

# Coach for College

T H R I V E N E T W O R K S

A Global Initiative to Promote Higher Education Through Sports

**FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR:** Parker Goyer. Former Division-I student-athlete, Rhodes scholar, PhD. in education.

**TARGET POPULATION:** Coach for College is designed to address issues that face many student-athletes due to the intensive nature of their athletic training requirements: lack of international experience, extensive public service, and clear career goals once their athletic pursuits conclude.

**PROGRAM MODEL:** In Coach for College (CFC), American college athletes partner with Vietnamese college students as teachers and coaches to teach Sports, Academics, and Life Skills classes and oversee team-based competitions in three-week summer camps held for middle-school students in rural Vietnam. The camps rely on the power of sports and older role models to help youth develop long-term goals, increase their motivation for education, increase their belief in their capabilities to achieve success in challenging circumstances, and help them develop the life skills needed to achieve their goals. In the process, American college athletes help reduce the school dropout rate in rural Vietnam and prepare youth to obtain jobs in an increasingly globalized economy, leading to an increase in the youths' economic and psychological well-being. In the program, American college athletes receive an immersive experience in a region of a developing country that far exceeds what they could experience as a tourist. They are able to learn about another culture directly through close friendships they develop with local rural citizens, the Vietnamese middle school students, and the Vietnamese college students. They are also able to work closely with student-athletes on other sports teams and who attend other universities. Through the program, American athletes develop the skills needed to be effective global leaders committed to positive social change.

**SUMMER 2016 ENROLLMENT:** In summer 2016, we plan to offer spots to 70 - 100 student-athletes. We seek student-athletes who will be great representatives of their universities and of the U.S., and in particular seek to offer the opportunity to those who have limited service and/or international travel experience.

**DATES:** Student-athletes participate along with 7 other student-athletes during one of three camp sessions over the course of the summer, at one of five sites in Vietnam: May 25 – June 20; June 22 – July 18; July 20 – Aug. 15. During each set of dates, two to three camps run concurrently at different locations.

**PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES:** Coach for College started with student-athletes from Duke and UNC-Chapel Hill in 2008, and expanded to Virginia Tech and UVA in 2009. In 2011, the program began serving student-athletes from the remaining ACC

[www.coachforcollege.org](http://www.coachforcollege.org) • 1-919-218-0635  
[parker.goyer@coachforcollege.org](mailto:parker.goyer@coachforcollege.org)



universities: Miami, Florida State, NC State, Maryland, Wake Forest, Clemson, Boston College, Georgia Tech, Pittsburgh, Louisville, Harvard, Princeton, Minnesota, Northwestern, and Ohio State joined in 2013. Iowa, Wisconsin, Missouri, South Carolina, Notre Dame, Syracuse, and Dartmouth joined in 2014. Indiana followed in 2015. Stanford, Cal, Michigan, Ole Miss, and Tennessee are set to join in 2016. In total, 344 student-athletes from 32 universities have participated in 47 three-week camps over the course of eight summer programs (2008-2015), serving nearly 3200 youth.

**COST:** The direct cost is \$3500 per student-athlete, which is paid by each participating university. Each student-athlete selected into the program is asked to raise \$1680 which helps to cover the cost of other parts of the program. Student-athletes are given materials and a website through which family and friends can make donations on their behalf.

**FUNDING SOURCES:** To support the direct costs per student-athlete, we have received funding from the chancellor's office, provost's office, vice provost's office, varsity club and/or Athletics Department at participating universities. We have also received grants from the ACC Conference, U.S. Department of State, and individual donors, as well as in-kind donations from Nike, UnderArmour, and Delta.

**BREAKDOWN OF DIRECT COSTS PER STUDENT ATHLETE:**

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
INTERNATIONAL AIRFARE	\$1,900.00
DOMESTIC AIRFARE IN VIETNAM	\$130.00
VISA	\$70.00
INSURANCE	\$80.00
CONTINGENCY FOR MEDICAL EXPENSES DURING CAMP	\$20.00
TRANSPORTATION DURING CAMP	\$300.00
ACCOMMODATION DURING CAMP (WEEKDAY)	\$100.00
DINNERS DURING CAMP (WEEKDAY)	\$65.00
LUNCHES DURING CAMP (WEEKDAY)	\$55.00
WEEKEND ACCOMMODATION	\$60.00
WEEKEND MEALS	\$35.00
BREAKFASTS DURING CAMP (WEEKDAY)	\$45.00
COACH UNIFORMS	\$20.00
COACH LESSON PLAN BOOKS	\$10.00
CAMP AWARDS AND PRIZES	\$10.00
ONSITE U.S. STAFF TO OVERSEE SUMMER PROGRAM	\$125.00
ONSITE VN STAFF TO OVERSEE SUMMER PROGRAM	\$125.00
SITE PREPARATION COSTS	\$200.00
SPRING ORGANIZATIONAL AND PREPARATION COSTS	\$150.00
<b>TOTAL COST PER U.S. STUDENT-ATHLETE</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>



**EXPANSION PLANS:** We are currently in the process of identifying additional university partners, and eventually seek to extend the program to universities in all NCAA conferences and divisions. We have recently finalized a long-term partnership with the international development NGO Thrive Networks, formerly called East Meets West (<http://thrivenetworks.org/>), to extend the program to additional sites in Vietnam and other countries. They have been working in developing countries for over 25 years and consistently receive the highest rating on Charity Navigator.

## SUMMARY OF BENEFITS FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

- The program allows student-athletes to have an in-depth teaching and coaching relationship with foreign adolescents and works in the same communities year after year, so student-athlete participants are able to have a measurable impact in reducing the school dropout rate in rural parts of developing countries.
- College athletes are able to work towards a common goal in an intensive experience with student-athletes from other sports teams and other NCAA universities, through which lasting friendships are formed that bridge rivalries.
- College athletes have an opportunity to participate in the program multiple times, first as a coach, then as a College Student Director, and eventually as a volunteer or paid staff member.
- Through the program college athletes often find a calling in teaching, coaching, working with children, international development, or other non-profit work using sports for social change that launches them into a satisfying career after they decide to transition from being competitive athletes.
- CFC offers the chance to become part of an international movement, an “international Teach for America,” which will eventually involve college athletes from universities across the United States with sites in several developing countries throughout the world.

## ELIGIBILITY

- The program accepts student-athletes from any year in school (freshman – senior).
- The program accepts student-athletes from any varsity sport. To date, 23 different varsity sports have been represented by student-athlete participants in the program.
- Student-athletes must have basic familiarity with one of the five sports the program teaches (tennis, basketball, volleyball, baseball, and soccer) and with one of the four academic subjects the program teaches (biology, physics, English, and math at the middle-school level).

