

Rotary District 5050

Inbound Student Agreement



rotary
youth
exchange

As part of your formal application, you and your parents agreed to and signed the “Rules and Conditions of Exchange” prescribed by Rotary International and your sponsor Rotary District. Those rules also require that “you must abide by the rules and conditions of exchange provided by the host district.”

As an Inbound Student hosted in District 5050, the following specific rules and conditions will apply to your exchange, and it is important that both you and your parents fully understand them. Neither the host Rotary Club nor host families may alter these rules and conditions nor those included in the student’s Rotary International application form.

General Conditions of Exchange

1. The term of **the exchange is generally less than 2 months**, and students should not expect to return home before the end of that period except in an emergency or under other unusual circumstances agreed to in advance by both District 5050 and the sponsor Rotary District.
2. Students are **required to purchase health and accident insurance in advance** before arrival from the approved provider. An information sheet listing a link to the provider will be provided. Insurance coverage should be effective from the date students actually leave their home country for a period of at least 364 days, usually August to July. A copy of the Proof of Insurance and/or insurance card will need to be sent via scan/email before entry to Canada or USA.
3. Upon arrival, students may be asked to provide **a copy of their return airline ticket** to their host Rotary Club Counselor or Youth Exchange Officer. This can be critically important in the event of an emergency situation during the exchange!
4. At the end of the exchange period, students must **return directly home** by a route mutually acceptable to the host and sponsor Rotary Districts, and the student’s parents or legal guardians.
5. Students **are under the authority of District 5050 while on exchange**, and must abide by these rules and conditions. Parents or legal guardians must not directly authorize any extra activities, and any relatives you may have in the host country will have no authority over you while you are on exchange.

Strict Rules of Exchange [violations will normally result in the student’s immediate return home!]

1. Students must **obey the laws of the host country** (Canada or the United States), and of the province or state in the host country. If you are found guilty of violating any law, you can expect no assistance from your sponsor club, district, or home country, and you will be required to return home at your own expense as soon as the authorities release you.
2. Students **are not allowed to possess or use illegal drugs**. Legal medications that are prescribed to you by a physician are allowed.
3. Smoking is not permitted in public buildings in District 5050, and most homes are now also “smoke free”. **Students hosted in District 5050 are not permitted to smoke at any time**. Note that it is illegal in both the US and Canada for those under the age of 18 to purchase cigarettes or other tobacco products!
4. **Drinking or possession of alcoholic beverages is expressly forbidden** including students who are of legal drinking age in their Country of Origin.
5. Students are not permitted to operate any **motorized vehicles**. This includes an automobile, motorcycle, motor scooter, motorboat, “jet ski”, snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle, or ultra-light aircraft, whether or not that vehicle requires a federal, state, or provincial license.
6. Students are also not permitted to engage in bungee-cord jumping, parachuting, skydiving, parasailing, hang-gliding, mountain climbing (where ropes or guides are used), scuba diving, racing by horse, motor vehicle or motorcycle or any other extreme sport activity. Any questions about these restrictions should be reviewed with the District 5050 RYE Chair.
7. Students must follow **District 5050 travel rules**. Travel is permitted with host parents or for Rotary Club or District functions authorized by the host Rotary Club or District, with adult chaperones. Other travel must be approved in advance and in writing by District 5050, the host Rotary Club, host parents, and the student’s parents or legal guardians. Before accepting any invitation for travel away from your Host Home, check with your YEO.

8. Students may not accept **formal employment**, on either a full-time or part-time basis, while on exchange. Occasional babysitting, light gardening or chore work is allowed with permission of the Host Club Counselor.

Common Sense Rules for a Successful Exchange [violations could result in the student's return home!]

1. **Communicate with your first host family** before leaving home. You will receive host family information before your departure.
2. **Respect your host family's wishes.** Become a real part of the family, assuming duties and responsibilities normal for a student of your age or for children in the family.
3. Any costs related to **an early return home** or any other unusual costs (special tours, etc.) are the responsibility of the student's parents or legal guardians.
4. **Visits by parents or legal guardians**, siblings, or friends while students are on exchange are strongly discouraged and may only take place with the consent of the District 5050 Chair and the host club, and within their guidelines.
5. **Body piercing or obtaining a tattoo** is prohibited.
6. **Serious romantic activity** is to be avoided, and **sexual activity** is forbidden. We do not want you to become romantically or sexually involved with anyone on your exchange. Both romance and sex will make your life more complicated. When you become romantically involved you make fewer friends because you are spending so much time with one person.
7. Talk with your host club counselor, host parents, or other trusted adult immediately if you encounter any form of **Abuse, bullying or harassment.**
8. Students must make every effort to **learn the English language** and may be responsible for any cost for tutoring, language camps, or other special language instruction. Learn as much English as you can ahead of time. Teachers, host parents, Rotary members, and others that you meet will appreciate the effort.
9. **Attend Rotary and host family events**, and show an interest in these activities.
10. **Electronic communication**, Skype, Facetime, texting, and phone calls with parents, siblings, and friends from home need to be limited and **must not interfere** in any way with the student becoming involved in the host culture, community and family. Excessive or inappropriate use of electronic communication is unacceptable. We recommend no more than weekly contact with those from home, and less is even better. Accessing or downloading pornographic materials is expressly forbidden.
11. If you have the **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. Also make sure you have permission from the District Chair and Club.
12. **Choose friends in the community carefully.** Ask for and heed the advice of host families, counselors, host Rotary Club and school personnel in choosing friends.
13. **Do not borrow money.** Pay any bills you incur promptly. Ask permission to use the phone and internet and reimburse your host family for costs incurred.

