

# WALTON INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

## STUDENT MANUAL

### ABOUT THIS MANUAL

The following information is intended to give you, as a Walton Scholar, a start on what you need to know about John Brown University before you get there. The purpose is not to substitute the University Student Handbook, but to respond to your unique opportunity as an international student enrolled in the Walton International Program. Once at John Brown University you will have other questions, but be assured that there will also be other people -- staff, faculty and students willing to lend you a hand and make you feel welcome to our community and, our university.

### PROGRAM BACKGROUND

In May of 1985 the Walton family of Bentonville, Arkansas, announced a donation to three Arkansas institutions of higher education -- University of the Ozarks, Harding University and John Brown University -- to fund scholarships for students in the seven countries of Central America and Mexico (the Scholarship Region). The purpose of this program is to provide a quality university education to the student from the Scholarship Region along with exposing them to the benefits of a society and an economy that flourishes under a free, open and elected government.

Mr. Walton was particularly concerned about the promotion of freedom and democracy in the Scholarship Region. He commented at the time of the gift, "If we want future leaders of Central America to know the benefits of a free society, we need to get large numbers of the student generation up here to the United States. The students will learn skills through the liberal arts curricula of these three fine colleges that will encourage democratic traditions and private development of their countries." We at John Brown University heartily agree with Mr. Walton's concerns and objectives for this Walton International Scholarship Program.

### COMMUNITY

#### SILOAM SPRINGS, ARKANSAS

John Brown University is in Siloam Springs, a town of over 16,000 people in Northwest Arkansas. Siloam Springs has supermarkets, many fast-food restaurants, a theater complex, several mini-malls, a wide variety of churches and two Wal-Marts. Downtown Siloam Springs has several coffee shops, and three small parks along Sager Creek. But the real beauty of Siloam Springs is the gorgeous scenery enhanced by the changing colors of the four seasons.

Northwest Arkansas is predominately a farming area with many small towns scattered throughout the Ozark Mountains. The largest city is Fayetteville (30 minutes from Siloam Springs) with approximately 85,000 people. Fayetteville offers many more shopping choices, restaurants, and entertainment, along with the intellectual environment of the University of Arkansas, the largest university in Arkansas.

JBU has been an important part of Siloam Springs since 1919, when the school was founded. Presently, JBU has a population of over 2,500 students and approximately 300 faculty and staff. Since its inception, JBU has had a strong Christian foundation and a holistic approach to education which is summarized in the words, "Educating head, heart, and hand."

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# POLICIES FOR ALL SCHOLARS

## THE WALTON INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

Now that you have received the Walton International Scholarship, what exactly does this mean? Well, you have received a "package deal" comprised of a set of benefits and a set of responsibilities. We use the term "package deal" because when you accept the benefits you also accept the responsibilities.

### BENEFITS

#### **Air Tickets**

The scholarship pays for your air ticket from your country to John Brown University when you start school. This also includes tickets to and from your home country during the summer vacations and, of course, a one-way ticket back home after graduation (director/school determine time). One checked piece of luggage will be reimbursed each way.

#### **Tuition, Room and Board**

The scholarship covers all expenses for your tuition and fees until you graduate. The Walton International Program will also pay for your semi-private dormitory accommodations and a standard university meal plan at the school cafeteria. The Scholarship program will not provide meals for any periods that the University cafeteria is closed.

#### **Textbooks**

As a Walton International Scholar, you will also receive the required textbooks for your course. However, you will be personally responsible for your own school supplies such as notebooks, pens, etc. You are free to keep your textbooks when your course is completed. If you do not want to keep your textbooks you must return them to the Walton office. You will not be allowed to sell them back to the bookstore or to another student since you did not purchase the books yourself.

#### **Insurance**

The scholarship pays your health insurance premiums, but you are personally responsible for other medical expenses not covered by the insurance policy.

