

Changing Lives: Some FAQs

- *Who can apply to the program and are there any notable restrictions?*
- *How do students apply?*
- *What criteria govern acceptance?*

Partner universities are responsible for the student selection process, which is managed through their outward mobility departments. Changing Lives accepts both undergraduate and postgraduate full time university students. Universities are encouraged to choose students that are high achieving and may not usually get the chance to travel to the Arab World normally.

- *How are students placed?*
- *How long is the typical duration of placement?*

Students are accommodated in private apartments in the same building for between 10-14 days. Male and Female residences are separated but detailed apartment sharing arrangements are up to the students and their staff supervisors.

- *What costs are involved?*

Partner universities and their students will cover the costs of travel tickets and visas – different universities may develop different agreements in this regard.

All in-country costs are covered by Changing Lives. Changing Lives run some activities that require donations of the students' choice (typically up to 50 Pounds) but these are not compulsory.

- *Do students gain credit for completing placements? If not academic credit, then do they gain any other form of recognition?*

Credit arrangements for students are subject to each university's arrangement with Changing Lives. Participants in Changing Lives receive certificates of completion from the program and membership access to the Changing Lives Alumni program.

- *What are your risk-assessment protocols? How is risk managed whilst students are in-country?*

Changing Lives coordinates closely with the Ministry of Interior and informs them of all activities. Further, the details of our trips are never publically available until after they have occurred.

In accommodating the students Changing Lives assures that they are all in secure buildings with permanent doormen. As well as at least one University staff member, Changing Lives staff are with the students 24 hours a day. Students are provided with mobile phones with staff contact numbers and any non-program outings must be approved by Changing Lives staff.

All students are transported together by professional coach and students receive safety briefings before each trip and activity. These briefings cover physical and cultural issues as well as personal health concerns. Changing Lives also closely follows all safety advice from the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office and British Embassy in Amman.

- *Do students need to take out any additional insurance to cover their placements?*

Student insurance is covered by the universities under individual arrangements.

Please contact Alex Ray – Changing Lives Coordinator – via alex.ray@easternholding.org for further information.