

Reef to Rainforest 2019 Checklist

- Passport (6 months remaining post-July 2019)
*if you do not have a passport, apply for one as soon as possible.
- Visa for travel to Malaysia (Not required for US passports)
- Registration form completed, signed and submitted
- Reef to Rainforest Health Form completed, signed and submitted
- Reef to Rainforest Emergency Contact Form completed, signed and submitted
- Reef to Rainforest Photo release signed and submitted (if you choose)
- Inver Hills statement of responsibility and release form signed and submitted
- SEASFiRE Consent and Release Form signed and returned
- Travel doctor office visit completed (strongly recommended)
 - PADI Medical Statement signed and returned
 - By you
 - By your doctor
- PADI Non-Agency Disclosure and Liability Release signed
- PADI Standard Safe Practices of Diving Statement of Understanding signed
- SEASFiRE Student Handbooks completed
- \$400 Deposit paid to SEASFiRE (by 31 January 2019)
- \$2,100 balance payment made to SEASFiRE Ltd. (by 30 April 2019)
- \$800-\$1200 flight payment available for transfer (by 06 May 2019)
- Flights booked

Key Dates

16 August 2018	Program open for registration
31 January 2019	Deposit payment due. Go/no-go decision confirmed.
5 February 2019	Student handbooks distributed
30 April 2019	Final program payment due
6 May 2019	Flight payment available for transfer
10 July 2019	Depart from Minneapolis
12 July 2019	Arrive in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia
23 July 2019	Depart from Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia

Flights

The cost of travel to and from Malaysia is not included in the program cost. We recommend booking flights with the group so we can journey between Minnesota and Malaysia together. With a group of ten or more, we will likely be eligible for a flight discount. We do, however, understand that you may have a preference to book individually for a number of reasons. Please let us know if you will be booking separately from the group.

In order to book flights with the group, you will be required to have payment available for transfer by May 6th 2019. We work hard to minimize cost by investigating a large number of flights and routes. Expect the round-trip flight cost to range from \$800 to \$1200. The purchase is time-sensitive so it is important your payment be available on the listed date. If you miss the payment deadline, you will need to book your own flights.

Reef to Rainforest College Credit Option

Participants on this trip are not required to be Inver Hills Community College students, but optional independent study courses are available through IHCC. You may choose ONE of the two courses to complete as part of the trip.

Independent Study Courses:

BIOL 1002 Humans in the Ecosystem: Special Ecosystems (2 credits)

Introduces students to the interaction of humans and their environment through service learning and active participation in field projects. Students will participate as hands-on volunteers in selected regions, while also investigating the unique natural history of that region. Students will travel to the site, work in partnership with local agencies in various capacities, and engage in field work. This will be supplemented with classroom teaching before, during, and after the event. This course meets goal area 10 of the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum.

BIOL 1190 Research in Biology (1 - 3 Credits)

Introduces students to primary research in biology. In consultation with a faculty member, students will develop a plan to investigate a contemporary research question in biology. Under faculty direction, students will gain hands-on experience using equipment, procedures and techniques to collect data in the laboratory or field. Students will be required to analyze primary data and to communicate their results in writing, orally or in poster form. Other requirements to be determined by arrangement, and outlined in a contract with instructor prior to registration. Students may take this class more than once for a maximum of 9 credits. This course does not meet a goal area, but a research course looks great on a transcript.

All independent studies will be scheduled as Summer Semester 2019 courses and registration will be available starting Spring Semester 2019. In order to register, the instructor and the student will sign a course contract and submit it to the Dean of STEM for approval. Upon approval, the student will be entered into the course and Inver Hills Community College will separately bill the student for the course. Please note that the cost of taking an independent study is not included in the price of the trip.

Register your interest in the independent study option with the instructor, James Schneider: jschneider@inverhills.edu

Reef to Rainforest Funding

Currently, two possible funding routes are available to IHCC students.

1) If you are eligible for financial aid and register for an independent study course on this trip, you may have funds available through the resources that provide your financial aid. Eligibility is determined on an individual basis. If you are interested in this possibility, please make an appointment with IHCC financial aid to determine if funds are available to you for travel associated with one of the two independent study courses listed above. The financial aid office will require information about the course. If you have not completed a FAFSA to determine financial aid eligibility you will need to complete that process as a first step.

2) The Gilman Scholarship is an excellent resource for international student travel for those who are eligible. The dates of the summer 2019 trip should include travel time to meet the two-week minimum requirements of the scholarship. The trip dates are from July 10 to July 24.

Determine if you are eligible here: <https://www.gilmanscholarship.org/program/eligibility/>

Summer Early Application Timeline (Recommended)

mid-August 2018	Application Opens
October 2, 2018	Student Deadline to Submit
October 9, 2018	Advisor Deadline to Certify
December 2018/January 2019	Application Processing & Selection Panels (Only eligible and complete applications will be considered.)
February 2019	Applicant Notification
February/March 2019	Recipient Acceptance & Award Documentation

Summer Application Timeline

mid-January 2018	Application Opens
March 6 2018	Student Deadline to Submit
March 13, 2018	Advisor Deadline to Certify
March/April 2018	Application Processing & Selection Panels (Only eligible and complete applications will be considered.)
April 2018	Applicant Notification
May 2018	Recipient Acceptance & Award Documentation

If you are awarded a scholarship, the summer early application allows for funds to be received before the final trip payment is due. Using the regular summer application, funds would arrive after payment is due so you would need to pay for the trip with your own money and use the scholarship as a reimbursement.

Begin the application process here:

<https://www.gilmanscholarship.org/applicants/application-overview/>

James Schneider is a certifying advisor as mentioned in the scholarship information. Email to let him know you are applying and to ask questions. jschneider@inverhills.edu