



SHORT TERM EXCHANGE PROGRAM - STEP

Outbound and Inbound Students General Information and Rules

NOTE

All students selected to participate in the Youth Exchange Program must at all times remember that they are ambassadors of their generation and country and must therefore conduct themselves with intelligence, common sense and dignity, consistent with the privilege of being a Rotary International Youth Exchange Student.

Students Must Agree To The Following:

1. To become familiar with and understand clearly the aims and objects of Rotary International, its organization, structure, purpose, ideals and service record.
2. Travel directly to their destination in the host country without breaking the journey en route and, whenever possible, to travel with other students with destinations in the same host country.
3. Inbound Student travel will be at the consent of the host family and/or family of origin.
4. The family bears the primary responsibility for the student. In case of difficulties, consult with the club's Youth Exchange Officer, District STEP Chairperson, or the District's Country Contact).
5. Students will not receive financial support from the host clubs and must bring sufficient spending money to last during the one month exchange period..
6. Students are expected to become integral members of their host families, assuming duties and responsibilities normal for a person of their age.
7. Students should choose friends wisely. There will be many social opportunities, so students must not feel that they have to accept every invitation. Students should trust the host family to aid in choosing appropriate friends.
8. Host families are responsible for students socially, spiritually and physically. Students should respect their wishes and requests. Each society has its own customs and ways of doing things. Student must be flexible and adaptable. Some guidance and restrictions are to be expected and advisable.
9. Smoking is discouraged. You are expected to abide by host home rules and local laws that may not allow smoking.
10. Piercing and tattooing are forbidden except with a written formal authorization from the natural parents describing the nature and placement of such body adornment. Such a practice is not without sanitary dangers (AIDs/Hepatitis).
11. A student should know the essentials of the language of the host country upon arrival in the host country;
12. Student must obey the laws of each country that they are in. They can expect no assistance from their own government if laws are violated.
13. During the month abroad, the student may be invited to Rotary and Youth Exchange



functions and should make every effort to accept. Students may also be asked to make a brief presentation to a host club meeting, and to the sponsoring club on return home.

14. Students are "ambassadors" for their home country and must, at all times, behave in a manner that will reflect credit upon themselves, family and country.
15. Students are to refrain from any anti-social activity or sub-standard behavior that will reflect adversely on themselves or on Rotary. A pervasive negative attitude will not be tolerated.
16. Students must at all times abide by the four "D" rules, namely:
 - Absolutely no **d**rugs will be used except as prescribed by a physician for valid medical reasons.
 - The student must not **d**rive/operate any motorized vehicle of any kind (Land, water or air).
 - Serious **d**ating will not be permitted. Dating in a casual way, preferably with a group, is quite acceptable. But if the club counselor or host parents feel that the student is becoming "romantically involved," students will be told to discontinue the relationship. Sexual involvement will not be tolerated. Students violating this policy will be sent home.
 - There is to be absolutely no **d**rinking.
17. Students are to refrain from seeking or obtaining employment while under the program.
18. The student will return home upon the completion of the stay in the host country. In no circumstances will they remain beyond the period authorized by the program nor beyond the period for which they have been admitted to the country.
19. Active participation with the student's host family and community will help to make the exchange a success. Frequent and prolong personal use of the internet, including email, will interfere with this and is therefore strongly discouraged. Students will abide by the expectations and rules of the host parents and Rotary with regard to internet use.
20. Students are to obey all the rules and respect all the guidelines in keeping with the spirit of the program.
21. Under the auspices of the District Governor, the District Youth Exchange Chair of the host district is the final authority on any matter pertaining to the Youth Exchange Program. Most matters, though, will be handled at the local Rotary Club level.
22. It should be emphasized that this District Youth Exchange Committee will have absolutely no hesitation to remove students from the program and sending them home at their own expense if they do not adhere to the general intent and conditions of the program.

Rotary
District 5020



**rotary
youth
exchange**

The undersigned student and parents have read and understand the Conditions and Rules of the program and agrees to abide by them.

Dated _____

Print Student's Name _____ Signature: _____

Father (Guardian) _____ Signature: _____

Mother (Guardian) _____ Signature: _____