



What is your role as a Conversation Partner?

Your main role as a conversation partner is to meet once a week with an international student to chat— whether it be over coffee, out for dinner, or playing a sport together. It allows the international student to practice English, and for both partners to learn about a new culture and meet other EMU students.

Why would being a Conversation Partner benefit me?

Developing a friendship with an international student can be a very rewarding experience. You will be able to teach your partner valuable lessons about EMU and American culture (social norms, slang, and places to shop and to eat), and you can learn about their country and language too.

This is also a great opportunity for professional development because having demonstrated cross-cultural experiences can be an advantage in the job market.

How do I get a Conversation Partner?

You will first need to fill out and submit an application either at the OIS or online at: www.emich.edu/ois/whp.php. After you submit your application, and we have someone to partner you with, we will contact each of you. We will give you each other's e-mail so you can make contact and set up an agreeable meeting time and place. *The OIS will also host a Conversation Partner Reception on Friday, September 18, from 5 to 7p.m. in Student Center room 352 where you can first meet your partner.*

How does the OIS decide who my Conversation Partner is going to be?

The OIS wants this experience to be beneficial for both the American and international student. To best match the students, we will look at common interests and field of study. Although your partner may have some similar interests, it is our hope that you can teach each other something new based on your unique qualities and background. Since this is a voluntary program, we cannot guarantee your international partner speaks your language of interest.



Where do I go if I have any further questions?

For more information, please contact :

Julia Beaver

International Student Specialist

244 Student Center

jbeaver4@emich.edu

734-487-3116



The EMU Conversation Partner Program

is sponsored by:

**Office of International Students
244 Student Center
Eastern Michigan University
Ypsilanti, MI. 48197**

ois@emich.edu

734-487-3116

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Interested in knowing
about another culture and
helping an EMU
international student
learn English?