Buddy Programme

Informace o programu v češtině naleznete zde .

Buddy programme connects local and international students at Charles University. The local student, "buddy", is a volunteer who is a guide and friend to an international student. Buddies help international students with an orientation in the new environment, take care of necessary formalities at the beginning of their stay and share what the Czech Republic has to offer.

A buddy has a unique opportunity to meet students from all over the world and improve her or his language skills. It is an excellent opportunity to meet new people and discover what studying in a foreign country means.

International students arrive before the start of the semester, and that is your chance to meet with them and become a buddy. Many international students come to Charles University before the beginning of the winter semester. However, **we are always welcoming new students to the programme.**

Since the academic year 2020/2021, the Buddy programme has become a part of the lifelong learning programme. Buddies have the opportunity to receive a certificate confirming their participation in the programme.

How to become a buddy?

Registration starts through the web application Broaddy . The buddy's registration needs to be approved by the faculty coordinator, and afterwards, **the buddy will gain access to the database**. Due to data protection, names and contacts are not published, but you may choose according to nationality, gender, hobbies and other available information. A chosen international student will be automatically notified. Should any personal data need to be corrected or changed, it is necessary to contact the Buddy programme coordinator. Contact information is available below.

How to obtain a certificate?

Suppose the buddy is a student of Charles University and completed at least one semester. In that case, it is possible to receive the certificate of participation for the Buddy programme, which is now a part of the lifelong learning programme. Obtaining the certificate is purely voluntary and does not influence participation in the programme itself.

The programme will be evaluated at the end the semester, and buddies fulfilling the criteria will receive the certificate.

Where can I find further information and contacts?

All information and recommendations are available in the Buddy Guide, which can be downloaded in English here .

Contact person for CU rectorate

- Tomáš Konečný - tomas.konecny@ruk.cuni.cz

It is also possible to join the FB group Buddy Program Charles University . This group allows the buddies to communicate and exchange experiences, help each other or obtain information concerning student events.

How do international students rate the Buddy programme?

"She was so helpful, kind and funny! She gave me her bike; she showed me very cool places in Prague that otherwise I would not have seen. ***Perfect Buddy!*** *"*
- Marisol, Germany
" ***I'm happy to say that my buddy contributed greatly to my positive Erasmus experience.*** *Not only he helped get around the university but he also showed me some cool places and gave me great tips, as well as being always super helpful when I had any doubt."*
- Maria, Portugal
"He is genuinely one of the coolest people to hang out with, very knowledgeable but also laid back. He was also ***extremely helpful*** *when I was settling in, and he was very good at keeping in touch all the way through my exchange period."*
- Rudis, Latvia