What is the International Student Mentorship Program (ISMP)?
The International Student Mentorship Program pairs new international students with experienced U of M students who have participated in training covering performance as a mentor and providing support to their mentee during their transition and induction into life at the University of Manitoba. The mentors will provide intercultural, personal, and academic support to their partner through one-on-one interactions and conversations.

Time Commitment
Mentors with the ISMP will be required to meet and communicate with their mentees for an entire academic term (September to December or January to April). Mentors will first contact their mentee via e-mail or Skype to introduce themselves and answer questions before the student arrives in Winnipeg. Once the student arrives in Winnipeg mentors are expected to meet with their mentee approximately once per week (for 1 to 2 hours) and be available via e-mail should their mentee have questions or concerns.

The total time commitment for this program in an academic term is 18 hours. Mentors must attend three mandatory training sessions.

Mentor Goals and Responsibilities
Through the ISMP, a mentor will:
• engage in pre-arrival communication with their mentee
• provide new international students with arrival support for tasks such as registering for courses, paying fees, obtaining a U of M ID card, etc.
• create a safe and open environment that encourages mentees to talk, discuss their concerns, and ask questions
• make referrals to student services on campus if needed
• schedule weekly meetings to create a supportive environment for their mentee during their transition to the U of M
• communicate with their mentee via e-mail in between weekly meetings (if needed)
• provide feedback and reports to the Program Coordinator throughout the program

Mentor Qualifications
In order for an applicant to qualify to be a mentor with the ISMP, they must:
• have been enrolled at the U of M for at least one year (taking 18 or more credit hours)
• be in good academic standing

While previous volunteer experience would be considered an asset, it is not a requirement of the program.

Mentor Recognition
Upon successful completion of the program the mentor will receive recognition on their Co-Curricular Record.

Where Can I Get More Information?
For more information about the ISMP, please contact Sibeso.Maswenyeho@umanitoba.ca.

How do I Apply?
Applications for all Student Peer Mentorship Programs (including the ISMP) are submitted through UMCommunityLINK. Visit https://communitylink.umanitoba.ca/form/start/10147 and follow the link to the application on UMCommunityLINK.