



International Collegiate Agricultural Leadership (I-CAL) Program

VISION STATEMENT

To provide opportunities for collegiate agriculture students to learn about how the global marketplace affects American agriculture.

OVERVIEW

I-CAL is designed for students to learn more about international grain marketing, global agriculture and acquire a unique cultural experience.

OBJECTIVES:

- Create awareness regarding markets for international grains and grain products
- Develop a specific awareness of the U.S. Grains Council and its function and role in the U.S. grain industry
- Understand current international trade and cultural issues
- Apply newfound knowledge to future career and education
- Discover careers in international agriculture and marketing

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The cost of the program varies from year to year; on average the total cost of the program is \$5,500 per student. On average, students are required to only pay \$1,800-\$2,300 to take part in the program.

HOW LONG DOES THE PROGRAM LAST?

Involvement in the program runs throughout the year; however the international experience is 12- 14 days during the later part of May.

HOW DOES THE SELECTION PROCESS WORK?

Students must fill out an application, found on www.ffa.org/collegiate. Applications are due in mid February each year. Interviews may be conducted the first part of March, with final selections being made the middle of March.



The I-CAL program is uniquely designed to give college students the opportunity to experience international agriculture first hand. The location of the program changes from year to year, previous countries include Spain, Morocco, Egypt, China and Vietnam. While overseas, students have been able to experience numerous different areas of the agricultural industry including:

- wheat and corn farms
- dairy buffalo, goat, beef cattle, dairy cattle operations
- open air grain, meat and animal markets
- fruit/vegetable production farms
- olive oil manufacturing units
- wine vineyards
- feed mills
- grain inspection facilities
- university agricultural department
- aquaculture operations



For more information,
please visit www.ffa.org/collegiate



"I-CAL 2008 was one of the greatest opportunities I have ever had. Both the spoken and unspoken lessons have taught me countless principles that I will use in my career. Thank you, US Grains Foundation/Council, for making this possible. Twelve American students now share your vision to: "Be a catalyst to advance the understanding of the value of international trade." Bill Munns – I-CAL 2008

"One of the most important things I took away from the program was an understanding of how important it is to create open channels of communication across every sector agriculture, both internally and externally. I learned more from those few days than an entire semester or two in a classroom." Gena Polzin – I-CAL 2007

"The I-CAL program not only opened my eyes to a new culture, specifically Chinese and Vietnamese culture and customs, but also to the importance of market development in Asia. While in Asia, we were able to experience first hand Chinese and Vietnamese agriculture and understand the importance of trade for the U.S. to these markets. The I-CAL program was not only a life changing experience, but has opened many doors for me, not only through National FFA, but through the U.S. Grains Foundation. Being a part of I-CAL was definitely a highlight of my summer!" Michelle Euken – I-CAL 2009

WHO CAN APPLY?

This international program is open to any collegiate agriculture students from one of the sixteen Consortium of Collegiate Agricultural Organizations. From the applications, twelve students are selected to be apart of the program each year. Groups apart of the Consortium include:

- Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow
- Agriculture Future of America
- Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity
- Alpha Gamma Sigma Fraternity
- Alpha Tau Alpha
- Alpha Zeta
- Block and Bridle
- Collegiate 4-H
- Collegiate FFA
- FarmHouse Fraternity
- Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences
- National Agri-Marketing Association
- National Agricultural Alumni Directors Association
- Postsecondary Agricultural Student Organization
- Professional Landcare Network
- Sigma Alpha

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE INTERNATIONAL PORTION OF THE PROGRAM?

Once students return from the international part of the program, they are asked to talk to at least three collegiate and community groups to share with them their experience and help those groups understand how American agriculture plays a vital role in the global marketplace.