

Geo Communities Semester Application Form

Please type or print clearly in ink

Program: _____ 2000

Name _____ M/F _____ Today's date _____
Last First Middle

Permanent home address _____

Current address, if different _____

Home phone _____ Current phone _____

Email _____

Date of birth _____ Age _____ Place of birth _____ Soc. Sec. # _____

Mother's/guardian's name _____ Occupation _____

Mother's address _____ Phone _____

Father's/guardian's name _____ Occupation _____

Father's address _____ Phone _____

Parents' marital status: married _____ separated _____ divorced _____ other, specify _____

Names and ages of brothers/sisters _____

Person to be billed for tuition _____

Address _____

Emergency contacts: (Parent or other. Please fill out both.)

Name _____ Relationship _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Name _____ Relationship _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Citizenship _____ Ethnic background (optional): _____

Passport # _____ Issue date _____ Issue place _____ Expiration date _____

How did you learn about this program? _____

Academic credit for this program: Require ___ Not require ___ Can arrange through current school (indep. study) ___

Financial aid: Require to attend this program ___ Not require ___ Uncertain ___ Do you now receive fin. aid? ___

Current school or college _____ Major _____ Grade level _____ GPA _____

We have designed the following questions about your background, values, and goals to help all of us get to know each other better and decide if we are indeed a good match for this special learning community experience. We realize the limitations of the written word and therefore request phone conversations and a personal meeting. Bring along artistic work, writings, and photo albums if you like. We are grateful for your efforts, your interest in our program, and trust in us. Keep your writing simple and brief while reaching for your "growing edge"—that place or process in your development that is bringing forth something new, challenging, and enriching. Please read over the entire application before you start writing. Take a deep breath, relax, and enjoy this process of exploring yourself through our questions. If you find questions, agreements, or responsibilities that are not clear or raise doubts, give us a call or even reconsider if this is the right program for you. We hope it is but also realize that the demands, commitment, values, and experimental mood of our program are only appropriate for some.

EDUCATION, give significant experiences including summer and foreign studies:

School Name

Location

Grade Levels/Dates

Diploma/Degree

Honors or awards, academic or otherwise _____

WORK EXPERIENCE, paid or volunteer:

Employer

Dates of Employment

Responsibilities

List most significant activities and interests such as extracurricular, community, family, travel, hobbies:

Indicate interests, experience, and skills in the following:

Environmental

Studies _____

Music _____

Drama/Dance _____

Arts/crafts _____

Languages _____

Sports _____

Wilderness camping _____

Travel _____

Gardening _____

Nature _____

First Aid _____

Other _____

HEALTH: Describe your general physical and emotional condition. Do you have any ailments, allergies, or special diets that might affect your participation in our program? _____

Are you under professional treatment or taking prescription drugs? ____ If yes, describe. _____

Do you exercise regularly? ____ If yes, what kind? _____

AGREEMENTS for Geo Communities Semester Participants

In choosing to live and travel in a learning community, there are specific agreements that we ask that you make to one another to facilitate a healthy, sustainable program. We aspire to build a strong learning community by adopting the good principles and practices that we have gathered from many contemporary sources, wisdom traditions, and viable learning communities. We have tested most of them over many years of facilitating these programs. We ask you to reflect carefully on the following agreements. Your understanding of them and commitment to abide by them is essential for our community experiment. We offer them on the basis of their own proven value and authority, not as a "set of rules." If you need more explanation from us, please give a call. Know that the Geo Program is rooted in honesty, self-examination, openness, close community interaction, physical/emotional risks and responsibilities, experimentation in high ideals, and regular work at one's growing edges. All of us will need to discuss our agreements occasionally to meet the diverse circumstances, people, and questions that we encounter. Some agreements will bring up pressures under the intense experiences of cross-cultural living. However, as long as we remain participants in the current program we commit to keeping these agreements and supporting the community in our practice of them.

Geo Communities Semester Learning Agreement

I will participate actively in the design, presentations, class interaction, and assignments of coursework.

