

Agreement between**and Rotary District 5650**

This agreement is made between _____, a Rotary Exchange Student, and sponsoring Rotary District, District 5650.

A. Outbound Student agrees as follows:

1. Timeliness. I understand that it is important for me to be timely because other members of my family have their own schedules.

a. *Morning.* I agree that I will wake up early enough in the morning so that my family can get me to school on time and get the other members of my family to their appointments on time.

b. *After school.* If my host family picks me up, I will be on time at the place near school where my host family picks me up.

c. *Dinner.* I will make sure that I am home on time so that my family can have dinner on time.

d. *Other times.* If I go out on my own or with friends, I will be back when I am supposed to be or be available to be picked up by my family at the agreed time.

e. *Calling when late.* Whenever it appears that I may be late for any reason, I will immediately try to contact my host family so my host family and I can figure out how to handle the situation.

f. *Bedtime.* I agree to go to bed on or before the curfew time set by my host family. If I need to stay up late to complete a school assignment, I will first get permission from my host family to do so.

2. Appearance. I understand that as a representative of my Rotary District and of the United States, my personal appearance is important. I agree that I will always be well groomed and will dress in a manner that is appropriate for the occasion. If my appearance ever becomes an issue, I agree that my host club's Youth Exchange Committee has the final say on whether my appearance is acceptable.

3. Politeness. As an exchange student I am a representative of Rotary, my country, and my city. I agree that I will do my best to be polite at all times. I will frequently use the foreign language equivalent of words such as "thank you" and "please."

4. Studies. I am an exchange *student*. I understand that doing well in school is an important part of being an exchange student. For this reason I will work hard on my school classes. If I have problems in a class, I will contact a teacher, fellow student, or member of my host family for help. I understand that if at any time my high school decides that it no longer wants me to attend its school, I will be sent home.

5. Social Activities. Participation in social activities is another important part of being an exchange student. I understand that I am expected to participate in school and club activities not only for my sake but also because my participation in these activities is one way that I can give something back to the high school that has agreed to host me. I agree that I will participate on a regular basis in at least two school activities or clubs.

6. Use of Alcohol or Drugs; Smoking.

I understand that Rotary Rules do not allow me to drink, use drugs, or smoke regardless of whether this is allowed in my host country. The laws in this country are almost certainly different than those in the United States. These laws may permit me to drink, smoke, and use certain drugs. I understand that it is not unusual for some families and some Rotarians in my host country to encourage the drinking of alcoholic beverages. I agree that I will carefully discuss with my American parents the pressure that may be brought against me to drink while I am living in my host country so that I will be in a better position to make a responsible decision if pressure is brought against me to drink.

7. Instant Messaging and Internet Chatting.

Rotary has discovered that students who talk frequently with their family or friends in the U.S. generally have more difficulty with their foreign exchange experience than students who limit their contact with home. Therefore I agree that I will spend no more than one hour per week on Instant Messaging and Internet Chatting with my friends or family in the U.S.

8. Television, Watching Movies, Video and Computer Games, Internet Usage. I agree to follow the limits established by my host family on the amount of time that I am allowed to:

- Watch television;
- Watch movies on TV (DVD, VCR, or broadcast);
- Play video and computer games; and
- Use the Internet

I agree that I will follow my host family's guidelines on which movies I am allowed to watch.

9. Food. Part of the exchange student experience is trying foods that are different from my normal diet. I will always try any food at least once.

10. Following Family Rules. I agree to follow all the rules of my host family just as if I were a member of the family. If I do not understand a rule, I will ask my host family to explain the rule. I will not argue with my host parents about whether their rules are appropriate.

11. Keeping My Room and Home Neat.

I agree to keep my room neat and to help my host family keep its home neat. This means that I will keep my clothes where they belong—in drawers or closets. This also means that whenever I am finished with any food or drink, I will clean up the dishes and return them to their designated place in the kitchen. I will place soda cans, candy wrappers, etc. in the trash.

12. Doing Family Chores. I agree to do those chores that my host family assigns to me.

13. Participation in Family Activities. I understand that participation in activities with my host family is an important part of the exchange student experience. I agree that I will participate in these activities. I will participate in church-related activities with my host family unless participation in these activities would violate the beliefs of my own religion.

14. Following Rotary Rules. I agree to follow the rules that were listed in my Rotary application.

15. Punishment for violation of this agreement is being sent home. I understand that if I do not do the things that I have agreed to do, my punishment can (and is likely to) include being sent home.

16. School lunches. I understand that my host family may not be responsible for providing my lunch at school.

17. America bashing. Attitudes of people in other countries toward the United States may be hostile because many people have a much different worldview than Americans. On occasion I may be challenged or verbally attacked because of the policies of my country and because I am an American. When this happens to me, I will respond substantively and in a polite and professional manner.

18. Out of town trips. My host family or friends may invite me on an out-of-town trip. I will reach a clear understanding about the costs for which I will be responsible.

19. Monthly reports. I agree that I will send reports at least once a month to Rotary District 5650 and to my sponsoring Rotary club in America.

B. Rotary District in My Host Country

As long as I follow this agreement, I can expect the Rotary District in my host country to:

- Do its best to find appropriate host families;
- Have a committee to help supervise my year as an exchange student;
- Provide a Rotary counselor with whom I may visit if the need arises;
- Provide the agreed upon monthly stipend;
- Pay for District related Rotary Exchange activities; and
- Invite me to participate in some of its club's activities.

Dated:

Dated:

Rotary District 5650
Youth Exchange Committee

By _____