#### **Monthly Allowance**

For every month during the fall and spring semesters you will receive a \$125 check in your name as your monthly allowance. This is meant to cover all your personal expenses such as toothpaste, soap, deodorant, notebooks, laundry, etc. For certain periods in the summer when you will not be on campus for an entire month, the allowance may be prorated accordingly. At the beginning of your first semester at John Brown University, you will receive an extra amount for winter clothing and bedding. The monthly allowance will not be prorated for Thanksgiving, Christmas and spring and Spring break.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## RESPONSIBILITIES

### Lifestyle

As a John Brown University student, and even more, as a Walton International Scholar, your lifestyle should be in accordance with the Christian faith and comply with the standards of the John Brown University Student Handbook. The basic rules can be summarized as follows: students are not allowed to use offensive language, nor to smoke, drink alcoholic beverages, or use drugs while on or off campus; neither are students allowed to possess tobacco products, alcohol, or drugs while on or off campus.

### Relationships

As a Walton Scholar you are expected to demonstrate appropriate behavior in all your relationships that reflect the published standards of John Brown University and the Walton International Scholarship Program. Relationships (personal, professional, academic, political, etc.) that distract you from fulfilling your scholarship obligations may be cause for withdrawal of the scholarship.

You are not permitted to change your marital status during the term of your scholarship.

### Academic Performance, Grade Point Average (GPA)

You will be expected to maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (B/C) or above, where A is the highest grade, F is the lowest and C is passing (see the Catalog for more details on the grading scale). Realizing that English is a foreign language for most of you, John Brown University provides several opportunities for you to obtain some help with your English skills. You will take an English test upon your arrival on campus, and according to your score, you will be assigned to the proper English class. In all your classes you will have to communicate effectively in English both verbally and in written form. Please take advantage of the English courses that are offered and the help that is available. Some good advice is to take advantage of every opportunity to practice your English, starting NOW!

### Summers

All Walton International Scholars are required to go home shortly after classes are completed. This way you will maintain contact with your native country, your family and your friends and readjustment to your country after graduation will be facilitated. You are encouraged to meet members of the Alumni Committee during your summer breaks to verify return home, build a network with Walton Alumni in your country, and serve the needs of the committee. A minimum of one year's service with the recruiting committee is required after graduation.

Summer internships, study abroad, and leisure travel outside the scholarship region are not permitted.

### Community Service

All Walton Scholars will complete three hundred (300) hours of Director-approved community service activities during their academic career through in a variety of community service opportunities at the university, in the community, or in your home country. More detail of these community service opportunities will be addressed in person.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Home Sweet Home**

After graduation or withdrawal from the University for any reason, you are required to return to the Scholarship Region and live there for a minimum of six months for each academic semester at John Brown University. You are under legal and moral obligation to fulfill the requirements of the agreement you have signed for the Walton International Scholarship. The University will not release officially authenticated transcripts for any student that violates the contracts made with the University. Please read the Walton International Scholarship Agreement very carefully in this regard.

### **BEFORE LEAVING HOME**

Now, there are a few things you need to do before you get on the plane to come to John Brown University.

#### **Travel Documents**

The first thing you must do is get your passport. This may take a while, so start as soon as possible. Don't leave it for the last month! After you have your passport, you need an F-1 visa from the U.S. government. To get this visa you need to take your 1-20 form to the consulate in your country. In many instances, this process takes several days, so ACT NOW! The 1-20 form will be sent or given to you by the Walton Program representative in your country. This document, as well as your passport, is an extremely important document. It is your ticket into the United States. Even when you go home for the summer you will need to take it with you to be able to return. On arrival in the U.S. an 1-94 card will be attached to your passport. This also is an important document and it must be kept with your passport.

#### **School Transcripts**

If you have done any previous college work, you may want to transfer your credits to John Brown University. Be sure you have complete transcripts from the school and descriptions of the courses you want to transfer to. Getting these documents often takes a few days, so start now. Related to this, you may also want to check on how your John Brown University degree will translate in your home country according to your major. Check the requirement, documentation, etc.

