

Essay

Please submit a one-page essay in response to the following questions. How will the program relate to your personal, academic, and career goals? What cultural experiences are you looking for during your study abroad? What do you think will be the most challenging aspect (besides learning and using Spanish) of living in another culture? How do you plan to prepare for and get the most out of your study abroad experience? What contributions do you hope to make as a member of the group? Is there anything you would like us to know (likes, dislikes, etc.)?

Housing Preferences

Preference will be considered, but cannot be guaranteed. Circle your preferences if they are important to you:

Roommate

Smoking non-smoking
Messy neat
Noisy quiet
morning person night person
punctual not punctual

Host Family

smoking non-smoking
pet O.K. no pets

Any specific dietary requirements: _____

Give us **three adjectives** that you feel best describe you:

College of DuPage
Recommendation Form
Study Abroad in Costa Rica 2012

To the Applicant

Fill in your name and phone number. Give the form to a current or previous employer/teacher who has known you for at least one year and has observed your relationship with others. **One recommendation must be from a recent teacher.**

 Name (please print) () Phone Number

 In which Illinois community college district do you reside?

As this letter is confidential, please have it sent directly to COD (address below) by providing a stamped, addressed envelope to the Evaluator. You may submit the letter yourself if it has been sealed in an envelope and signed on the seal by the Evaluator.

I waive my right to access this letter, completed by (Evaluator name:) _____ Yes No

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

To the Evaluator

This candidate's application cannot be completed until we receive this form from you.

Please return it promptly in a sealed envelope to the address below or return to student in an envelope that is sealed and signed on the seal by you.

Study Abroad in Costa Rica is a rigorous program that expects students to learn from academic classes as well as structured and unstructured experiences. Participants are involved in a challenging cross-cultural program, which includes a 4- week period of living with a host family. To succeed, the applicant must be highly motivated and able to adjust to people of different social, cultural and economic backgrounds - sometimes under difficult emotional and physical conditions. Hence, we cannot overemphasize the value of your candid appraisal to enable us to determine whether the applicant is ready for this program.

Please rate the applicant on the following characteristics.

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Unknown
Academic motivation					
Self-discipline					
Emotional maturity					
Initiative					
Independence					
Open-mindedness					
Sense of humor					
Ability to function as a member of a group					
Ability to adjust to and cope with unusual/uncomfortable situations					
Good ambassador for the college and U.S.A					
Have you had reason to be concerned about this person's drug/alcohol use?		Yes		No	
This candidate has signed a statement indicating that she/he will use Spanish all the time while in Costa Rica, including with the Directors and the other students in the group. How well do you feel the candidate will adhere to this?					
Very Well Well Poorly Not at all					
Would you enjoy having the applicant: Live in your home for a month?		Yes		No	
As a member of a group for which you are responsible?		Yes		No	
For how long and to what capacity have you known the applicant?					

Please use reverse side of this form for additional commentary.

 Name (Please print) Position Phone Number Date

 Address City State Zip Code

Signature

mail to: College of DuPage Costa Rica Study Abroad Program
 Field & Interdisciplinary Studies/Study Abroad, BIC 3509
 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137-6599

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CANCELATION/REFUND POLICY

College of DuPage Study Abroad

In the event that the participant wishes to **withdraw from the program, certain penalties may apply**, since arrangements for your program occur months prior to its actual departure date. Services are planned and commitments are made on behalf of all participants. Suppliers require advanced deposits and payments. Final payments for all services are sent to vendors months in advance of departure. These payments are non-refundable since contractual agreements stipulate penalties to be applied to services requested but not used. Please note that no refunds will be made for any services provided in the itinerary that you do not use. Thus, please be aware that no refunds will be issued within 30 days of departure.

Please understand that if you change your plans for ANY reason, your right to a refund is limited.

All cancellations and refund requests must be made in writing and sent to:

College of DuPage
Field and Interdisciplinary Studies/Study Abroad, BIC 3509
425 Fawell Blvd.
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137-6599

I have read and I understand the participant cancellation and refund policy.

Signature

Date