

PARENTS GUIDE



Becoming Global Citizens

Since 2011, the All-American Model UN Programs have been using Model United Nations as a vehicle to show students the world. In addition to improving Model UN skills, we believe in educating students through action, experience, and most importantly, travel.



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the All-American Model United Nations community!

Even though your son or daughter has applied for admission, our community is made up of the families that support them. It is not uncommon for families to become close friends with each other or with me!

In fact, **over 60%** of students who participate enroll in at least two programs while in high school! This is a testament to the trust that families place in programs with All-American Model UN.

Because we are not a giant company, you can expect a personal level of service, short response times, and a wide range of flexibility. For each program, I will be your single point of contact. Whether you have questions about flights, hotel arrangements, dietary restrictions, academic requirements, or special requests, I'd be happy to help you.

If nothing else, I urge you to ask questions. There are many ways in which we can assist and cater to your needs. The best resource for many new families is to speak with the parents of previous students with whom we have worked.

I work to make sure each student has a unique experience, so all of our programs are purposely small to ensure every student has individual attention to grow and learn.

Read through this document, get to know us a little more, and ask as many questions as you have. I'll be here whenever you need me.

Cheers,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Frank E. Pobutkiewicz', written in a cursive style.

Frank E. Pobutkiewicz

Founder, Director All-American Model UN Programs

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Our Story and History

Our story began in 2012 when the inaugural All-American Model United Nations team left Boston to represent the USA at the WEMUN Expo conference hosted in Beijing, China. What started as a single team has evolved into a community of Model UN enthusiasts who share common belief in global citizenry and a drive for improvement.

Since 2012, we have expanded the opportunities for our students to travel around the world. We have organized programs to conferences in China, India, Hungary, Poland, Spain, Panama, Costa Rica, and Vietnam. Each trip adds a different experience and learning objective to our students' experiences.

To better serve our students, we have built out online resources, training material, courses, and videos. In 2015, we launched our Diplomacy Academy— a one-week intensive program hosted in Boston designed to bring the skills of our students to the next level.

We believe and practice the following values:

- Every student can improve, and we want to work with students with a commitment to self-improvement.
- We stress a solutions-focused research approach to improve students' critical analysis skills.
- We believe strengthening the skills needed to succeed in Model UN strengthens the skills needed to succeed in college.
- We value international exposure as a way to challenge our beliefs, increase our global awareness, and appreciate cultural similarities.
- We emphasize the value of long-term relationships and want members of our community to support each other for years to come.

Meet the Director

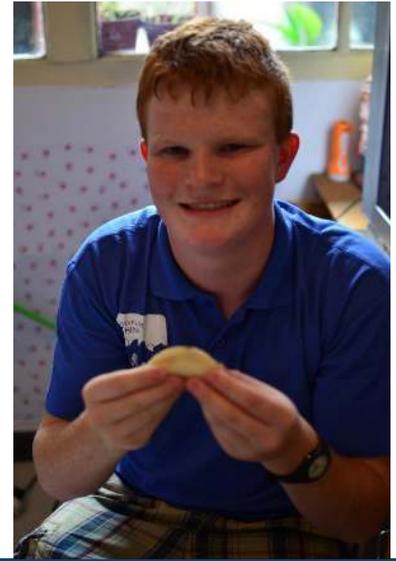
Frank Pobutkiewicz has over 15 years of experience in Model UN activities. A graduate of Boston University with degrees in International Relations and Business, Frank launched BU's International Affairs Association and collected over 20 awards from collegiate-level Model UN conferences. Outside of Model UN, Frank is an active entrepreneur and also runs Whiteboard Youth Ventures, an entrepreneurial development company and incubator for high school students.



Mom Says It Best!

"It was the best experience of my life," were the words my son said during a presentation to his peers at a meeting describing his All-American experience. My son's experience was remarkable. He grew more confident in his abilities, learned so much about the world, met incredible people, and felt he had accomplished something great in being part of the All American Model UN Team.

I would highly recommend this experience to any individual who has an interest in exploring international affairs through the Model UN Experience!



