

SPONSOR



CONTACT

- Being a sponsor is a year long commitment.
- The Sponsor should be the first to reach out to the officer, do not plan on them contacting you first.
- During initial contact, ask the officer if there is anything specific you can do to help.
- A good conversation starter is asking what the officer would like to do/see while in the US.
- During the first few weeks the officer is in the US, sponsors should be readily available.
- Once the officer is settled, sponsors are expected to meet with the officer in person once a month.
- Sponsors should be proactive in reaching out to the officer throughout the course of the year.
- Sponsors must be timely in responding to communications from the officer.
- If a sponsor cannot meet the time commitment, or has a change in life circumstances, they should notify ISMO immediately.

PROGRAM



CONDUCT

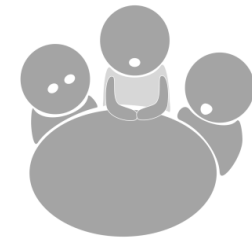
- Provide ISMO and the officer with an email address that you check on a regular basis.
- Being a Sponsor entails certain responsibilities—propriety, accountability, respect for others, etc.
- Be aware that participation in the sponsor program is voluntary, and there is no monetary reimbursement.
- Maintain your normal lifestyle. Be yourself, be a good neighbor, be a friend.
- Meet the officer's basic food requirements based on religious or cultural dietary restrictions.
- Attendance at events hosted by NDU is not mandatory, but Sponsors must RSVP either way.
- Sponsors that cannot attend an event at NDU must inform the officer that they will not be there.
- Sponsors must annually complete an initial survey, mid-year survey, and end of year survey.
- Feel free to discuss “hot button” issues, but do so in a respectful manner as a sharing experience.
- Do not give the officer a monetary loan.
- Do not do the officer's homework.
- Sponsors are not obligated to be babysitters.
- Be prepared to provide ISMO with periodic updates about your interactions with the officer.

GUIDELINES



CULTURE

- Be conscious of varying definitions of “on time” and “personal space” in initial interactions.
- Be mindful that many of the officers at NDU do not speak English as their native language, though they do have a minimum English language requirement.
- Ask the officer directly about dietary restrictions— don't make any assumptions about what they will/will not eat.
- Be willing and able to explain American traditions.
- Plan on inviting the officer to celebrate American holidays like 4th of July / Thanksgiving with you.
- Be proactive in extending invitations to go to museums, sporting events, concerts, seasonal activities, etc.



COUNCIL

- Be prepared to advise the officer on transition items upon arrival, such as buying a cellphone or a car.
- Be prepared to provide ideas/advice on traveling, entertainment, and places of interest.
- Help the officer and their family with local shopping options close to their housing and throughout the DMV.
- Direct the officer and their family regarding safety in the city, as well as American customs, pop culture, etc.
- Help guide the officer on who to contact if they request assistance from you that you are unable to provide.