

# Applications HOST Board 2020-2021

Organize activities every Friday night with the mission to *'create a home away from home for international students'*. Cooperate with O.C.S.G., SKLO and international associations allowing you to gain informal board experience. Being part of the board can be combined with a full time study and being part of another student association. It is important that you feel affinity with international students, that you want to work with different cultures and backgrounds and that you support the mission of HOST. It is not a problem if you have never visited HOST before applying. If you have any questions, please contact Maarten, our external coordinator (+31683039235) or send an email to [hostifes@gmail.com](mailto:hostifes@gmail.com). If you want to apply right away, please send a motivation letter to [hostifes@gmail.com](mailto:hostifes@gmail.com). You can apply until May 16th.



# Foundation HOST-IFES is looking for a new board!

**Do you want to become part of the new HOST board in 2020-2021? Send an application letter to [hostifes@gmail.com](mailto:hostifes@gmail.com), then we will invite you for an informal interview.**

## **What is HOST?**

HOST stands for: "Hospitality for Overseas Students". Our aim is to create a 'home away from home' in Groningen. Most students who visit us are Christian, but HOST is for everyone. The atmosphere at HOST is relaxed, informal and inviting/hospitable. We are looking for the things that really matter in life. Therefore we want to talk about faith and we want to share our faith with non-Christian students and next to that we want to build long lasting relationships among HOSTies.

HOST is an official foundation since the end of 2018, which also means it does not have any members. People are free to come and go whenever they like. The foundation only has a board, no members or committees. The group of visitors is very dynamic and there are also many students who visit HOST a few times a year but do not visit activities regularly. This fits the character of HOST: hospitable and flexible. Besides familiar faces, we see new people show up at our activities a lot. This makes it very fun. Even if you are not interested in becoming a board member, feel free to just show up at our activities and check out one of the international student organizations in Groningen!

## **Why would you want to become a board member at HOST?**

- You can do important work for students that are new in Groningen or do not have a place of their own
- You are able to build a big network with contacts all over the world
- It is one of the most educational experiences
- You can organize and attend nice and interesting activities on Friday night
- It is an informal board
- You will learn how to collaborate with people from other cultures and with other backgrounds
- It is really doable next to a full time study
- It is a nice addition to your CV and good to practice your English
- You can go to constitution socials of other associations and increase your network
- You will be compensated monetarily for your work in the board with a small board grant from SKLO
- You will carry out interesting and dynamic tasks

## **What do you do as the HOST board?**

The biggest part of the work is done together, as a team, apart from the tasks that belong to your function. For the board there is room to discuss who should do what and to divide the tasks yourselves. Every Friday there is a HOST-activity from 19:30 till 23:30 (approximately). About 50% of the evenings will be social and fun events focused on building friendships and the other 50% will be

focused on more serious topics and allow you to dig deeper together into faith, societal or life stance related topics.

You can use a lot of creativity in the activities you are organizing, such as a(n):

- Culture night (students who present their culture through local dishes and games for example)
- Pub quiz
- Documentary or movie night
- Game night
- International diner
- Themed gala
- Lectures by a guest speaker
- Sports or active activity (for example going to an escape room, skating, pooling or dancing)

Besides that, you will also organize two weekends away per year, managed by the Events coordinator. These could be a city trip or visiting one of the Dutch islands.

During the activities the board should be focused on involving everyone in the activities and new people that arrive should be taken care of. Next to that you will help international students with finding their way in Groningen and inform them about things like international churches or International Student Alpha and any other activities that might be of interest to them.

With all these tasks the HOST board can expect help from the IFES-workers, who also work in the SKLO building where the HOST board usually meets. This makes it easy to approach them.

HOST is part of O.C.S.G. (the overarching organization for all Christian student organizations in Groningen) and SKLO (the overarching organization for life stance related organizations). HOST also cooperates with other international student organizations like GISP (Groningen International Student Platform). HOST tries to create a bridge between the Dutch and international student culture and has a unique position in between churches, associations and other organizations.

### **What different board functions are there?**

#### **Chair(wo)man**

- Preferably Dutch speaking
- Keeps an eye on the vision, goals and long term planning
- Monitors collaboration within board
- Plans and chairs meetings and makes agendas for these meetings
- Coordinates plans with other organizations like Vineyard Student Ministry
- Keeps in touch with IFES workers
- Is the spokesperson of HOST
- Plans fun bonding activities for the board
- Supports other board members with tasks

#### **Internal coordinator**

- Dutch or international
- Publishes and promotes events and HOST in general on social media (Facebook and Instagram)
- Manages the website and keeps it up to date

- Promotes internal events internally
- Takes minutes of board meetings
- Creates flyers, posters and Facebook banners (promotion material)
- Communicates with English speaking parties such as the international churches
- Possibly sends out newsletter
- Carries out any small errands that need to be run to keep the events and board running

#### Treasurer

- Dutch speaking
- Makes budget and income statement
- Manages expenses, invoices and declarations
- Requests and justifies subsidies
- Requests donations and contributions from churches and visitors
- Goes to SKLO meetings about subsidy a few times a year

#### External coordinator

- Dutch speaking
- Goes to O.C.S.G. meetings and promotes HOSTs interests
- Keeps in touch with O.C.S.G. associations
- Visits constitution socials
- Promotes both internal events externally and external events internally
- Communicates with SKLO regarding the building
- Initiates involvement in external events and organizations such as Happietaria and the Passion Week
- Possibly cooperate with International Cafe and GSp

#### Events coordinator (Dutch or international)

- Organizes summer and winter weekend away
- Organizes international event with other international organizations and O.C.S.G.
- Is ultimately responsible for the Friday events

Within the board you sometimes move tasks around and you make use of people's talents and schedules. If you apply, you do not have to apply for a specific function. You are allowed to do so, but it is not obligated.

#### **How much time will it take?**

Per week it takes approximately three hours to work on HOST tasks and activities and three hours to meet with the board: in total around six hours a week. Next to that you try to be there at the Friday night events, but not the whole board has to be there every Friday night, so you can take turns with that.

#### **Is it strange to become a board member of an organization you have never been to?**

Well, it might be a little, but you will get to know most people in the first few weeks which makes you learn a lot about the organization during that time. You will receive a lot of gratitude from the HOSTies because you plan events for them and it might be the only time in a week that they have a fun activity that is specifically targeted at relationship building and in making them have a good time without any prior commitment. It's a very valuable experience, not just for now but also for your CV! You meet people from all over the world and can learn from their perspective on this world and the things that happen in it. Next to all that, HOST does not have many traditions, which makes it much easier to understand the foundation within a reasonable time and to get involved quickly.

### **Would you like to know more?**

To see a bit of our activities and to get more information about our organization, please visit our website at [www.host groningen.nl](http://www.host groningen.nl), or check out our Facebook and Instagram at [www.facebook.com/hostifes groningen/](https://www.facebook.com/hostifes groningen/) and <https://www.instagram.com/hostifes/>.

Activities will be posted on our Facebook as well, so feel free to give us a like to stay up to date and visit us at any time. This is also applicable to anyone who is not interested in becoming a board member.

Do you want to become a board member in the board of 2020-2021? Send your application letter to [hostifes@gmail.com](mailto:hostifes@gmail.com), then we will invite you for an interview.

Kindest regards on behalf of the HOST-board 2019/2020,

Maarten Hoving