There are many student exchange programs ...

why chose Rotary?

- Since 1929, Rotary International has been sending young people around the globe to experience new cultures.
- Currently, approximately 9,000 students are sponsored by Rotary Clubs each year.
- There are over 1.2 million Rotarians in more than 34,500 clubs worldwide.
- Rotarians volunteer their time and talents to administer this program.
- The Rotary International motto is “Service Above Self.”
- The Four-Way Test was created by a Rotarian and underscores our commitment to integrity. It has been translated into more than 100 languages.

The Four-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do

1) Is it the **TRUTH**?
2) Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3) Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4) Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

Students today.

Leaders tomorrow.

By hosting a student, you help to shape perceptions and attitudes toward the USA of young people who may go on to assume leadership roles in their own countries. What an educational and enjoyable way to contribute to international understanding and promote global citizenship!

How to find out more.

Interested?

To find a Rotary Club in your community, go to www.rotaryd5500.org or contact:

District 5500 Youth Exchange Officer

YouthExchangeOfficer@RotaryD5500.org

Rotary District 5500 is a member of South Central Rotary Yout Exchange (SCRYE)

www.scrye.org
www.rotaryd5500.org
www.rotary.org

Bring the world to your doorstep!

Become a host family for a Rotary Youth Exchange student

Rotary
District 5500
Southern Arizona

Life-changing experiences, lifelong relationships.

Have you ever longed to visit a foreign country and encounter a different culture? Hosting a Rotary Exchange Student is an opportunity to bring the world to your doorstep without ever leaving home, and to provide your family with an enriching, unforgettable experience.

Who are the students?

Bright, adventurous young people from all around the world are recruited and screened by local Rotary Clubs to be ambassadors to other lands for a year, living as part of a family, attending high school, and getting to know their communities in a way no short-term vacation could ever equal. Your family can be part of this exciting program by hosting a Rotary Exchange Student.

The Six D's

All exchange students who participate in the program agree to the following:

1) No ***D***rinking or Smoking
2) No ***D***rugs
3) No ***D***riving
4) No (steady) ***D***ating
5) No ***D***isfigurement (tattoos, piercings)
6) No ***D***isgracing Hosts, Rotary or Country

These rules exist to protect both students and families; any violation could result in the student being sent home early.

Who are the families?

Host families may have children the same age, older or younger siblings, children who are grown and out on their own, or no children at all. The only things you really need are an extra bed, a curiosity about other countries and cultures, and hearts big enough to welcome a foreign child to be treated as one of your own.

Generally, two or three different families in the school district serve as hosts for a student, for approximately three to five months each. In this way, Rotary shares students with more of the community and the students are able to experience different families' interests and lifestyles to get a better overview of life in the United States.

Host families have the fun of introducing students to new foods, activities, events, and the natural beauty and historic places in America, while simultaneously learning about their student's home country, culture and customs.

Host Family Responsibilities

- Room and Board*
- Comfortable home environment
- Moral support
- Love and laughter
- Sharing of family traditions
- Respect for student culture and religion
- Study time and place
- Language assistance
- Guidance and discipline
- Assistance with banking procedures
- Telephone and internet supervision
- Oversight of social activities
- Fostering friendships with peers
- Cheering and encouragement

* *Separate room or bed. Board includes school lunches (either brown bag or cafeteria) if not provided by the school.*

Note: Families might qualify for income tax credit for hosting a student. Refer to IRS Publication 526.

What is Rotary's role?

Students are sponsored by local Rotary Club and report to its Youth Exchange Officer (YEO), who oversees the student's experience and well-being throughout the year. The YEO also serves as a resource for your family and may help provide transportation, assistance, and advice as needed. The exchange program is backed by the resources of Rotary International and Rotary District 5500, which encompases the southen Arizona.

Rotary may also host get-togethers or special events every month or two for all the exchange students in the district, giving them all an opportunity to forge relationships with all the other nationalities represented in our area.

Host Family Testimonials

"The youth exchange experience has been very worthwhile for our family. Inviting a young, intelligent child into our home was rewarding, but then seeing our children interact and respond positively made the world smaller."

~Jim & Sonia

"Our exchange student from France fit seamlessly into our household of five. Our kids learned a great deal about another country and they enjoyed having a new brother in the house."

~Karl & Patricia