



**WELCOME 2
UPPER AUSTRIA**
BUDDY NETWORK PRO



CONTACT

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WELCOME 2
UPPER AUSTRIA | **WORK,**
LIVE,
ENJOY.



BUDDY NETWORK PRO FOR YOUR COMPANY - WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

Companies hiring international experts usually find themselves in a challenging situation: They need to support their international employees outside the working environment (e.g. bureaucratic affairs, social integration, recreational opportunities), while facing limited internal resources to do so and lacking network to the international community in Upper Austria.

Therefore, the Welcome2Upper Austria Service Center has tailored its Buddy Network Pro to support businesses with **the long-term integration of international employees.**

The concept is based on a local (i.e. an Upper Austrian as Buddy) **teaming up** with an International who just moved here. Having a Buddy – someone who knows the ropes

and is keen to help an International settle in our region – will encourage an International in following areas:

- taking part in social life, developing friendships and building a **supportive network**
- familiarization with **local traditions, associations and customs**
- experiencing the beauty of Upper Austria and its recreational offers

... thus, the aim is to make the International **feel at home**, enhance the society's cultural openness and to develop the **international community** in Upper Austria.

How does your company benefit from participation?

- **Easing the workload of your HR-department**
Personal questions and uncertainties will be addressed by the Buddy
- **More focus on the job**
Extra support for Internationals minimizes distractions during working hours and enhances productivity
- **Decrease of early drop-outs**
Supporting and fostering an International's personal integration leads to a richer experience during their stay
- **Improving your local staff's skills**
As a Buddy, local employees will take advantage of a multicultural community influencing language skills, cultural understanding, working styles, creativity...

HOW DOES IT WORK AND WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

1 Nominate either both, a Buddy (local employee) and an International (participation cost: € 400) OR choose to nominate an International (participation cost: € 700) or Buddy (for free) only.

Is there anything to consider?

Yes – there are some key criteria: The International needs to seek the involvement in the local social life and embrace the new culture, while selected Buddies stand out due to

- fluency in English
- awareness about and willingness to take the time needed to help the International
- openness and desire to happily spend time with the International

2 Suggest the program and its goals to your colleagues of choice and check their willingness for participation.

Please note and clarify: The program itself is limited to **one year** and asks for at least **five hours of socializing** per month. The key-note however is based on the idea to have a match of a Buddy and an International that continuously wishes to spend **quality time** together. Hence, **attitude is key!**

3 Register the participant(s) on our website: www.come2upperaustria.com. Please note that this registration is considered as a declaration of consent to actively take part in the program based on the above mentioned intention.

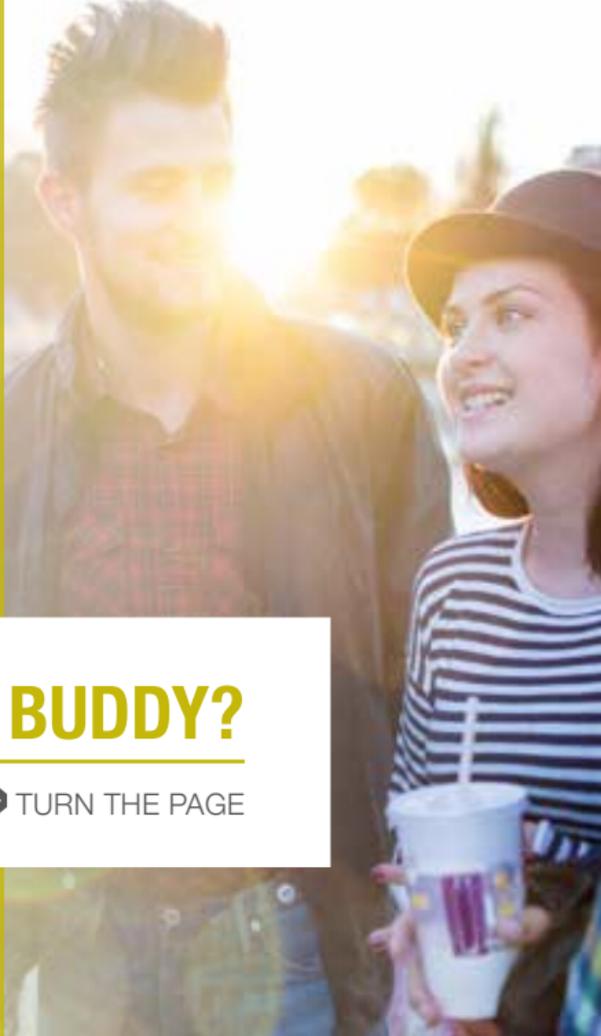
All good things come in threes – **the Welcome2Upper Austria Service Center will take care of the rest:** After briefing the your nominated colleagues to ensure common expectations and a shared understanding of

