

# Youth Exchange

## for Ages 15–16

The Rotary Youth Exchange program stands as a testament to Rotary's commitment to nurturing future leaders and fostering international understanding.

rotary  
youth  
exchange

### **Beyond Borders – The Benefits of Youth Exchange:**

Embarking on a Rotary Youth Exchange journey offers a myriad of benefits. Participants not only cultivate essential leadership skills but can also gain proficiency in a new language, immerse themselves in diverse cultures, and form enduring friendships with like-minded individuals from around the world. This holistic experience contributes to the development of well-rounded, culturally aware individuals.

Embark on a Rotary Youth Exchange, where every experience enriches lives, builds leaders, and contributes to a more interconnected and peaceful world. Your journey towards personal growth and global understanding starts here.

### **Long-term exchanges:**

Embarking on a long-term Rotary Youth Exchange is a commitment to a transformative journey that spans a full academic year. This extended period allows participants to delve deeply into the heart of local communities, schools, and family life, fostering a profound understanding of their host country's culture and way of life.

*Academic Integration:* During long-term exchanges, students don't just visit, but fully integrate into the academic landscape. Enrolling in local schools, they become an integral part of the educational fabric, gaining firsthand insights into the academic systems and knowledge-sharing traditions of their host country. This

academic integration not only broadens intellectual horizons but also deepens cultural understanding.

*Community Immersion:* The immersive nature of long-term exchanges goes beyond the classroom. Participants have the opportunity to actively engage with the local community, contributing to and experiencing the day-to-day rhythms of their host society. This involvement extends to community events, celebrations, and perhaps even community service projects, creating a meaningful and reciprocal exchange of cultural perspectives.

*Family Bonds:* Living with multiple host families throughout the academic year forms the cornerstone of long-term exchanges. This arrangement allows participants to build genuine connections with diverse families, providing a nuanced understanding of local customs, traditions, and familial dynamics. These relationships often endure beyond the exchange period, creating a lasting global network of friendships and support.

*Personal Growth and Adaptability:* A year-long immersion challenges participants to step outside their comfort zones, fostering personal growth and adaptability. Whether overcoming language barriers, navigating cultural nuances, or embracing new perspectives, long-term exchanges cultivate resilience and a sense of self-discovery, equipping students with valuable life skills.

# rotary youth exchange

## **Your adventure begins here**

Rotary Youth Exchange Australia provides an opportunity of a lifetime for Australian high school students to live and study abroad.

You'll spend up to 12 months living and studying in a foreign country, learning a lot about yourself and the culture of your adopted host families. In essence, a long-term Rotary Youth Exchange is not just a year away; it's a year of profound exploration, cultural exchange, and personal development. It's an investment in a future where understanding transcends borders, and lifelong connections form the fabric of a truly global community.

## **Investing in Your Future:**

The Rotary District Youth Exchange Program charges a program fee, which includes airfares, insurance, pre-exchange training camps, and post-exchange debriefing.

We set the program fee following fare negotiations with airlines and insurance providers.

The program fee covers the following:

- » return airfares
- » health, accident, travel, property, and liability insurance
- » two training weekends before commencing the exchange, plus a debriefing upon returning to Australia
- » a branded name badge and an embossed blazer.

The host Rotary Club abroad will provide the following:

- » a monthly allowance roughly equal to AUD\$150 per month
- » enrolment at a local public high school in the host country
- » meals and accommodation at the host country's official Rotary Club meetings and Rotary District events such as the Rotary District Conference.

The program fee does not include:

- » clothing and personal toiletries
- » passport and additional travel (for example, group tours arranged by the Rotary Youth Exchange Program in the host country)
- » souvenirs and gifts
- » school excursions
- » medications
- » language tuition
- » an emergency fund of approximately AUD\$500.

Costs can vary significantly with the student, family and country of exchange. When considering the costs, parents should consider the cost of maintaining the student if they remain at home and attend school in Australia.

## **The Application Process:**

Candidates aged 16–18, recognised for their leadership in schools and communities, are encouraged to take the first step. Connect with a local Rotary Club to explore exchange options and gain valuable insights into the process. This initial contact marks the beginning of a transformative journey that transcends borders and opens doors to a world of possibilities.

With participation from more than 100 countries, this program provides a unique platform for students aged 16–18 to broaden their horizons, embrace diversity, and emerge as true global citizens.

Rotary Youth Exchange allows students to learn a new language, experience another culture, and become global citizens.

An amazing, life-changing experience awaits.

More information about the application process is available at: [9705.ryea.org.au](http://9705.ryea.org.au)

Learn more at [Rotary.org/youthexchange](http://Rotary.org/youthexchange).

If this resonates with you, seize the opportunity!