Local support groups may be responsible for as little as $2000 per year, or more than $20,000, depending on the college or university waiver. ISP is working to reduce the heavier burden some support groups carry by building its resources at the national level through grants, bequests, and a broader donor base. The economic downturn in the US continues to present a challenge.

Educational Partners with ISP:

- Alverno College, Milwaukee WI
- Augsburg College, Minneapolis MN
- Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson NY
- Bellarmine University, Louisville KY
- Beloit College, Beloit WI
- Benedictine College, Atchison KS
- Berea College, Berea KY*
- Bluffton University, Bluffton OH*
- Christian Brothers U, Memphis TN
- Clark University, Worcester MA
- College of St. Scholastica, Duluth MN*
- Dartmouth College, Hanover NH*
- DePaul University, Chicago IL
- Dominican University, River Forest IL
- Dominican University, San Rafael CA
- Fontbonne University, St. Louis MO
- Goucher College, Baltimore MD
- Gonzaga University, Spokane WA
- Grinnell College, Grinnell IA*
- Lewis University, Romeoville IL*
- Loyola University of Chicago, IL
- Manchester College, N. Manchester IN
- Manhattan College, New York NY
- Mount Mary College, Milwaukee WI
- Oberlin College, Oberlin OH
- Polytechnic Institute of NYU, Brooklyn
- Regis University, Denver CO
- Smith College, Northampton MA
- Tufts University, Medford MA
- University of Great Falls, MT
- University of Oregon, Eugene OR
- Wellesley College, Wellesley MA
- Whitman University, Walla Walla WA
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute, MA
- *More than one ISP Student

Hasan has been admitted to Whitman College in Walla Walla, WA.

Mustafa is enrolled at Christian Brothers University in Memphis, TN.

Both arrived in August 2012 to begin their undergraduate careers.

Taleen is enrolled at Smith College in Northampton, MA.

Safana began studies in 2012 at Loyola University in Chicago, IL.
Iraqi Student Project History and Context

The Iraqi Student Project (ISP), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization incorporated in 2007, seeks to make undergraduate education possible for qualified students who were studying in Iraq, are unable to continue their education because of the violence, and intend to return to help rebuild Iraq as soon as it is safe to do so. ISP students are recommended for study in the US without regard to gender, nationality, religion or ethnicity.

ISP began as something practical, possible, and important which a group of Americans could do as an act of reconciliation and promise to Iraqi citizens. Until the 1990’s, Iraq had an excellent system of education, considered to be the best in the Middle East.

The embargo and sanctions of the 1990’s, the US invasion of 2003, and the resulting violence left that system in ruins. Four million Iraqis are displaced—half of them refugees outside Iraq.

Iraq must rebuild, but the generation called upon to lead such an enormous effort has virtually nowhere to turn for education. We believe American colleges and universities can provide it. Further, through educational exchange, many Americans and Iraqis will come to know and value each other. They will form bonds of friendship and a better future for both nations.

What ISP Does: The Iraqi Student Project . . .

- Works impartially to identify screen and recommend students from Iraq, (most of them living as refugees) for tuition waivers based on their academic records, English language ability, economic need, and overall likelihood of success.
- Secures tuition waivers, scholarships and grants from US colleges and universities for qualified undergraduates who spent at least a year with ISP preparing for study in the US.
- Helps volunteer leaders in local US communities form a support group for each student to meet the financial, and social needs of the student.
- Develops the fund-raising capacity to support national operating expenses and provides assistance to local US support groups.
- Builds ongoing support to sustain students in a challenging economy while facing the challenges of rising educational costs.

Preparation of ISP Students . . .

Gabe Huck and Theresa Kubasak, Founders of ISP, serve as volunteers, lived on modest retirement savings, and work full time—with volunteer teachers—to find and screen potential candidates. ISP students spend a full year devoted to studying English and other skills required for undergraduate education.

In July 2012, the civil unrest in Syria made it impossible to recruit and prepare more students for the ISP program in that part of the world. Transition to alternative approaches is under consideration by the ISP Board.

In five years ISP has secured enrollment for 62 Iraqi students. Forty-six are currently enrolled at US colleges and universities across the country (see current list on last page).

In the local community around each school, ISP builds a support group to meet each student’s needs beyond what the college or university has provided.