

SIPA

SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL
AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



Purpose:

The Ambassadors Program is a joint effort between the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid, the Office of Students Affairs and SIPASA. The Ambassadors Program connects current students with prospective and newly admitted students to help them to explore if SIPA is the right place for them and assist them with their transition to graduate school. Our students are a vital link for future and incoming students to learn about the SIPA experience at a personal level and to help them make informed decisions about pursuing their graduate education at SIPA.

Who Can Participate?

We invite all current first- and second-year MIA and MPA students who want to make a positive difference at SIPA. We seek a diverse body of students to join us, reflecting the school's multi-faceted community. We highly encourage students from all countries, backgrounds and concentrations, including dual-degree and exchange students, to become involved. This is a wonderful opportunity to help make the Admissions and Orientation processes for prospective and incoming students more helpful, enjoyable and memorable. It is also a great extracurricular activity to have on your resume!

What You Can Do:

You can participate in The Ambassadors Program through any (or all!) of the following activities:

Outreach

- ❖ Help out at Open House in early April for newly admitted students
- ❖ Participate in information sessions for prospective students
- ❖ Respond by e-mail to prospective students asking about questions related to SIPA
- ❖ Participate on SIPA's on-line Message Board for newly admitted students

Orientation

- ❖ Serve as a mentor for incoming students beginning in early summer and throughout their first semester
- ❖ Help out in late August at the Orientation Week for incoming fall semester students
- ❖ Help out in January at the Orientation Week for incoming spring semester students

Others

- ❖ Serve on a committee related to Orientation and Outreach events
- ❖ Provide feedback on improving the admissions/application process, Open House, and Orientation activities

What Are the Requirements?

We are looking for enthusiastic and motivated individuals who are willing to be committed to the program. We respect your busy schedule and want to ensure you that your time as an Ambassador will be productive, worthwhile and fun! We also want to reflect the professionalism of our student body as we reach out to prospective students through this initiative; therefore, if you agree to be an Ambassador, we ask that you follow a few simple guidelines:

- Commit fully to the Ambassadors Program in the area of your choice.
- Respond to prospective students' questions in a prompt fashion and adhere to activity deadlines.
- Communicate in a way that reflects positively upon SIPA and SIPASA.
- Provide feedback with us regarding your volunteer experience as well as suggestions for improving The Ambassadors Program.
- If for any reason you must withdraw from The Ambassadors Program or you encounter problems, please let us know!

What can you expect from us?

- We will communicate with you mainly by e-mail.
- We will provide all the important and necessary information to ensure your success in the Ambassador Program
- We will respond to your emails and questions promptly and support you through the entire Ambassador process

When Are Most of the Activities?

- SIPA's Open House 2009—Tuesday, April 14th
- Orientation—Fall Semester: Late August/Early September, Spring Semester: mid-January
- Outreach to prospective students—throughout the year dependent upon your availability

Sign Up

- Register Online using the form on Student Life Page of the Resources and Services area of SIPA's Website
<https://www1.columbia.edu/pamacea/login.shtml?target=/sec/cu/sipa/STUDENTS/ambassador/ambassador.html&pamservice=both&userfile=/wwws/data/cu/sipa/SCHOOL/Facebook/httpsswd-webacl.udb>
- Submit a Registration form to the SIPASA office on the 6th Floor (Available in the SIPASA office)

Questions? Contact Your Outreach and Orientations Chairs

MIA: Alberto Valverde (adv2102)

MPA: Dan Perez (dap2136)