



Rotary Youth Exchange – Long-Term Exchange Program

Section G: Rules, Attestations, Permissions, Releases & Consents

As a Youth Exchange student sponsored by a Rotary club or district, you must agree to the following rules and conditions of exchange. Violation of any of these rules may result in dismissal from the program and immediate return home, at student's expense. Please note that districts may edit this document or insert additional rules if needed to account for local conditions.

Rules and Conditions of Exchange

- 1) You must obey the laws of the host country. If found guilty of violating any law, you can expect no assistance from your sponsors or native country. You must return home at your own expense as soon as released by authorities.
- 2) You will be under the host district's authority while you are an exchange student and must abide by the rules and conditions of exchange provided by the host district. Parents or legal guardians must not authorize any extra activities directly to you. Any relatives you may have in the host country will have no authority over you while you are in the program.
- 3) You are not allowed to possess or use illegal drugs. Legal medications that are prescribed to you by a physician are allowed.
- 4) The illegal drinking of alcoholic beverages is expressly forbidden. Students who are of legal age should refrain. If your host family offers you an alcoholic drink, it is permissible to accept it under their supervision in the home. Excessive consumption and drunkenness is forbidden.
- 5) You may not operate a motorized vehicle, including but not limited to cars, trucks, motorcycles, aircraft, all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles, boats, and other watercraft, or participate in driver education programs.
- 6) Smoking is discouraged. If you state in your application that you do not smoke, you will be held to that position throughout your exchange. Your acceptance and host family placement is based on your signed statement. Under no circumstances are you to smoke in your host family's bedrooms.
- 7) Body piercing or obtaining a tattoo while on your exchange, without the express written permission of your natural parents, host parents, host club, and host district, is prohibited, for health reasons.
- 8) You must make every effort to learn the language of the host country, and may be responsible for any costs for tutoring, language camps, or other instruction.
- 9) Limit your use of the Internet and mobile phones, as directed by your host district, host club, and host family. Excessive or inappropriate use is not acceptable. Accessing or downloading pornographic material is expressly forbidden.
- 10) You must attend school regularly and make an honest attempt to succeed.
- 11) You must have health and accident or travel insurance that provides coverage for accidental injury and illness, death benefits (including repatriation of remains), disability/dismemberment benefits, emergency medical evacuation, emergency visitation expenses, 24-hour emergency assistance services, and legal services, in amounts satisfactory to the host Rotary club or district in consultation with the sponsor Rotary club or district, with coverage from the time of your departure from your home country until your return.
- 12) You must also have liability coverage through a travel insurance or other applicable policy, in amounts satisfactory to the host Rotary club or district in consultation with the sponsor Rotary club or district.
- 13) You must have sufficient financial support to assure your well-being during your exchange. Your host district may require a contingency fund for emergency situations. Unused funds will be returned to you or to your parents or legal guardians at the end of your exchange.
- 14) You must follow the travel rules of your host district. Travel is permitted with host parents or for Rotary club or district functions authorized by the host Rotary club or district with proper adult chaperones. The host district and club, host family, and your parents or legal guardians must approve any other travel in writing, thus exempting Rotary of responsibility and liability.
- 15) You must return home directly by a route mutually agreeable to your host district and your parents or legal guardians.
- 16) Any costs related to an early return home or any other unusual costs (language tutoring, tours, etc.) are the responsibility of you and your parents or legal guardians.
- 17) Visits by your parents or legal guardians, siblings, or friends while you are on exchange may only take place with the host club's and district's consent and within their guidelines. Typically visits may be arranged only in the last quarter of the exchange or during school breaks and are not allowed during major holidays.
- 18) Serious romantic activity is to be avoided. Sexual activity is forbidden.
- 19) Talk with your host club counselor, host parents, or other trusted adult if you encounter any form of abuse or harassment.

Recommendations for a Successful Exchange

- 1) You should communicate with your first host family prior to leaving your home country. The family's information will be provided to you by your host club or district prior to your departure.
- 2) Respect your host's wishes. Become an integral part of the host family, assuming duties and responsibilities normal for a student of your age or for children in the family.
- 3) Learn ahead of time as much of the language of your host country as possible and use the language regularly. Teachers, host parents, Rotary club members, and others you meet in the community will appreciate the effort. It will go a long way in your gaining acceptance in the community and with those who will become lifelong friends.
- 4) Attend Rotary-sponsored events and host family events and show an interest in these activities. Volunteer to be involved; do not wait to be asked. Lack of interest on your part is detrimental to your exchange and can have a negative impact on future exchanges.
- 5) Get involved in your school and community activities. Plan your recreation and spare-time activities around your school and community friends. Don't spend all your time with other exchange students. If there is a local Interact club, you are encouraged to join in.
- 6) Choose friends in the community carefully. Ask for and heed the advice of host families, counselors, and school personnel in choosing friends.
- 7) Do not borrow money. Pay any bills promptly. Ask permission to use the family phone or computer, keep track of all calls and time on the Internet, and reimburse your host family each month for the costs you incur.
- 8) If you are offered an opportunity to go on a trip or attend an event, make sure you understand any costs you must pay and your responsibilities before you go.