#### **Medical Checkup**

A full physical examination, blood work including AIDS test, and hepatitis test, is recommended prior to issuance of your 1-20 form. Dental work and eyeglasses are not covered by the Walton International Program, and these things are much more expensive in the United States. It is better for you to get these things done right now rather than waiting to do it in the United States. Your John Brown University medical record form must be completed before your arrival. You must bring all documentation of any immunizations and obtain two MMR's before coming to John Brown University.

#### **Packing**

As you prepare to leave, remember there are four seasons in Arkansas and the weather can be very cold (-20 degrees C) in the winter and very hot (40 degrees C) in the summer. Be prepared for both! Be sure to include soap, shampoo, toothpaste, etc. Chances are you will arrive on the campus at night and will be unable to buy these things until the next day.

You are also encouraged to bring traditional clothing, musical instruments and other items from your country. The university often has programs for international students where you may want to demonstrate your cultural uniqueness.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **ARRIVAL AT JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY**

### **Airport Transportation**

All students arriving on the approved arrival date will be transported to John Brown University free of charge. Students arriving or departing on a date different than the approved travel date for all students are expected to secure their own transportation.

### **New Student Orientation**

International and New Student Orientation is a special part of your transition to John Brown University. Occurring in the week prior to the beginning of classes, you are expected to participate in all orientation events as they will assist you in beginning your journey as a college student at John Brown University. Activities cover a wide range of topics and information to ensure that each student has the tools they need to be successful.

## **STUDENT LIFE**

### **Meetings**

Attendance at all Scholarship Program meetings is required. Failure to attend any program meeting without an excused reason will result in the following: First unexcused absence will cost \$10.00. All additional absences will be \$25.00 each.

Except in case of an emergency, an excused absence form must be presented PRIOR to the meeting missed. We will try to give you enough notice of meeting times so there will be no unexcused absences.

### **Chapel**

As a John Brown University student, you are required to attend university chapel services as stipulated in the John Brown University Student Handbook. We hope you will enjoy this time of worship and fellowship and the chance to listen to Christian speakers from all over the world. While absences are allowed, use them wisely, and make the best out of this opportunity for personal and spiritual enrichment.

### **Athletics**

Walton Scholars are not allowed to compete in intercollegiate sports due to NAIA regulations. For those of you desiring to express your athletic abilities, you are free to participate in the various on-campus intramural sports available throughout the year.

### **Breaks and Holidays**

For all University breaks (Christmas, Spring Break, etc.) where the dorms are closed, students must secure their own room and board, as the dormitories and dining facilities are closed. Students are encouraged to use these breaks to develop a deeper understanding of Democracy and Free Enterprise.

### **Democracy and Free Enterprise**

You will explore these ideas by taking two classes in addition to your Major's requirements; American Government, and Enactus (minimum 1 semester).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## ACADEMIC POLICIES

### Completion of Degree

The scholarship granted by the Walton International Scholarship Program provides funding for a maximum of eight (8) semesters to complete the approved degree (s) program. A student may request additional majors/degrees ONLY if they can be completed within the eight (8) semesters allowed to complete a bachelor degree. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis with character, academic capacity, and utility as consideration factors, and must be applied for IN WRITING through the Director.

### Class Attendance

The Walton Scholarship is a substantial investment in your education. Therefore, in your pursuit of academic excellence as a Walton International Scholar you are expected to attend all scheduled classes. Unexcused absences more than one (1) per credit hour may be cause for withdrawal of your scholarship funds. Excused absences may be granted in cases of illness or other emergencies.

### Study Abroad

The program will not fund nor give permission for study abroad courses outside the scholarship region. Study abroad programs are contrary to the intent and purpose of WISP which is to provide students experiences which will promote an understanding of democracy and free enterprise within the United States to take back to their home countries.

