



COE COLLEGE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE PROGRAM

The ABC's of Living at Coe

We in the Intensive English as a Second Language department are happy to welcome you to the United States and to Coe College. We are very pleased that you have decided to participate in the English as a Second Language program at Coe College. You will find a friendly atmosphere here and receive a lot of personal attention while you develop your English proficiency.

You may have some questions about your stay in the U.S., so we have prepared a short "dictionary" for you. We hope that this information will help to answer questions you may have about daily life at Coe College. If you have other questions, please write to the Intensive E.S.L. department at Coe College, and we will be happy to answer them. Have a nice trip to Cedar Rapids!

ARRIVAL AT COE

When you know your arrival date and time, please write to Barbara Drexler or Joanna Shaver in the E.S.L. department. We will arrange for someone to meet you at the Eastern Iowa (Cedar Rapids) airport, take you to Coe College, and help you check into your room. You will meet a Coe Diplomat, a member of the International Club, who will show you around campus and answer any questions you might have.

CLASSES AND BOOKS

You will receive a detailed daily schedule when you arrive on campus. Generally speaking, however, you will study oral grammar, academic reading & writing, and Introduction to American Midwestern Culture in the morning. In the afternoon, you will have pronunciation, communication, and academic skills. You may need to buy a book for some of your classes.

CLIMATE AND CLOTHES

Cedar Rapids enjoys four distinct seasons: fall, winter, spring, and summer. Temperatures vary from below 0 degrees centigrade in winter (November-March) to over 30 degrees centigrade in the summer (June-September). Both very light and very heavy clothing will be needed. However, in the winter, all buildings are heated to a comfortable temperature, so heavy clothing (overcoat, thick warm sweaters, gloves, boots, and hat) is only needed for when you walk outside. In the summer, the buildings are air-conditioned, so you might need a sweater. The weather in all seasons is changeable; it's one of the pleasures of living in Iowa.

DRINKING POLICY IN IOWA AND AT COE COLLEGE

You must be 21 years old to purchase and drink alcohol in the state of Iowa. In order to buy alcohol in restaurants and stores, you must have an identification card with a picture certifying that you are 21. If you are 21, you may drink alcohol in the dormitory rooms at Coe College, but no drinking is allowed in the halls, in the lounges, or outside on the Coe campus.

FIELD TRIPS

We will take some short field trips to places of interest around Cedar Rapids. These field trips are free of charge to the students unless otherwise indicated.

HEALTH INSURANCE

There is **NO** national medical care program or national health insurance program in the United States. As a result, medical care in the U.S. is expensive and must be paid by the person receiving the care. **All International students are required to have some type of health and accident insurance while enrolled at Coe College.**

(Please note: The college does not insure the personal property of students living on campus. Be sure to keep your room locked at all times.)

HEALTH SERVICES

During the academic year (September to May) there is a college nurse, on campus in Douglas Hall. You may visit her from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. free of charge. However, in the summer (June-August) the nurse is not on campus. If you have a medical emergency, you should go directly to the emergency room of St. Luke's Hospital across 12th Street from Coe College. Tell the people at the hospital that you are a student at Coe. If you have any questions about health care, please ask Barbara Drexler or Joanna Shaver, Directors of the E.S.L. program or Deanna Jobe, International Student Advisor. Students who see the doctor or dentist should plan to pay for their medical/dental care at the time of service. Students can then send their insurance companies their receipts in order to get reimbursed.

We **strongly recommend** that students get a **dental check-up** in their country before arriving in the U.S. Please take care of your dental work before you come to the U.S.

HOUSING AND MEALS

Students will share a double room with an English-speaking student. In one room there are two beds, two desks, two dressers, and two closets. Students need to provide their own bed linens; however the E.S.L. department will give you two sheets and a pillowcase, AND we LEND you a blanket when you first arrive. (Please return the blanket to us when you leave Coe College.) If you are staying for a year, you will probably want to buy a comforter (about \$30.00) and a pillow (about \$5.00) when you arrive on campus. We will provide an opportunity for you to go to a discount store to buy these items.

You will eat breakfast, lunch, and dinner in the Coe Cafeteria. You may also get food at Charlie's, a small pub which is open during the day. On Sunday evenings, no meal is served, so you will have to cook for yourself or find some food in various restaurants near campus.

IMMIGRATION/PASSPORT

If you have any questions about your passport or immigration documents, you may see Deanna Jobe, the International Student Advisor, whose office is in the lower level of Voorhees Hall.

LAUNDRY

There are washing machines and dryers in the basement of all of the residence halls. You will receive instructions for using these upon arrival. Laundry detergent can be purchased at several local stores.

MONEY

Students are encouraged to bring personal funds in TRAVELER'S CHECKS rather than one large check or cash. It is not a good idea to travel with large amounts of cash in the U.S. We advise students to bring a credit card which is recognized in the U.S.A. so that you can use it to make travel arrangements on-line. We will help you open a bank account if you wish to do so.

ORIENTATION WEEK

Prior to the Fall Term, there is an Orientation week for new students. Orientation week is a good time to get to know people, to become acquainted with the campus facilities, and to start feeling comfortable using English. Check the calendar for the dates of Orientation week.

TELEPHONE

You will have a telephone in your dormitory room that you may use to make local calls. (There is no charge for local calls.) In order to make long distance calls to another city, another state, or another country, you will need to have a phone card. You can buy a phone card or an international calling card from various places around Coe College. If you already have an international calling card, you may use it and call your country from your dormitory room. You may want to buy a cell phone when you get to Coe College.

A FAX machine is available for emergencies, but not for ordinary correspondence with your family and friends. Students will be given an e-mail account for this purpose.

WHAT TO PACK

Students in the U.S. and at Coe College dress casually for classes. They often wear jeans and very relaxed clothes. It is not necessary to bring many different clothes, but you might want to bring one or two "good" outfits in case you go to something more formal. See the list of suggestions given by Japanese students at Coe College.

Fall, Winter, Spring: The weather will be changeable during these seasons, too. There might be some very warm days in the fall as well as some very cool days. Even in the winter, some days will be colder than others. So, pack some very warm clothes for very cold weather, but remember that the classrooms and the dormitories will be warm and comfortable even if the weather outside is frigid. In the summer, the classrooms will be air-conditioned, so bring some sweaters.

Supplies such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, and other personal items are available at the campus bookstore and at a nearby supermarket. It isn't necessary to bring a large supply of these things. We will arrange to take you to a discount store so that you may buy whatever daily necessities you need.

If you have any questions about this information, please feel free to contact us by letter or by e-mail at bdrexler@coe.edu or jshaver@coe.edu.