

## Inbound Student Cost Estimate

Listed below are estimated costs you and your parents may expect during your exchange in the USA. Some of these costs are optional and are the decision of each family. Every exchange is unique and the financial means of every student and to the wants, needs and financial ability. You and your parents should establish a budget and have a clear understanding of your financial responsibility during your year. The costs of your application and program fees paid to your Rotary District in your home country are not included in this document. All funds shown are in US dollars

- **US Visa fees –**  
Consulate interview fee \$180 (I-901)
- **Canadian Visa – if required**  
District 7120 is close to the Canadian border. Many students have an opportunity to visit Canada during their year. Canada requires a visa for visitors from some countries. If your country is listed as needing a visa, think about getting it before you leave your home country. You should request a “Multiple entry” visa from the Canadian Consulate in your country. You may not be able to obtain the visa after you arrive in the US as it will be much more expensive (over \$100.00) and will require a lengthy trip to the nearest Canadian consulate. Check <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp> to see if you need a visa. Having a Canadian visa is not mandatory, but will make it possible for you to visit there if you have the opportunity.
- **Host Family -**  
You will be provided room and board (a bedroom and meals) by your host family plus household items (soap, shampoo/conditioner, etc.) at no additional costs. However if you prefer a particular brand of product, you should expect to pay for it.
- **Insurance –**  
All inbound students must arrive with a Rotary International approved medical/repatriation/liability insurance policy. Estimated cost is \$1,047 for the recommended Plan B. This must be purchased on-line. A separate email will be sent with instructions on how to purchase this.
- **Medical Costs –**  
Your medical insurance covers medical emergencies. Costs to treat the occasional cold, sore throat, aches/pain and dental problems are not covered. It is suggested that you budget \$200-300 for unexpected medical expenses.
- **Emergency Fund -**  
All students upon arrival in District 7120 must give their Rotary Club Youth Exchange representative \$500US to be held as a contingency fund to cover unexpected emergency costs during the exchange year. Any funds used during the year must be replaced by your parents/guardians. Funds not used will be returned at the end of your exchange year, after all phone bills and other costs have been paid.

- **Language tutoring –**  
Students will be tested for English language proficiency shortly after arriving in the US. Students who do not meet the minimum standards will be required to have English language tutoring. Tutoring costs will vary depending on the student's ability and may cost up to \$25 per hour with several weeks of training required. An estimate of 20 hours of training is typical for a cost of \$500. These costs are the responsibility of the student and his/her parents.
- **Winter Weather Clothing –** We live in the north central part of New York State where we typically receive about 100 inches of snow with temperatures that can go below zero degrees Fahrenheit. If you do not have clothing for winter weather, you may need to purchase cold weather boots, jacket, hat, gloves and sweaters. Prices will vary but you should expect the costs to be between \$100 and \$200. We also suggested checking with your Rotary Club in the US if you can borrow any of these items or purchasing the winter clothing at 2<sup>nd</sup> hand shops.
- **Communicating with home and friends –**  
Research how you plan to communicate back home. Using free aps such as SKYPE, WhatsApp, FaceBook/Messenger or Viber will help. Please remember we ask you to limit your contact with home in order for you to acclimate yourself into your new language and culture. Failure to do this can sometimes ruin an exchange to the point of an early return home.
- **Cell phones –**  
Many Inbound students purchase cell phone service. You should be sure you understand the limits of this service and costs. Sometimes a host family or Rotary Club may add a phone to their personal service during your exchange year for your use. You are expected to develop a plan to reimburse them for this service. Make sure you understand any limits on this phone service and agree on how you will pay for it.
- **Entertainment & other expenses –**  
While you are here you will want to go to movies, shopping, parties, go out to eat, buy postage, purchase gifts, etc. Although your Rotary club will give you about \$75 each month for 10 months that you are here for spending money, it may not cover all that you purchase. You are responsible for any expenses not covered by the Rotary stipend.
- **School expenses –**  
You will not have to pay any school tuition or school textbook costs, but most public schools will charge for school lunches. Some students decide to get a school ring or yearbook, which cost extra. There are also school dances or school trips that may be offered for you to attend. If your school has a uniform, you may have to purchase that, or borrow one. You will be responsible to pay those costs.
- **District Sanctioned trips –**  
There are several optional district Rotary trips you may want to go on. Costs range from \$500 for a weekend to New York City up to over \$3,000 for a 30-day USA Tour. You are expected to pay for these trips. Detailed information will be sent to students and their parents on each trip.
- **Host family vacations**  
You may be offered the opportunity to go on vacation with your family. If the planned vacation is a trip that is expensive, such as a trip to Disney World, you and the family should discuss your possible financial contribution. This may or may not occur, but you and your parents need to be aware of such a possibility.