



Virtual Welcome Partner program Testimonials



Marie Riviere, France

“The CCIS Virtual Welcome Partner Program helped me develop a real relationship with people from California, since I didn’t know anyone here. Thanks to my Virtual Partners, Annette and Paul, the transition between my hometown and the Stanford campus was very smooth. They showed me the campus, after kindly picking me up at the airport, and took me on my first shopping trip, which was very helpful and fun. I love to spend time with my Virtual Partners, and I can’t thank them and the CCIS team enough for what they have done for me.”*

Machi Saito, Japan

“Because of the pandemic, it was a difficult time when I first came to Stanford, but thanks to my Virtual Welcome Partner, my move-in to Stanford went very smoothly. She introduced me to the campus and offered me tips for living on campus. Throughout the year we kept connected and she provided me advice whenever I needed it. I am really grateful for the help my Virtual Welcome Partner offered to me which made my life in Stanford wonderful!”



Esther Elonga, Democratic Republic of Congo

“Moving across coasts was scary for me. ‘How will I find community in a place where I do not know anyone?’ was the constant question I asked myself. Through this CCIS Virtual Welcome Program, having someone I can go grocery shopping with or even a friendly face I could tell how my week was is so helpful. For someone new to the Bay Area without any family or anyone they know, I would definitely recommend this program.”

Phanthila Saengthong, Thailand

This Virtual Welcome Partner program has helped me in transitioning to Stanford campus and navigating daily life during the settle-in period. The Virtual Partner has kindly volunteered to provide guidance from moving to the United States to navigating around the Bay area. I would recommend this program to any International Student who'd like to get used to the area and the community!

*The Virtual Welcome program only requires connecting virtually for providing guidance. In-person meeting is left to the comfort level of both partners.