the goals, we will process your registration. The matching of an International with a local Buddy will be based upon the following criteria:

- Different companies | social relations outside the company environment
- Distance | get-togethers within 30 minutes
- Age | difference of max. 10 years
- Interests | shared hobbies for a common ground
- a Buddy's wish regarding language/culture (if possible)

After teaming up, the Welcome2Upper Austria Service Center will inform everyone involved, and we can **get this adventure started!**

arrive feel at home
put down roots
global mindset
voluntary commitment
friends
new cultures
socialize
practice languages
settle



WANNA BE A BUDDY?

» TURN THE PAGE

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

The Buddy Network Pro is a concept already well known from universities, based on local students spending time with foreign ones. The Welcome2Upper Austria Service Center applies this proven program to the professional world and intends to **match you as Buddy with an expert from abroad** who moved to Upper Austria for work purposes.

Buddies play a key role in the life of an International in their new environment: The aim is to make the International “feel at home” by

- being a friend
- aiding in everyday challenges
- doing the odd favor now and then

Furthermore, your encouragement in the International’s active participation in a social life is highly appreciated: So, you are welcome to help the International settle in...

But what is in for you?

- improve and/or practice your **language skills**
- **make international friends**
- get to know other cultures and integrate your **international experience** in your job
- benefit from a **rewarding voluntary commitment**
- extend your **global mindset** and profit from a cultural exchange
- prepare yourself for a stay abroad

Is there anything I have to consider?

- be fluent in English
- have an open-minded attitude
- show interest in a cultural exchange

... even more important is your willingness to integrate the International in your social life, leisure time activities and to provide help when needed!

The matching process of Buddy and International will consider criteria such as age, interests, place of residence, employer – and, if possible, your preferences regarding language/culture.

Be aware: The program itself is limited to one year and asks for at least five hours of socializing per month. However, the basic idea is the **establishment of friendships** and the joy of showing someone new around. Thus, a corresponding attitude towards the project’s goals is of essential importance.

Are you interested?

Please get in touch with your HR department! In case you are interested in private participation, we kindly ask you to contact us via **www.come2upperaustria.com**. We are looking forward to welcoming you in the Buddy Network Pro community!

Dazuaghean
Get Social

Wuarzln schlogn

Settle in

Dahoam
at home

Schen dassd do bist

It is great having you here

LOOKING FOR A BUDDY?

» TURN THE PAGE



WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

The Buddy Network Pro is a concept already well known from universities, based on local students supporting foreign ones. The Welcome2Upper Austria Service Center applies this program to the professional world and aims to assign an open-minded, English speaking and well settled Upper Austrian to you.

We want to make you feel at home in Upper Austria and therefore the Buddy Network Pro is here to help you settle in by:

- introducing **local customs and habits**
- **establishing social ties**
- **joining clubs** (sport, music, culture...)
- providing **assistance** with everyday challenges
- benefiting from and doing favors

The matching process of Buddy and International will consider criteria such as age, interest,

place of residence and employer - the aim is to establish a **social life outside of your professional environment!**

Be aware: The program itself is limited to one year and asks for at least five hours of socializing per month. However, the main aim is the **development of friendships** as well as the establishment of an international community that **makes you feel at home** in Upper Austria. Therefore a corresponding attitude towards the project's goal is essential.

Are you interested?

Please contact your HR department! We are looking forward to welcoming you in the Buddy Network Pro community!

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