmillerthayer@citruscollege.edu

Steve Hartman, Kinesiology Instructor (626) 914-8685 shartman@citruscollege.edu

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN STUDY (AIFS) CONTACTS:

One High Ridge Park, Stamford, CT 06905

Patty Cardenas – Registrar/Program Accounting (withdrawals, refunds, financial aid, payment processing)
(800) 727-2437 X5078 pcardenas@aifs.com

Karen Winslow – Systems Program Coordinator (housing questions, flight questions, general program questions) (800) 727-2437 X5089 kwinslow@aifs.com



The AIFS program fee is \$3,195.00 based on an enrollment of 20-24 participants and includes the following:

- ⇒ accommodation in twin or triple rooms for the first night in a hotel in San José; twin or triple rooms in a hotel in Tortuguero (2 nights) and La Selva Biological Station (1 night); single or twin rooms in a homestay in San José including daily breakfast and dinner (19 nights); twin or triple rooms in a hotel in Arenal (1 night); twin or triple rooms in a hotel in Punta Leona (2 nights); twin or triple rooms in a hotel in San José on the last night;
- ⇒ orientation program in San José consisting of an orientation meeting with AIFS staff covering topics such as safety/security, workshops on cultural differences, half-day city sightseeing tour and a welcome reception;
- ⇒ four-day, three-night excursion to Tortuguero National Park and La Selva Biological Station including round-trip transportation by private bus, two nights' hotel accommodation in Tortuguero and one night at La Selva, all meals, activities such as a jungle walk, jungle cruise and entrances to the National Park, a workshop, a night hike and the services of a professional, English-speaking guide;
- ⇒ visit to the Museum of Popular Culture including round-trop transportation by private bus;
- ⇒ entrance to the National History Museum;
- ⇒ tropical fruit tasting class;
- ⇒ two-day, one-night excursion to Arenal including round-trip transportation by private bus, hotel accommodation, breakfast and dinner, entrance to the hot springs, a hike to the waterfall, ziplining, a stop en route in Sarchi and the services of a professional, English-speaking guide;
- ⇒ guest lecture on healthcare in Costa Rica;
- ⇒ full-day volunteering at the Costa Rican Humanitarian Foundation including round-trip transportation by private bus;
- ⇒ three-day, two-night excursion to Punta Leona including round-trip transportation by private bus, hotel accommodation, breakfast, visit to the Quitirrisi Indigenous community, a crocodile tour and the services of a professional, English-speaking guide;
- ⇒ access to the AIFS Study Center in San José with free Wi-Fi and printing, and a team of dedicated AIFS Student Services staff for information, personal advising/counseling and 24-hour emergency contact service;
- ⇒ medical and program fee refund insurance policies.

Program fee does not include the following:

- ⇒ round-trip airfare between Los Angeles and San José, Costa Rica, and transfers overseas between the airport and the student housing on the specified program dates for \$TBC;
- ⇒ mandatory additional U.S. government and airline-imposed departure taxes, fees and fuel surcharges of \$TBC (subject to change);
- ⇒ Citrus College tuition or administrative fees;
- ⇒ textbooks;
- ⇒ meals not listed above;
- ⇒ passport and visa fees if applicable;
- ⇒ additional field trips or excursions required by your instructors;
- ⇒ personal expenses;
- ⇒ optional personal effects coverage and medical insurance upgrade.

2020 PROGRAM DATES

Sunday, January 12 Arrive in San José.
Friday, February 7 End of program. Depart San José.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR AIFS FEES

<u>Winter Term</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Optional</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Enrollment deposit	\$450.00	October 4, 2019	Airfare	\$TBC.00	November 15, 2019
Balance of fees	\$2,745.00	November 15, 2019	Taxes/Fees (subject to change)	\$TBC.00	November 15, 2019
Total	\$3,195.00		Medical Insurance Upgrade	\$65.00	November 15, 2019
			Personal Effects Coverage	\$90.00	November 15, 2019

All students must submit the \$450 deposit when completing the online enrollment form. Subsequent payments may be made by check or credit card. Checks should be made payable to "AIFS." American Express, MasterCard and Visa are accepted.

Please note: A \$35 returned check fee will be charged on all checks returned by the bank for insufficient funds.

*The program fee is based on an enrollment of 20-24 participants. If 25 or more students enroll, the program fee will decrease to \$3,075.

AIFS TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE

Participants have the option of purchasing a round-trip ticket for the flight arranged through AIFS. Participants choosing this option should note the following restrictions: Tickets purchased from AIFS are exclusively on scheduled airlines (not charters). They are not endorsable to another carrier. Flights are not necessarily direct or non-stop, and frequent flyer miles are not applicable. The AIFS Transportation Package includes round-trip ground transportation from the airport in Costa Rica to your accommodations on the regularly scheduled program dates. AIFS will book flights on the dates indicated on this application only.

Participants wishing to purchase the Transportation Package must notify AIFS in writing by Friday, October 4, 2019. Participants wishing to cancel from the flight must notify AIFS in writing by Friday, November 15, 2019. Cancellation penalties will apply. Tickets are non-refundable after this date.

AIFS Airfare Regulations: Return must be to original U.S. departure point. Tickets are subject to airline availability. No refunds are available for any unused portion of ticket. Tickets cannot be rerouted, and stopovers are not permitted. Once in Costa Rica participants may be able to change their return date, but only if that date is available and in the same class of service in which the ticket was booked. Only the ticketing agent can provide this information. Participants are subject to agency and airline-imposed change fees and space availability. Group round-trip ground transportation to and from the airport in Costa Rica is on the regularly scheduled program dates only.

AIFS cannot guarantee that all passengers will be booked on the same flight.

AIFS will not make your flight arrangements for you unless you clearly indicate your travel preferences on your application.

A minimum of 10 students must take the AIFS flight for it to be offered.