How Can I Participate?

If you are interested in becoming a mentor for one or more students, please email passport@tufts.edu with any preferences you may have (country, gender, academic interest/major) and we will do our best to match you.

What is it?

The PASSPORT Program is a volunteer program sponsored by the I-Center, Undergraduate Admissions, Alumni Relations and the Advancement Office that matches Tufts alumni, parents, faculty, and staff with incoming undergraduate international students for cultural exchange, support and community building. The program has been designed to support students who receive financial aid. Participating students come from a variety of countries such as Kenya, Bangladesh, Tanzania, Vietnam, China, Uganda, Ecuador, and more.

How does it work?

PASSPORT will introduce students to the warmth of the Tufts community by pairing them with local individuals or families who will provide special support to them such as: picking them up from Logan airport, helping them on move-in day, joining them for lunch in a dining hall on parents’ weekend, or sharing a Thanksgiving experience. PASSPORT mentors will connect with an incoming Jumbo (or Jumbos) over the summer and begin a relationship that will last the first year and likely beyond.

What do you do in the program?

The Program is an informal partnership. Participants are invited to a variety of events all year long such as a welcome reception, the International Thanksgiving Dinner, and more. Participation in the program is from August-May. Mentors are welcome and encouraged to continue the relationship beyond this period of time. Mentors must plan to meet their mentees at least once per academic
Become a Passport Mentor

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS
All events sponsored by Tufts will be free of charge to mentors and mentees. The program coordinators will provide mentors with an orientation and ideas for on and off-campus activities. You will be supported by the coordinators throughout the length of your participation in the program.

SUPPORT NEW JUMBOS
Having a passport mentor is among the best things that’s ever happened to me since I got to Tufts. My mentor has always been there for me. She has been instrumental in making my first year at Tufts a success.

-David N. (Class of 2020), Mentee

STAY CONNECTED
Our service in the passport program is the singular best thing I’ve done for Tufts since graduation. I have volunteered in a number of roles but getting to know him, and the school as it is now, and then to be connected to the Hill thru our shared experience and visits was great.

-Kate G. (A03), Mentor

Tufts Provost and Mentee at International Thanksgiving Dinner (November 2016)

EXPERIENCE A DIFFERENT CULTURE
My mentor was a constant breath of fresh air in an otherwise crazy time. The program provided me with an adviser, a teacher, a cheerleader, and a friend. [She] became all the things I needed someone to be when I arrived to the U.S. I not only increased my self-confidence, but it was also an opportunity to share and appreciate our differences and similarities.

-Rabecca M. (Class of 2020), Mentee

Mentor family with mentee at graduation. (May 2017)