

Other ways to get involved

Alabama Goodwill Ambassador Sponsorship Program

Alabama Goodwill Ambassadors (AGAs) are volunteers who assist international officer students and their families while they are attending school at Maxwell AFB. Sponsors are usually the first person an international officer meets upon their arrival, and often times the very first friend they make here in the U.S. Sponsors not only meet the student and their family at the airport, but assist the family in a variety of ways. Typically this includes helping to find homes and cars, obtaining registration and insurance, enrolling children in school, and setting up bank accounts. The needs of every student will be different providing you with a unique experience every time.

International Dependent's English Course

While international officer students are required to know English prior to their arrival, their family is not. For non-English speaking dependents, IDEC helps teach English as a second language.



International spouse at IFOP Graduation

 THE AIR UNIVERSITY



Partnerships Through Education

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

www.au.af.mil/au/spaatz/ios/aga_ifop.asp

CHIEF, DEPENDENT & SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMS

120 S. Mitchell St.
Maxwell AFB, AL 36110

Phone: (334) 953-7613 or x6338
E-mail: au.ios.aga@us.af.mil

International Family Orientation Program



INTERNATIONAL
OFFICER SCHOOL

International Family Orientation Program

16 Jun, Friday: Open House 1400-1600 (school tour/volunteer meet n' greet)

19-27 June, Weekdays 0730-1200

The International Family Orientation Program (IFOP) is an Air University sponsored summer program, run entirely by volunteers from the local Montgomery community, at no cost to the participants. It is a week-long program focused on helping family members of Air War College and Air Command and Staff College international officer students adjust to living in the United States.

IFOP strives to provide these international families with the necessary "survival skills" to help overcome the culture shock and anxiety they may experience when coming to the U.S. for the first time. A variety of material is covered ranging from how to dial 911 in case of an emergency, to what their children will experience while attending American schools.

Traditionally, IFOP is broken into two groups: one for the international officer's spouses, and the other for their children.

In the Spouses' Group, volunteers are used in a variety of ways that can range from initial setup, translation assistance, or education of specific U.S. "survival skills."

In the Children's Group, kids are separated into 9 different classrooms based on age, ranging from infants to high school seniors. There will be 3-5 volunteers assigned to each classroom depending on the number of children participating. Classroom leaders and their volunteers provide nursery care to the infants and preschoolers, and engage the school-aged children in structured classroom activities, daily snacks, and several scheduled field trips (historically, the zoo, pool, bowling, and a movie).

If you have children of your own, they are also welcome to participate in IFOP at no cost, however, they may only participate on days that you volunteer. They will be placed in their respective age group and will be rewarded the unique opportunity of interacting with children similar in age from all over the world. Usually, your children will establish sincere friendships with the international children which is invaluable at the start of the school year.

To request more information, or to sign up as a volunteer, contact the International Officer School at au.ios.aga@us.af.mil or (334) 953-6338.



International officer's children at IFOP - Zoo Field Trip



International officer's spouses at IFOP Graduation



International officer's children at IFOP