

Frequently Asked Questions about Campus Ministries' INTERNATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAM



Campus Ministries

The University of Scranton

How do I apply?

Apply online through Royal Sync.

Where can I get more information about the ISP trips?

Attend one of the Service Trip Information Sessions that occur during the early part of the Fall semester.

What if I can't attend an Information Session?

There are four sessions scheduled at different times during the week, so you should be able to get to one of them. If you're still unable to attend, contact the ISP Coordinator [Barbara King](#) immediately to make alternative arrangements.

What is the cost?

Participating students are required to pay \$1600 through individual fundraising. Additional group fundraising events take place on campus throughout the year – like the Great Commons Ball Roll and Family Weekend Basket Raffle. Additionally, the ISP Coordinator works closely with the Development Office and the entire University community to provide resources and activities to support fundraising efforts.

Can first-year students participate in ISP?

All classes including first-year and graduate students are encouraged to apply. Because some majors require students to take part in summer academic work, students should check with their Academic Advisors to gain a better understanding of their possible conflicts.

What does it mean to be a “faith-based program?”

At The University of Scranton, service is an essential part of who we are as a community. The ISP trips seek to instill a sense that service is a way to honor our relationship with and grow closer to God because service is a response to a Divine call to help others in need in order to foster greater peace and justice in our world. Prayer and reflection play a significant part of this experience. Through participation in small and large group discussions, self-awareness activities, journaling, and service, ISP students have an opportunity to grow closer to God.

Can I still apply if I am not a religious person?

ISP is open to students from all faith traditions or no faith tradition. Participants do not have to be Catholic or religious to be part of ISP, but each participant is asked to be open to learning more about and respectful of the University's Catholic and Jesuit tradition.

When do I find out if I am selected?

Students are typically notified via email during the first few weeks of November. Those not selected are encouraged to follow up with the ISP Coordinator for feedback prior to the end of the fall semester and to re-apply the following year.

What happens after I am accepted?

ISP students attend retreats and meetings that are designed to prepare students for their ISP experience through country education, prayer, reflection, and community builders. ISP participants are required to attend:

1. Two retreats in February and August/September
2. Four monthly large group meetings (February, March, April, and May)
3. Six to eight country specific service group meetings that occur between February and May

How do I “bring it back”?

It is our fervent hope that students are transformed by their ISP experience and so, too, transform the way they live their lives. As ISP alumni, students are challenged to “live in solidarity with those most in need” by being mindful of where they devote their time, money, and talents upon their return. A Renewal Retreat in August gives participants an opportunity to identify ways to continue to learn and grow from their ISP experience.

2017-2018 Timeline

Family Weekend Basket Raffle

Friday, September 22 and Saturday, September 23

Service Trip Information Sessions (405 DeNaples Center)

Sunday, September 24 – 8:30pm

Monday, September 25 – 4pm

Tuesday, September 26 – 6pm

Wednesday, September 27 - Noon

Service Trip Applications available on Royal Sync

Wednesday, September 27

Service Trip Applications DEADLINE

Wednesday, October 11

Interview Invitations Emails Distributed

Friday, October 13

Interviews – location and times TBD

Monday, October 16 – Friday, October 27

Retreat (Chapman Lake Retreat Center – CLRC)

Friday, February 2 – Saturday, February 3 or

Saturday, February 3 - Sunday, February 4

Monthly Large Group Meetings with Coordinator (228 Brennan Hall)

Monday or Tuesday options – February 12 or 13, March 19 or 20, and April 16 or 17 – Noon

Weekly Service Group Meetings with Peer Facilitator and Chaperones (locations TBD)

6-8 Meetings throughout the spring semester – specific dates/times determined by group

Service Trip Commissioning Mass and Dinner Celebration (Byron Center and Long Center)

Saturday, March 4, 5pm (mass) and 6:30pm (dinner/celebration after mass)

Family Day (DeNaples Ballroom and the Byron Center)

Saturday, April 7, 11:30am-5pm

The Great Commons Ball Roll (The Commons by St. Thomas Hall/Library)

Wednesday, April 25, 11am-1pm

(Thursday, April 26 – Rain Date)

Renewal Retreat (CLRC)

Saturday, September 1 – 9am-4pm