I will support my own learning and that of other community members by:

- keeping a regular journal and portfolio of my work to be shared periodically with the community;
- giving presentations on special interests;
- taking part in fieldwork, research, and service-learning projects;

Geo Communities Semester Community Agreement

I will participate regularly and support others in: daily quiet meeting; community meetings; consensus process; care of our buildings and environment; community work, projects, games, celebrations, vegetarian eating and other activities.

I will keep the following agreements as long as I am enrolled in the Geo Program:

- I will not use tobacco products, alcohol, or illegal drugs.
- I will not form sexual relationships with other members of our community (excepting long-term couples who apply together). The energy, care, and commitment that such relationships require can overextend one's capacities to contribute fully in our close community situation as well as lead to divisions in the group.
- I will maintain a neat and "low-profile" appearance, especially in communities that we visit in our travels, in order to facilitate a wide acceptance and respect for our group.
- I will work in all of these ways and others to provide a healthy, harmonious, joyful community for the wellbeing of myself, society, environment, and future generations.

Please sign that you have understood these agreements and will commit to them for the duration of the program:

Signature

Date

PERSONAL STATEMENT Please write and attach a brief essay addressing the following:

Give an autobiographical sketch, indicating special events, people, ideas, and educational experiences that have influenced or changed you. (Write this either separately or weave it together with the next questions.)

Where are you heading and what questions and goals do you carry at present?

How do you think Geo Program can help you move toward your goals?

What can you contribute to the Geo learning community?

RECOMMENDATIONS and TRANSCRIPTS

1) We request two letters of recommendation, one from an adult teacher or mentor and one from your parent, to be sent directly to us. These recommendations will be kept confidential.

Name of teacher/mentor _____ Position and relationship to you _____

Address _____

Name of Parent _____

2) A copy of your most recent transcript from high school or college is necessary to complete this application. Please have it sent directly to us.

3) We request a non-refundable application fee of \$50.

Make checks payable to the Living Routes / Geo Communities Semester and send with this application to:

Admissions, Geo Communities Semester

PO Box 538

Durham, NH 03824

603-862-3880

fax: 603-862-4976

When we have received your recommendations, transcripts, and application with fee, we will contact you to arrange an interview.

Is there anything else you'd like us to know about yourself? If so, please write here or attach a sheet.

I have read the above statements and given information that is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Your signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian's signature _____ Date _____

(if applicant is under 18)

Living Routes, Inc. does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, veteran's status, or handicap, in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities.

Geo Communities Semester Reference Form

Please mail to:
Geo Communities Semester
PO Box 538
Durham, NH 03824

Student Applicant: _____ Date: _____

The Geo Communities Semester is affiliated with the University of New Hampshire's Dept. of Natural Resources. Our coursework is approved and accredited by the University. Our students live and travel for 15 weeks as a learning community exploring the interface of ecology, community and spirit. It is an intensive immersion program that takes students to four different international, intentional communities in North America, France and India, focusing their studies and investigations on sustainable living practices. Please fill out the following questions giving us your most accurate and heartfelt recommendation about this student with the knowledge that s/he will be expected to do academic work in the midst of new cultures while living with a group of other students. We appreciate the time you are taking to recommend this student. We appreciate your support and interest in programs such as ours.

1. How long and under what circumstances have you known the applicant?

2. According to the following criteria, how would you evaluate the applicant?

Excellent (E) Good (G) Fair (F) Poor (P) Unable to Evaluate (U)

Academic Ability _____
Academic interest and motivation _____
Reliability/integrity _____
Level of maturity _____
Adaptability in facing new situations _____
Self-confidence and self esteem _____
Relates well to others _____
Open-mindedness _____
Ability for realistic self-appraisal _____

3. If you were a resident director of an overseas academic program, would you be
(Check one) Eager _____ Willing _____ Reluctant _____
to have this applicant participate?

4. Recommendation is based primarily on: Check one:
Coursework _____ Some personal contact _____ significant person contact _____

5. What contributions do you think an international education experience might make to the student's academic and personal development?

6. Please state frankly your opinion of this candidate's chances for success (both academic and community living) in this program. Assess the applicant's assets/strengths as well as weaknesses.

7. Do you have any information or suggestions regarding the candidate that would be helpful for us in determining if this student is a match for our program? Anything you feel you should make us aware of?