



IFES/USA

An introduction to the IFES (International Fellowship of Evangelical Students) International Services Office in the United States.

The International Fellowship of Evangelical Students/USA (IFES/USA) is a Wisconsin non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation that seeks to promote and support the work of the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students around the world.

IFES/USA CORE PRINCIPLES

VISION OF IFES:

Students **thriving together** as communities of disciples, **transformed** by the gospel and **impacting** the university, the church and society for the glory of **Christ**.

MISSION:

To see the vision of IFES accomplished through:

Promoting and raising the profile of the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES) in the U.S. with two primary audiences

- General public: churches, individuals, foundations and trusts
- InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA, the U.S. national movement of IFES

Supporting the worldwide ministry of IFES from within the U.S.

- Developing better-informed and increased prayer for IFES around the world
- Developing relationships with key donors and foundations to engage them in the ministry of IFES
- Seeking, accepting, and receipting financial donations to further the work of IFES around the world
- Assisting IFES staff and national movements as they engage with U.S. partners

IFES/USA HISTORY, INCORPORATION, ACTIVITIES

HOW WE CAME ABOUT

- InterVarsity/USA (our national movement in the US) and IFES have had a 70+ year history of partnership in student ministry.
- Since the inception of IFES in 1947 until 2010, all US donations for the work of IFES around the world were given through InterVarsity. Donations were processed by InterVarsity and transmitted to IFES for distribution to designated accounts.
- While this arrangement worked well for the first 60+ years, changes in the legal and missiological environment led to the need for a new method for handling funds, and so IFES/USA, an independent entity, was created. The purpose of IFES/USA is to promote and support the work of IFES around the world.

- IFES/USA was incorporated in Wisconsin in 2008
- A Board of Directors was appointed and by-laws adopted in 2009
- 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status was granted by the IRS in October of 2009
- The Board appointed David Acierno as Executive Director and gave him the task and responsibility of leading the organization.
- Operations began in January 2010.

HOW WE ARE STRUCTURED/ORGANIZED

- The Executive Director, provides the primary leadership and oversight under the direction and supervision of the IFES/USA Board of Directors.
- IFES/USA is not a member movement in the IFES (InterVarsity is the US member movement), nor the representative of the North American Region. Rather, IFES/USA is a promotion and support entity for IFES within the USA.
- IFES/USA relates to the rest of the IFES national movements in partnership with the International Services offices in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and Oxford, England.

WHAT WE DO

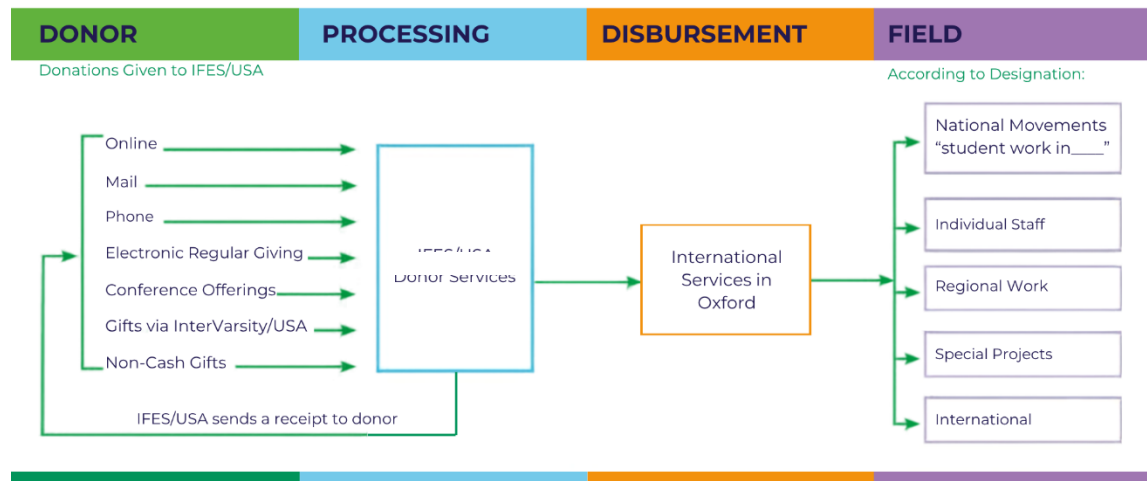
Services provided by IFES International Services office in the USA:

- Maintaining the legal and compliant entity to enable collection, processing, and receipting of financial donations from partners in the USA.
- Providing constant high-quality support for supporters and donors as they support the ministry of IFES through prayer, financial giving, and engagement.
- Connecting the USA partners with IFES work around the world through print and digital communications.
- Raising awareness in the USA of IFES ministries around the world and creating opportunities for engagement resulting in deeper relationships and increased financial support
- Providing all IFES national movements, regions, projects, or staff with information and materials to assist in the collection of financial support from their USA donors.
- Helping IFES staff and national movements understand and engage the American audience and maintain compliance with IFES policy on international partnerships.
- Assist in obtaining visa invitation letters when staff plan to visit the USA for IFES purposes.
- Actively seek partners and funding for 1) International priorities and projects, 2) Regional budgets and personnel. Also provide a means for 3) National Movement to receive donations from their donors in the USA. IFES/USA currently processes over 10,000 donations a year from more than 5,000 donors to 300+ different IFES designations.
- Acting as the primary liaison with key USA partners, including all foundations and most major donors (over 60% of IFES funding comes from US).
- Actively engaging with InterVarsity/USA, the USA member movement of IFES, to:
 - Increase collaboration with national movements around the world.

- Expose InterVarsity/USA students to IFES through conference offerings and prayer times (see more in the InterVarsity and IFES document).



THE LIFE OF A DONATION TO IFES



WHY IFES/USA EXISTS

Raising money in the USA has grown more complex in recent years, with increasing governmental regulations. Much behind-the-scenes work goes into ensuring compliance with state and federal laws, keeping accurate records so we maintain our standing with donors as a respected and trustworthy steward of the funds they have given, and providing receipts for our donors' tax records.