



# BOBCAT CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

Cultivate Global Friendships

## ABOUT

Bobcat Cultural Connections (BCC) is a program that pairs an MSU student with an incoming exchange student so that the MSU student can be a resource and peer as the exchange student adjusts to life at MSU. This is a semester long commitment, though we hope you'll maintain contact with your BCC friend if they're staying for a full academic year!

## EXPECTATIONS FOR MSU PARTICIPANTS

### 1. Take the lead in establishing and maintaining communication with your BCC friend.

Remember that the exchange student you're matched with is the one coming into an unfamiliar situation. You will likely need to be the person who initiates conversations and extends invitations, at least in the beginning.

### 2. Contact your BCC partner before they arrive in Bozeman

Reach out via email or WhatsApp to introduce yourself and start the conversation.

### 3. Be a resource who can answer their questions about Bozeman and MSU

Tell them about your favorite places in town or help them find their way around campus.

### 4. Attend official events

Attend the International Student welcome party and two other events (hosted by OIP) during the semester.

### 5. Get together with your BCC friend at least twice a month outside of official events

Invite them to study with you, take them to your favorite places in Bozeman, eat with them in the dining hall if you live on campus. Basically, whatever you do in your day-to-day life, invite them to join you!

### 6. Maintain contact even if you don't become close friends

We hope you will develop a genuine friendship with your BCC partner, but even if you don't "click" in that way, you can still help them feel comfortable at MSU. Please check in with them regularly and make an effort to spend time with them.

### 7. Notify MSU Study Abroad if you can no longer participate in BCC.



**COMPLETE  
THIS SURVEY  
TO SIGN UP!**

## PLEASE NOTE

You are not expected to be an academic tutor or respond to any emergency situations, and you should never do anything that makes you feel uncomfortable or unsafe. The Office of International Programs provides support to incoming exchange students including airport pickup, connecting them with campus resources, immigration advising, and being available in the event of an emergency.

Please contact Stacey Neve ([stacey.neve@montana.edu](mailto:stacey.neve@montana.edu)) if you have concerns about your BCC partner's wellbeing or refer them to the Office of International Programs if they require assistance that you don't feel comfortable providing.