The Application Process

The All-American Model UN Programs are strictly merit-based. We use a common application for acceptance into all of our programs, so students do not need to reapply to each team or program on which they wish to participate. Once a student is accepted, they may enroll in as many programs as they would like until their college matriculation.

We evaluate application in three parts:

- 1 Academic performance and course selection,
- 2 Co-curricular leadership, and
- 3 Model United Nations experience and performance.

Each year, we receive between 150-200 applications. Over the past five year, our acceptance rate averages just over 55%, which is not indicative not of lenient admissions requirements, but of the strength and competitiveness of the applicant pool

How We Evaluate Applicants

The All-American Model UN Programs does not compare applicants. Instead, we weigh each applicant on their own merits. If a school only attends one or two conference per year, it would be unfair for us to hold them against the student.

Application Decisions

After reviewing applications, we will offer one of three responses:

- We may ask applicants to reapply in the future with more experience;
- **Conditional Acceptance**— students who are accepted conditionally must attend the Diplomacy Academy in Boston before traveling;
- **Full Acceptance**— after receiving a full acceptance, students may participate in any program they wish.



How to Enroll after Acceptance

Enrolling in programs is easy! After a student is accepted, they will be sent a link with all of the official acceptance materials. Included in that material is a document titled “How to Register,” which will give you a step-by-step guide for enrolling in programs. This document gives details about deadlines, but if you are interested in enrolling in a program after the deadline, please contact the Program Director to see if seats are still available.

Here’s the abridged version:

1. You must submit a signed copy of the **Program Agreement Form** with the appropriate program selected. Forms are accepted by mail or email.
2. You must submit a **\$600 deposit** to secure your seat. Your participation is not guaranteed until we receive your deposit.
3. Once your participation is confirmed, the Program Director may ask for additional information.



Financial Assistance

We understand that international travel can be expensive for many families, and we never want cost to stand in the way of enrollment.

Comparatively, our tuitions tend towards the lower end of the student travel spectrum.

While we unfortunately cannot offer any of our programs at no cost, there are plenty of ways in which we can help assist families. When in doubt, please ask what we can do to help!

Our financial assistance application can be found online at <http://allamericanmun.com/finaid>. Our financial assistance is limited, so please only apply for what your family needs to support your student.

Financial assistance includes grants to lower total tuition amounts and monthly no-interest payment plans for lower payments over time. Last year, we were able to give financial assistance to 85% of those who applied. Tax records or payment stubs may be requested of those who apply.

In addition to our resources, many of our students have raised as much as \$10,000 to support their travels! Fundraising can be a great way to get your community involved and excited. For more information, please contact the Program Director who will put you in touch with students who have run successful fundraising campaigns.



Safety and Security

Since 2011, we have never had a safety or security issue on any of our programs, a record of which we are very proud. Our first priority is always the safety and security of our students. We have multiple safety and security protocols that all of our staff is trained in. If you would like to discuss, our policies and practices in depth, please contact the Program Director.

Student to Staff Ratio of no more than 8:1

Our ideal student to staff ratio is 8:1 and we will never have more than eight students to any one member of our team.

24/7 Communication

While we are overseas, parents have total access to the staff by email, phone, and text. Please do not

hesitate to contact us. We will also communicate with parents on a regular basis to provide updates.

Trusted Partners

All of the conferences which we attend are organized by seasoned and trusted partners with whom we have been working with for years.

Insurance

While many of our local partners have insurance for students, we require all of our students to travel with a copy of their insurance information.

Code of Conduct

Students and parents must read, understand, and agree to abide by our Student Code of Conduct which can be found at allamericanmun.com/terms.



Parent References

The best way to find out more about All-American Model UN is to speak to the parents from past years. We have a number of Moms and Dads who want to speak with new parents about their experiences working with All-American. There is no better testament to the community we foster than the support we receive from families.

On a more personal note, the holiday cards, birthday cards, and graduation invitations that I receive from families are the highlight of my job.

Please let me know if you'd like to speak with parents who have worked with us, and you won't be disappointed!