

SUMMER VACATION 2019 DREXEL IN COSTA RICA: HEALTHCARE IN LATIN AMERICA

THE PROGRAM

[The International Center for Development Studies \(ICDS\)](#), in partnership with Hospital Clínica Bíblica, offers this six-week program for nursing and health care students during the Freshman summer vacation. This program gives students the opportunity to explore health care in a developing country while furthering their Spanish language skills and gain an understanding of the life and culture of Costa Rica. It provides the necessary language proficiency to enable students to work and interact with Spanish speaking patients and their families, as well as with colleagues in a Spanish-speaking environment.



EXPERIENCING COSTA RICA

San José is a cosmopolitan city with many cultural and recreational activities. It is located in Costa Rica's Central Plateau, surrounded by beautiful mountains and volcanoes, and within driving distance to the Pacific coast and Atlantic coasts. The urban transportation system is quite efficient, and you can take a bus to just about anywhere in the country. Upon arrival, students receive an orientation, which provides students with insights and strategies to better manage the process of integration to a new cultural context, while allowing group interaction and integration.

Housing

Drexel students will be housed with a local host family in Costa Rica. ICDS's experienced home stay coordinator is in charge of the selection of host families and the placement of students with an appropriate one, as well as of the follow-up on the student-family relationship to solve any problems that may arise.

Visa

It is necessary to have a valid passport (at least six months before expiration date) to travel to Costa Rica. NO ENTRY VISA IS NEEDED for American and Canadian students --as well as for those of a few other nationalities-- only a valid passport and proof of a return ticket. In the cases when student visas are needed, ICDS and the International Office of ULatina provide students with step by step assistance to obtain the required document.

THE ACADEMICS

Students take the following two courses on the Spanish for Health Sciences program:

- **HSAD 480 The Health Care System in Costa Rica** (3.0 credits)
This course covers the most relevant aspects of the health system in Costa Rica and will be conducted through weekly sessions of conferences, exercises, site visits to clinics, hospitals, and other related sites, and a workshop on the topic of the week. This part of the program is facilitated by Hospital Clínica Bíblica, Costa Rica's largest and most prestigious private hospital.
- **LANG T180: The Spanish for Health Sciences** (6.0 credits)
This course consists of 10 hours per week of intensive Spanish with the objectives of training students to speak in Spanish, preparing them to interview patients, complete patients' files, elaborate medical reports, and read texts of medical relevance effectively. Program activities, such as critiquing medical newspaper articles, interviewing native speakers in medical role-playing situations, debating on medical topics, and other activities all aim to teach language by immersion in real life situations.



Credits and Grading

Similar to an Independent Study Abroad, students will earn transfer credits. Grades earned during the program are not factored into GPA. Students will be billed directly by ICDS.



Summer Vacation Program Calendar:

- Arrival: Thursday, June 27, 2019
- Departure: August 9-11, 2019

COST AND FINANCIAL AID

This summer option is not considered a Drexel sponsored program. Therefore students will be billed directly by ICDS for the program fee. Since students must be scheduled for summer vacation term in order to participate, financial aid does not apply for the term. Students should speak with the financial aid office to explore other funding options, such as loans, to cover the program cost. Please refer to the link in brochure for the program fee

Included in the program fee:

Tuition for the 2 courses taken in Costa Rica (9 credits)
6 week home stay
2 meals per day provided by host family
Airport pick-up upon arrival
Orientation
Group activities and excursions

NOT included in program fee:

Class materials
Additional meals
Public transportation
Airfare
Spending money
application fee

Summer Vacation Program Application Deadline: March 1, 2019