

INTERNATIONAL ANCHOR ALLIES (IAA) CAPTAIN EXPECTATIONS

The Captain serves as a leader within the International Anchor Allies (iAA) peer support program, providing guidance, support, and coordination for a Ship of Navigators and Sailors. This volunteering role bridges the gap between program Staff and Navigators, ensuring that all participants have the resources, training, and support needed.

The Captains liaise with the International Anchor Allies Graduate Assistant (GA) and the Program Coordinator and guide Ships. Captains are expected to commit 4 - 6 hours per month volunteering in the program which could include mixer activities, ship meet-ups, coordination and providing feedback to the program through surveys. This volunteering opportunity is available on a semesterly basis, and Captains are selected based on previous experience and participation in the iAA program.

PRIMARY EXPECTATIONS

- Participate in all required peer support training and professional development opportunities.
- Assist with new Navigator orientation within Ship.
- Help plan and facilitate program events, training sessions, or social mixers.
- Organize and facilitate monthly Ship meetings (virtual or in-person).
- Document each group and one-on-one monthly mixer in a journal or check-in form including pictures and/or videos.
- Assist with program assessment and evaluation activities as needed.
- Ensure the completion of peer support agreement forms within Ships and between Navigators and Sailors.
- Help Navigators navigate challenges in their support through active listening and problem-solving.
- Share best practices, resources, and strategies for effective peer support.
- Identify Navigators who may need additional support and connect them with program GA or staff.
- Collect feedback from Ship members to inform program improvements.
- Contribute ideas for program enhancement and innovation.
- Uphold program values of respect, inclusivity, and confidentiality.
- Guide Navigators to achieve stated goals for joining the program.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

- Current GVSU student in good academic standing (minimum 3.0 GPA).
- Successful completion of at least one year of academic work at GVSU.
- Successful completion of at least one semester as an International Anchor Allies mentor (now referred to as Navigator).
- Demonstrated commitment to supporting international students and intercultural learning.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills are important.
- Ability to collaborate and build positive relationships.
- Reliable, organized, and able to manage multiple responsibilities.
- Commitment to program duration

SIGN-UP AND SELECTION PROCESS

Interested volunteers should complete the Navigator and additional Captain sign up form.

Selection will be based on demonstrated leadership potential, commitment to the program's mission, interpersonal skills, and ability to support fellow iStudents. Current performance as a Navigator will also be considered.

For questions about this position, please contact:

International Anchor Allies Program GA / Coordinator

International Students Services (ISS)

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