



# You Make a World of Difference



Are you ready for the adventure of living in another culture?

Would you like to offer a home to a student from another country?

**More than 8,000 young people each year travel to live with families in other countries as part of the Rotary Youth Exchange...**

*Are you ready for it?*

Rotary Youth Exchange is the opportunity of a lifetime for both students and host families.

Whether you participate in Rotary's long-term or short-term Youth Exchange programs, you'll learn a different way of life, a great deal about yourself, and maybe a new language as well.

**As a Rotary Youth Exchange student, you can spend up to a year living with host families and attending school in a different country.** You'll also be an ambassador, teaching people you meet about your country, culture, and ideas. If you want to help bring the world closer and make some good friends in the process, learn more about the Rotary Youth Exchange Programs.

**As a Rotary Youth Exchange host family, you will broaden your understanding of the world and promote international good will through your own family.** You'll also build a new relationship and extend your opportunities to travel abroad. Your family will have the unique opportunity to introduce a young adult to our culture and daily family life.

*When you step off the airplane as a Rotary Exchange Student in another country, you have the opportunity to...*

- ▶ Become part of another culture
- ▶ Learn another language
- ▶ Gain confidence and maturity
- ▶ Broaden your view of the world
- ▶ Learn a lot about yourself
- ▶ Forge lifelong friendships





# You Make a World of Difference

*Host Families* - Share your home and enjoy our culture through new eyes...

*Exchange Students* - Travel, experience another culture, expand your future...

## Who is Eligible to Apply?

### Students

If you want to participate in the Rotary Youth Exchange program, you will need to be between the ages of 15 and 19 at the time of travel. You must be adaptable and flexible when adjusting to new and unanticipated situations that commonly arise when living in a different culture. You also need to have an out-going, pleasant personality and have demonstrated above average academic achievement.

### Host Families

To be a Rotary Exchange Host family, you must be willing to provide food, lodging, a warm family life, and to treat your exchange student as you would your own children. American families have many different faces because of our unique and varied cultural background. Your family will help exchange students experience our culture through daily life and activities.

### LONG-TERM - Overview

- ▶ One School Year in Another Country
- ▶ Live With Host Families
- ▶ Study in High School
- ▶ Learn Another Language
- ▶ Learn About the Culture
- ▶ Meet International Students
- ▶ Travel In Another Country
- ▶ Have Fun!!

### SHORT TERM - Overview

- ▶ Host Student from Another Country - Approximately Four Weeks
- ▶ Live with Host Family in Another Country - Approximately Four Weeks
- ▶ Learn/Teach Another Language
- ▶ Learn/Teach About the Culture
- ▶ Meet International Students
- ▶ Share Your Family Vacation
- ▶ Travel in Another Country
- ▶ Have Fun!!

## As an Exchange Student... Where Will I Go?

Rotary Youth Exchange Students have traveled to over 200 countries. Every effort is made to place students in the country of their preference. Sometimes, however, a host country may not have enough openings available for the number of applicants. You can find out more about available exchange countries when you meet the Rotarians in your area at the Youth Exchange Program..

## What Happens When I Return?

- ▶ Share your exchange experiences with school as well as Rotary and your community
- ▶ Attend the re-entry orientation for students and parents
- ▶ Include your exchange information on resumes and university applications

## How Much Will It Cost?

### For Students

Fees are approximately \$3,500. Fees cover airfare, insurance, passports, and incidentals. Host families provide food, lodging and a warm family life.

### For Host Families

Host families absorb the food and lodging costs, daily living items such as laundry detergent, toothpaste, soap, etc., and expenses for regular family activities such as movies, family dining out, and family excursions. Students are responsible for things such as school events, clothing, postage, and long distance telephone. All students have health insurance while participating in the program. Rotary Clubs will also provide a monthly stipend to the student to help them with incidental expenses and extracurricular activities as well as school lunches if host family does not normally pack a lunch for their own children.

## How Do I apply?

### Students

The Rotary Youth Exchange Program is open to young men and women who will be 15-19 years of age during the school year that they will be traveling abroad. Applicants are selected by the Rotary Youth Exchange Committee based upon a written application and personal interviews.

Literature and concentrated orientations prepare students and parents for both outbound and inbound experiences. Personal interviews with both students and their parents and group orientations are required.

### Host Families

The Rotary Youth Exchange Host Family program is open to your family whether or not you have children currently living in your home. Host families are selected by the Rotary Youth Exchange Committee based upon a written application and personal interviews. Rotary takes its obligation to protect youth seriously and qualified host families will also be asked for personal references and to approve a criminal background check.

## Important Dates for Students

### Long-Term

September / October - Program Information Meetings  
November 1 - Written Applications Due

December - Personal interviews for student applicants

### Short-Term

January/February - Program Information Meetings  
February - Written Applications & Interviews

## Important Dates for Host Families:

The most important date is the day that you apply to host a Rotary Exchange Student. Once you have applied to become a part of this dynamic and rewarding youth exchange program, we will make every effort to expedite interviews, host family training and other necessary components of the host family application and approval process.

## About Rotary...

Rotary is a worldwide organization of more than 1.2 million business, professional, and community leaders. Members of Rotary clubs, known as Rotarians, provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

There are 33,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Clubs are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds. As signified by the motto Service Above Self, Rotary's main objective is service — in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world.

## Rotary Mission Statement...

The mission of Rotary International, a worldwide association of Rotary clubs, is to provide service to others, to promote high ethical standards, and to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through its fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

## Rotary's Statement of Conduct for Working With Youth

Rotary International is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all participants in Rotary activities. It is the duty of all Rotarians, Rotarians' partners, and any volunteers to safeguard to the best of their ability the welfare of and to prevent the physical, sexual, or emotional abuse of children and young people with whom they come into contact through Rotary.