



International Collegiate Agricultural Leadership (I-CAL) Program

Frequently Asked Questions

If I apply for I-CAL and do not get selected, do I lose my \$200 deposit?

No, if you are not selected to be a part of the program your \$200 will be returned. The \$200 is not deposited until after the selected group of students officially accepts their positions for the year.

How many people are selected each year to be a part of the program?

Each year twelve (12) college students are selected to be apart of the I-CAL program.

What are the dates for the 2010 I-CAL program?

Tentative dates for the 2010 program are May 15-29, 2010. These dates may change slightly if a significant amount can be saved on international airfare. Finalized dates will be announced before spots in the program are offered to students.

Who sponsors the I-CAL program?

The I-CAL program is sponsored by the US Grains Foundation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation. Learn more about the US Grains Foundation at www.grains.org.

How much does the program cost if I'm selected to be apart of the I-CAL?

The cost of the program varies each year. Selected students are responsible for the cost of their domestic flight to and from our orientation location and the cost of their passport (if they do not yet have one). Additionally, students are responsible for programming costs, which range from \$1,800 - \$2,300, depending largely on the cost of international airfare. The total cost of the program is approximately \$5,500 per student; the remaining cost is covered by the US Grains Foundation.

Who will be traveling with the group?

Marty Tatman, Education Specialist for Collegiate programs with the National FFA Organization, will serve as the main contact for the entire program and will be traveling with the group. There will also be a representative from the US Grains Council who will travel with the group. Once overseas, the group will be met by representatives from the US Grains Council in each country; these representatives will serve as the contact while in each country.

Do I need to have my references provide a letter of recommendation?

No, reference letters are not required for a completed application. All that is required is the contact information of two references (advisor, instructor/professor, employer, etc). Do not list a family member as a reference.

Can I email my application in, instead of mailing it?

No, applications may only be submitted by mail. Original signatures, along with a Notary Public signature and stamp are required for a completed application. You must have an official Notary Public signature on your application for it to be considered complete. Notary Publics can easily be found at many college campuses, county court houses, and post offices. All applications need to be mailed into the National FFA Center. Please remember applications must be postmarked by February 15, 2010.

What needs to be included for my application to be complete?

Your completed application will include:

- nine completed pages of the application, including all required and original signatures and a notarized copy of cancellation form
- a check for \$200 made out the “National FFA Organization” OR a completed credit card payment option form for \$200
- responses to essay questions
- resume
- contact information for two professional references (no family members)

What locations has the program previously gone to?

Pervious locations for the I-CAL program include Spain, Morocco, Egypt, China and Vietnam. The 2010 program will be located in Asia.

Can I still apply for I-CAL if I don't have my passport yet?

Yes, students can apply for the I-CAL program if they do not have their passport. However, it is **HIGHLY** encouraged that students apply for their passports as soon as possible to ensure they receive them in plenty of time. Currently the US State Department is processing routine applications in approximately 3 weeks from the time the application is received.

Who do I contact if I have questions about the program and/or application?

Please contact Marty Tatman, with Collegiate Programs at the National FFA at mtatman@ffa.org or 317-802-4356 with any questions you have.

