



BILLINGS FRIENDSHIP FAMILIES



The Office of International Studies (OIS) at MSUB would like to extend an invitation to participate in the Billings Friendship Families (BFF) program. BFF is a cross-cultural exchange program designed to encourage friendships between our international students and the local Billings community and to facilitate the exchange of ideas and culture. MSUB faculty and staff, as well as Billings community members, who wish to befriend an international student are invited to participate.

As a BFF member, you will play an integral part in your student's development and general happiness in Billings. We request that members offer the minimal commitment of inviting students to dinner once per month, as availability permits, as well as invitations to holiday dinners or events, such as Thanksgiving. However, families will find that as their relationships grows, they will likely want to see their student more often, and vice versa. We encourage greater engagement between BFF families and their students; we try to match students with families that share similar interests in hopes of building stronger relationships.

If interested in participating, please complete the short questionnaire on the following page and return it to ois@msubillings.edu.



[facebook.com/oismsubillings](https://www.facebook.com/oismsubillings)



[instagram.com/msubillingsois](https://www.instagram.com/msubillingsois)

Thank you for participating in BFF! Direct additional questions to the MSUB Office of International Studies:

ois@msubillings.edu | 406-657-1705 | 1500 University Dr., McDonald Hall Suite 150, Billings, MT 59101



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BFF members are encouraged to offer the following minimal support to international students:

- Airport pickup (*new students only, coordinated by OIS*)
- Shopping (*pre-semester shopping trip for necessities—new students only*)
- Welcome dinner at BFF member's home or restaurant (*at the start of the semester, new students*)
- BFF community social (*date to be determined*)
- Monthly (*as schedules permit*) invitation to your home or family gathering, possible holidays or family events, outings or short trips

If you are interested in participating, please email ois@msubillings.edu with answers to the following questions. We will use your answers to pair you with a student.

Name(s): _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

1. Do you have previous experience with the BFF program? If no, why would you like to join?
2. Can you commit to providing the above suggested or similar support to your friendship student?
3. With which members of your family might your international student be involved? If children are included, please provide ages, gender, and relationship to you [*ex: daughters (6) & (4) / grandson (10)*].
4. Do you have pets? What kind?
5. What is your (and your spouse, if applicable) field(s) of work?
6. International experience/hobbies/community activities?
7. Male or female friendship student? Male Female No Preference
8. Preferred geographic area(s) of friendship student?
9. Would you be willing to be-friend two or more students? Yes No Maybe