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Statement of Conduct for Working with Youth

Rotary International strives to create and maintain a safe environment for all youth who participate in Rotary activities. To the best of their ability, Rotary members, their partners, and other volunteers must safeguard the children and young people with whom they come into contact and protect them from physical, sexual, and psychological abuse.

Adopted by the Rotary International Board of Directors, October 2019

Instructions:

Regardless of the age of the student, this form should be signed by the exchange student and by both of his or her parents. If a parent does not have custody of the student and a legal guardian does, then the form should be signed by the legal guardian. A step parent needs to sign the form only if the step parent has adopted the student or has been appointed legal guardian. This applies to all signature blocks, not only in this Section, but elsewhere in this Application Form.

ATTESTATIONS AND AGREEMENT TO PROGRAM RULES AND CONDITIONS

As the undersigned applicant and undersigned parents or legal guardians of the applicant, we hereby state that we have read and understood the Program Rules and Conditions of Exchange. Should I, as a student, be selected for an exchange, I agree to abide by these rules and others imposed on me with due notice during my time as an exchange student in the host country.

We attest that we have read and understand the Statement of Conduct for Working with Youth. We understand that all Rotarians and host families are expected to have read and understand this statement as well.

I understand that, if selected for an exchange, I will be provided with training and written material on abuse and harassment and that this information will include the contact information of the person I should contact if I encounter any form of abuse or harassment.

The undersigned applicant attests that I am of good health and character, understand the importance of the role of a youth ambassador as a Rotary Youth Exchange student, and will, to the best of my ability, maintain the high standards required of a Rotary Youth Exchange student should I be chosen to represent my sponsor Rotary club and district, school, community, state/province, and country. I further state that all the material contained in this application and the attached document are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant (full legal name)	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	e-Signature (or ink on paper) - click only for digital signature
Parent/Legal Guardian #1 (full legal name)	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	e-Signature (or ink on paper) - click only for digital signature
Parent/Legal Guardian #2 (full legal name)	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	e-Signature (or ink on paper) - click only for digital signature
Witnessed in the presence of Sponsor Club/District Representative (name and title)	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	e-Signature (or ink on paper) - click only for digital signature

LIMITED RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND COVENANT TO COLLECT DAMAGES ONLY FROM APPLICABLE INSURANCE

We fully understand the nature of being an exchange student and the risk of injury or loss of property associated with an exchange. We understand that these risks are likely greater than they would be if a student were living in his or her home country.

IN CONSIDERATION of the acceptance and participation of the applicant in the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, we hereby release and agree to defend, hold harmless, indemnify, and covenant not to collect damages from:

- Rotary International (including all members, officers, directors, committee members, chaperones, and employees of Rotary International);
- The host and sponsor Rotary Club and Rotary District (including all members, officers, directors, committee members, chaperones, and employees of the host and sponsor Rotary clubs and districts; and
- All host parents and members of their families (collectively "RYE program")

for those **damages that are over above those covered by applicable insurance policies** from any or all liability for any loss, property damage, personal injury, or death, including any liability that may arise out of any negligent act or omission, which may be suffered or claimed by the applicant, parent, or guardian during (or as a result of) the participation by the applicant in the Rotary Youth Exchange program, including travel to and from the host country. We understand that the RYE Program **shall remain responsible for any damages caused by its negligence to the extent of any applicable insurance.**

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PERMISSION FOR MEDICAL CARE AND RELEASE OF MEDICAL RECORDS AND LIABILITY

We, the parents/legal guardians of the applicant, and I, the applicant, **HEREBY DECLARE and confirm:**

- that the Medical Sections C-1 and C-2 with Dental Section D of this application include ALL health information known to us/me understanding that incomplete Medical or Dental Sections may lead to an early termination of the exchange.
- that the exchange student will be fully vaccinated according to the requirements of the receiving host country, host Rotary district or school.
- that if **additional medical issues arise between the completion of this application form and the exchange departure date, sponsor and host districts will be notified immediately.**
- We/I further authorize the Rotary Youth Exchange Officer, the Rotarian Counselor and/or the host parent to serve as my child's/my representative for the purpose of receiving medical information and communicating with medical providers about my child's/my medical condition.

We, the parents/legal guardians of the applicant, and I, the applicant, **HEREBY AUTHORIZE release** of the aforementioned Medical Sections C-1 and C-2 with Dental Section D which provide all health information included with this application.

