

A step toward world understanding

Live a year in another country

Enjoy the unique experience of attending high school while living in another country! Rotary International has a program that annually involves over 10,000 high school students living nearly a year in a foreign country.

La Crosse, as part of the Central States Rotary Youth Exchange program, sends students to over 30 countries:

Argentina	Germany	Peru
Australia	Hungary	Poland
Austria	India	South Korea
Belgium	Indonesia	Spain
Brazil	Italy	Sweden
Chile	Japan	Switzerland
Croatia	Latvia	Taiwan
Denmark	Lithuania	Thailand
Estonia	Mexico	Zambia
Finland	Norway	
France	Paraguay	

(list is subject to change)

Eligibility

Candidates must be sophomores to seniors in high school at the time of application and 16 to 18 1/2 years old when they leave for their assigned country. (However, freshmen are also encouraged to attend the informational session to learn about the program.) Applicants must rank in the upper half of their class.

Exchange students must agree while in their host country they will not drive a motorized vehicle, use drugs, drink alcoholic beverages, or become romantically involved. Laws of the country must be obeyed.

La Crosse area students abroad

Over the years, dozens of La Crosse area students have lived and studied abroad. Many say that it was the best year of their lives. You too can see the world and maybe help change it.



Learning the Language

Learning the language prior to leaving your assigned country is not required, but it is very helpful. Usually, students will adequately learn the language within three months of their arrival with the help of their host family and friends.

Some language preparation may be necessary depending on the country you visit. Many students come back fluent in a new language, which can be a lifelong benefit.

Parents' obligations

A fee of approximately \$7,000 will cover airfare, 4 orientation meetings, medical insurance and administrative expenses. During your student's year abroad, you should experience savings due to food, car insurance, etc.

The hosting Rotary club provides an allowance of \$75 a month for the student to cover incidentals, and is responsible for arranging suitable families who will provide food, lodging, schooling, and supervision.

Recent Student Comments

"I not only gained another family, but also made friends and connections all over the world."

Maisie Bailey, Exchange Student to Hungary, 2017-18

How to apply

If you are interested in this exciting and meaningful program for the 2019-2020 school year, simply complete and return the application attached to this information sheet. An informational meeting for students and parents will be held at the Children's Museum, 207 5th Avenue South, La Crosse on September 20, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

For more information

To obtain further information about the Rotary Youth Exchange program, please go to www.csrve.org or contact:
Anne Snow at (608) 797-7845

Informational meeting: September 19, 2018, 6:30 p.m. at the Children's Museum, 207 5th Avenue South, La Crosse.

Preliminary application due: September 19, 2018.

Local interviews: The evening of October 1, 2018 at the Children's Museum, 207 5th Avenue South, La Crosse.

Final application due: October 24, 2018.

District Interviews: November 4, 2018 in Baraboo.

Preliminary Application

Student's Name: _____ Student's Email: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State/Zip: _____

Home Phone Number: (_____) _____ Student's Cell Number: (_____) _____

Mother's Name: _____ Mother's Email: _____

Father's Name: _____ Father's Email: _____

High School: _____ Grade: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Are you planning on attending the informational meeting scheduled for September 19? YES NO

Rate yourself as a foreign exchange student

There are at least two selection interview sessions in which candidates will be rated by a panel of adults and former youth exchange students. How would you rate yourself? Complete the evaluation form below to determine how strong a candidate you will be by circling your answers, totaling them, and comparing them to the scores below.

Questionnaire:	Yes	Usually	No
1. Would you like to represent the United States, your state, your city and school in another country?	5	0	0
2. Are you willing and capable of learning another language?	10	0	0
3. Do you scholastically rank in the upper half of your class?	15	0	0
4. Will you be a sophomore, junior or senior at the time of formal application (September 2018)?	10	0	0
5. Will you be between the ages of 16 and 18 1/2 when you leave the country (August 2019)?	10	0	0
6. Would your parents be supportive of you being an exchange student?	15	0	0
7. Could you stand to be away from your family and friends for eleven months?	5	0	0
8. Are you a positive thinker and basically a happy person?	5	3	0
9. Do you like to meet people?	5	3	0
10. Are you flexible and able to adjust to unanticipated situations? ..	10	6	0
11. Are you ambitious, eager to take on tasks?	5	3	0
12. Are you dependable; do you follow through on projects and promises? ..	5	3	0

Evaluation

- 61-75 Needs improvement to be considered.
- 76-88 Good prospect; review weaknesses and work to strengthen them.
- 89-100 Excellent candidate. Be sure to apply right away.



"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes."

- Marcel Proust

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Year
2019-20