### Graduate Studies

Permission to pursue graduate studies outside the scholarship region will be granted only after a student has returned to satisfy their scholarship commitment. Graduate studies inside the scholarship region may be granted while the student is satisfying their scholarship commitment.

### Grade Renewal

The Scholarship will not pay tuition or fees for repeat courses taken to renew grades unless they fall within the 18-credit hour limit and the academic program is not extended beyond eight (8) semesters. Approval may be granted by the Program Director at the written request of the student's advisor to renew a deficient grade in a required course in exceptional cases.

### Academic Probation

Walton International Scholars are required to maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA to continue in the program. If the cumulative or semester GPA remains below 2.5 for two consecutive semesters the student will be given written notice of dismissal from the program and the scholarship will be withdrawn. The student may present a written appeal to the Program Director for an additional semester if circumstances warrant.

### Summer Coursework

Summer courses may be taken only upon approval of the Program Director, and are limited to 6 credit hours for the Walton Scholar's academic career.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## FINANCIAL POLICIES

### **Tuition and Fees**

The Walton International Scholarship will pay tuition and fees for all classes taken for college credit at or through John Brown University. Tuition for non-program/degree related classes may be covered with Director approval if they fall within the eight (8) semesters required to graduate. Fees for late registration, or drop/add will not be covered by the program.

### **Living Allowances**

A \$125 per month personal living allowance will be given to each student for each month of the academic year.

The scholarship will provide each student with medical insurance. The student will be responsible for all costs not covered by the insurance. The University will supply the student with information on the extent of the insurance coverage and the student should review the data and become familiar with his/her financial responsibilities.

### **Employment**

During your first year on campus, you will NOT be allowed to work for pay. Your primary responsibility will be to adapt to a new culture, learn English, and establish a healthy GPA. We believe these tasks will require your full time and attention. We want you to develop good study habits so that perhaps later you may be able to add additional responsibilities to your schedule. Completion of a work clearance form and verification of satisfactory fulfillment of community service must be on file prior to requesting permission to apply for employment opportunities. The student must also maintain regular class attendance and a 3.0 cumulative GPA.

During your second year, you are expected to take part in some special experiences designed to help you obtain a more complete understanding of democracy and free enterprise. Students may be permitted to work up to 10 hours a week during their 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> semesters with written Director approval.

Students may be permitted to work up to F-1 visa limits with Director approval after completing their 4<sup>th</sup> semester.

### **Taxes**

Liability for all local, state and federal taxes rests with the student. The University aids in the filing of the tax forms and the Walton International Scholarship pays all taxes resulting from scholarship grants. Any income taxes incurred by the student related to student employment or any other source of income will be the sole responsibility of the student.

### **No Resale of Learning Materials**

Textbooks, digital learning tools, and/or other materials provided to you through WISP cannot be returned to the bookstore for cash reimbursement or sold to third parties. They have been purchased by the Walton International Program and any monies realized from their resale or return the Walton International Program.

### **Loans/Advances**

The Walton Program will not make any cash loans or advances of personal allowances.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## TRAVEL

### **Airline**

Each student will be provided an airline ticket home for the summer. Ground transportation will be provided between the University and the airport only at the beginning and end of the year. This means ground transportation will only be provided for the summer trip, and to new students arriving in January. Any costs associated with intermediate stops or variations the student makes while traveling home will be paid by the student.

The Scholarship only pays for the first checked bag if it is not included in the ticket price.

### **Domestic**

All domestic travel and field trips will be the responsibility of the student and will not be paid by the Walton International Program.

### **Vehicles**

No student may own or ride a motorcycle. Students may own automobiles provided such ownership is approved in advance by the Director and evidence of proper license and insurance is provided.

## WISP STUDENT MANUAL EXCEPTIONS

The Director will not allow exceptions to this policy. In the rare case of an exception it must be in writing and signed by the Walton Director and the Vice President. Failure to comply with the stated policies may result in disciplinary action and/or withdrawal of the scholarship.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_