We, the parents/legal guardians of the applicant, and the applicant, if of legal age, who have the sole and legal right to make the decisions on the health and care of the applicant, do **release from liability and grant permission** as noted of the following while our son/daughter/ward is overseas as a Rotary Youth Exchange Student:

- In the event of accident or sickness, we/I authorize any Rotarian, authorized chaperones of Rotary activities and/or host parent(s) of student to select the appropriate medical facility and physician(s)/dentist(s) to provide treatment.
- In the event of accident or sickness, we/I authorize treating medical providers to release personal health information to any Rotarian, authorized chaperones of Rotary activities, and/or host parent(s) of the student to the extent necessary to decide whether to consent to medical or dental treatment. This authorization is intended to release confidential medical information that might otherwise be protected by applicable medical confidentiality laws.
- We/I give permission for any operation, administration of anesthetic or blood transfusion that a medical practitioner may deem necessary or advisable for the treatment of our son/daughter/ward.
- We/I further consent to any medical or surgical treatment by a licensed physician, surgeon, or dentist that might be required by or son/daughter/ward for any emergency situation. We do request that we be notified as soon as possible, but emergency treatment need not be delayed to provide such notice.
- Permission is granted for any additional immunizations required for school registration.
- in the case of elective surgery, we/I request that we/I be notified and our permission obtained before such arrangements are made.

We agree to hold harmless Rotary International, any Rotary district, Rotary club, Rotarian, Rotary chaperone, or host family for an intervention in an emergency situation regardless of final outcome.

We agree to assume all financial obligation for any medical treatment rendered (whether or not covered by insurance.)

Applicant (full legal name)	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	e-Signature (or ink on paper) - click only for digital signature
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GENERAL NOTE ABOUT APPLYING SIGNATURES

Digital signatures work with PDF Readers from Adobe or Foxit. Those readers and on-line Smallpdf.com web tools also offer basic e-signature support. Other tools for electronic signatures may be suggested by the sponsor District. Leave signature fields empty to print and apply ink signature for scanned copies. Doing all signatures the same way is usually best, but ink and electronic signatures can sometimes be successfully used together.

Follow RYE Sponsor District instructions regarding suitable signatures for this application.



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Rotary Youth Exchange Application Privacy Statement

If you are accepted into the long-term Rotary Youth Exchange program, this application and the information contained within will be shared with relevant Rotary entities including your sponsoring club and home district plus the district and club that will be hosting your exchange, according to the policies of these Rotary-certified sponsoring and hosting districts. This information may also be shared with others involved with conducting the program, including exchange counselors and host parents. Any personal data shared will be processed in accordance with all applicable laws.

Personal data will be processed only by authorized youth exchange officials. Your application will be secured and protected. When sharing any information from this application, only the portions which are appropriate and necessary will be provided to your host school, your medical providers and dentists, Rotary counselor(s), program coordinators and host parents.

Personal data will be retained only as long as needed to conduct the exchange program. This will include a temporary period after the conclusion of your exchange for administrative purposes such as complying with data retention requirements of applicable law; assembling district and regional exchange program summary reports and statistical tallies; completion of certification audits; and post-exchange follow-up communications for program evaluation. No sooner than two (2) years and no later than five (5) years following the originally-scheduled conclusion of your exchange, unless separately consented otherwise, your personal records will be destroyed according to the policies or practices of your sponsoring and hosting districts including paper shredding and/or purging of electronic data in compliance with the laws and regulations applicable for each participating location.

Students may request correction or deletion of personal data using the same contact information provided for submitting this application or by contacting the youth exchange chairperson for the applicable Rotary sponsor or host district.

Rotary International ("RI"), headquartered in Evanston, Illinois, USA, is the global organization that charters Rotary clubs. RI certifies Rotary Districts meeting standards for participation in youth exchange programs. RI will not receive a copy of this application.

CONSENT TO USE OF PERSONAL DATA

I acknowledge that before beginning this application I was provided the above application privacy statement and translation, if needed, which I have read and understand. I consent that my personal data including medical information may be collected, used and disclosed in compliance with local privacy laws by relevant Rotary entities as described above and including any sponsoring and hosting Rotary Youth Exchange Multidistricts as needed to: verify my eligibility; coordinate my exchange with international exchange partners, schools, and government agencies; and to facilitate my participation in Rotary Youth Exchange activities at home and abroad.

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BASIC CONSENT REGARDING IMAGES AND RECORDINGS

I consent to anyone associated with the Rotary Youth Exchange program including Rotary members, host family members, and agents of the program ("Rotary") recording my voice and image by any means ("Recordings"). I understand Recordings may include audio, video or still photos.

I grant free of charge the right for Rotary to use Recordings depicting my image or voice in e-mails, newsletters or youth exchange program promotions including those shared by websites or social media. I understand that laws vary by country with regard to consents or releases for use of Recordings and that my sponsoring and hosting Rotary districts may or may not each provide relevant local policies, or request other consents or releases, either as part of this application or separately at a later date.

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