

Spend a Whole Year Abroad



North Star Rotary Youth Exchange offers international study abroad opportunities for students who meet our requirements. You can choose to participate in the program either during your high school years or in a gap year following high school.

Program Objectives

- To further international understanding and goodwill. Be an ambassador!
- Learn and adapt to another culture, while sharing your own. Become a global citizen!

Qualifications of Applicants

- At least 15 years of age and not over 19 years at the time of departure. (Most receiving countries require that students are no older than 18 years 6 months.) See Countries page for the list of countries.
- Student must be a freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior in high school at time of application.
- Student must demonstrate scholastic competence and be involved in extra-curricular activities.

Program Requirements

The selected student will:

- Attend high school in their host country. (Grade placement cannot be guaranteed)
- Act as a student ambassador, sharing customs and adapting to the host country's culture.
- Demonstrate a willingness to be flexible throughout the exchange process.
- Follow the rules, regulations and counseling of the sponsoring and host Rotary clubs and Rotary districts. Rules will be discussed at orientation sessions prior to departure.

Parents of the selected student will:

- Pay the participation fee (which includes airfare, orientation materials, basic insurance, blazer, etc.).
- Pay costs of passport, visa or residency permit, inoculations, gifts, local travel, personal items.
- Abide by the rules and decisions as set forth by the Rotary International Youth Exchange

Rotary Club in host country will:

- Correspond with student prior to arrival, giving pertinent data of the host city and family.
- Meet and transport the student from point of arrival to host family.
- Furnish one year's education in a high school.
- Be responsible for the physical well-being of the student.
- Supervise the student's activities, opportunities and experiences.

Application Deadline for exchange year 2026-27 is **November 15, 2025**

Rotary is proud to provide the most affordable youth exchange program by subsidizing the cost of studying abroad. Valued at over \$14,000, this support for high school students covers room, board, tuition, and a monthly stipend for the academic year abroad program.

Participation Costs

- The cost of participation in the outbound North Star Rotary Youth Exchange Program for students applying for the 2026-2027 program year, is \$8,000.

This includes:

- Airfare – round trip, open ended ticket to host country
- Basic overseas accident/sickness/personal liability
- 3 Orientation sessions
- Rotary blazer
- Rotary emblem
- Orientation materials
- Business/calling cards
- Pins for trading
- Name badge

Not included in the participation fee are:

- Costs of passport, visa or residency permit
- Visits to consulate
- Host country language camp or language instruction
- Inoculations
- Gifts
- Local travel
- Personal items

Payment Schedule Payment of the fee is due in increments as follows:

January 24, 2026 (1st Orientation): \$2,500

February 28 – March 1, 2026 (2nd Orientation – overnight): \$2,500

April 11, 2026 (3rd Orientation): \$3,000

See fee schedule on northstarrotary.com for refund policy.

Important Dates

November 15, 2025

Outbound application deadline

December 1, 5:30 pm

Northfield Interviews at Northfield United Methodist Church

December 6, 2025

North Star Interviews

January, February, April 2026

Orientations - See Calendar on North Star's website

For Information about North Star Youth Exchange: **northstaryouthexchange.com**

For Information about Northfield Rotary: **northfieldrotary.org**

Questions? Contact Northfield Rotary Youth Exchange Officer (YEO), Jesse Steed
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