

Recruiting host families for
the 2025/26 scholastic year.

Seeking Host Families

Be the change

- Make a positive impact
- Experience a different culture
- Make friends around the globe
- Be part of a world family

rotary
youth
exchange



A year in a life. A life in a year.

Hosting a Rotary Exchange Student isn't just about opening your home—it's about opening up to a world of new experiences, connections, and personal growth. Imagine the joy of sharing your family traditions, showing off your favorite local spots, and experiencing your everyday life through fresh eyes. From introducing a student to local sports games to discovering new recipes from their home country, hosting can turn even routine moments into extraordinary memories. Families often find that hosting motivates them to explore their community in new ways, from weekend hikes to long-awaited museum visits. You'll be amazed at how your family bonds and grows alongside your student as you share meals, stories, and milestones.

Rotary Exchange Students bring more than just a suitcase—they bring stories, traditions, and a hunger to learn about their host culture. Each student is carefully selected for their adaptability, maturity, and commitment to making the most of their exchange year. Whether it's celebrating holidays, helping with family routines, or trying their first s'mores around a campfire, these students become more than guests; they become extended family. Rotary's robust support system ensures that every step of the way, you have a team ready to guide and assist, making hosting a student a collaborative and enriching experience for everyone involved.

Many host families say the relationships formed during an exchange last a lifetime. It's not uncommon for families to stay in touch with their students long after the exchange year ends, attending graduations, weddings, and even planning trips to visit them abroad. The bonds you form can transcend borders and generations, creating connections that redefine what family means. Hosting an exchange student is more than a service—it's a chance to foster global understanding and make lifelong friends. If you're ready for an adventure that starts at your front door and reaches across the globe, consider becoming a host family and make a lasting impact.

Be a Host. Change a Life.
(And Your Life, too!)

Email or scan the qr code for more info.
RotaryYouthExchange5280@gmail.com



True or False: Host Parent Edition

Exchange students live with the same host family for their entire exchange year. False:

Exchange students typically stay with three different host families over the academic year, with each family hosting for about three months. This arrangement provides students with a richer cultural experience by exposing them to different family dynamics, traditions, and routines. By living with multiple families, students gain a broader perspective of local culture while host families can share the responsibilities and joys of hosting.

The only requirement for hosting is that the student must have a private bedroom. False:

While a student must have a private bed in a room with a door that closes, they can share a room with a same-gender host sibling. Students can share a room as long as privacy and comfort are ensured. Having access to household amenities helps exchange students feel like part of the family.

A Rotary Youth Exchange representative will inspect your home to ensure it meets program standards. True:

A trained Rotary representative conducts a home inspection to ensure that the student will live in a safe and welcoming environment.

Exchange students are expected to contribute to family life by helping with everyday chores like setting the table or doing their laundry. True:

Just like other family members, exchange students are expected to help out with regular household chores to foster independence and strengthen their bond with the host family. Students are not expected to take on signifi-

cant responsibilities. While they may occasionally help with tasks like babysitting for short periods or tidying up, they are not meant to act as full-time caregivers or cleaners.

Anyone can apply to host whether they are a family with young children, empty-nesters, single parents, retirees, or part of an LGBTQ+ family. True:

Rotary welcomes host families from all walks of life. Diversity in host families helps make the exchange program richer and more inclusive.

Host families receive financial compensation for hosting an exchange student. False:

Hosting is a voluntary service, and families do not receive financial compensation. However, the student's Rotary club provides them with a small monthly stipend for personal expenses.

Once you pick up your exchange student at the airport, you're on your own! False:

Rotary ensures that both students and host families receive ongoing support from a counselor who offers guidance and assistance when needed.

If a student cannot adapt or follow program rules, Rotary has systems in place to address the issue, including returning the student home if necessary. True:

Rotary has a support system in place to address any challenge, including early interventions and, when needed, the option to send the student home with an open-ended return ticket.

Make a world of difference.

Hosting an international student with Rotary Youth Exchange is a unique opportunity to bring the world into your home, to share your culture and traditions while gaining invaluable global insights. Hosting is so much more than a temporary arrangement; it's about creating lasting connections, expanding perspectives, and filling your family's lives with new experiences and unforgettable memories. Imagine exploring local customs together, sharing daily meals, and gaining fresh viewpoints—all while helping a young person thrive in a new country. By opening your home, you're not only giving a student the chance to grow but also making a powerful difference in your own life and the world at large.

Rotary Youth Exchange stands out from other programs because it offers a deeper experience by placing students with two to three different families over their exchange year. These multiple placements allow for a richer cultural immersion, as students build a network of families who support them. Should a host family face an unexpected change, like travel or illness, this network helps ensure continuity and support for both the student and the families.

Rotary Welcomes All Types of Families as Host Families:

- Families with children at home
- Divorced parents with shared custody
- Single parents
- Single individuals without children
- LGBTQ+ families
- Retirees and “empty nesters”
- Families of any ethnic, cultural, or religious background

Be a Host Hero!

You in?

As part of the Rotary Youth Exchange, each student accepted into the program needs three host families to support another inbound student, creating a true 1:1 exchange. Your commitment as a host family helps ensure that your own child, as an outbound student, will be welcomed abroad by other families. To facilitate the hosting process, Rotary provides all prospective families with a full orientation, including a criminal background check, home inspection, and training. The initial commitment is for three to five months, during which your family will receive the full support of Rotary counselors trained to address any needs, large or small.

Rotary Youth Exchange takes youth protection and support very seriously. Each exchange student is backed by a team fluent in multiple languages and skilled in international student support. In addition, a rapid response team of therapists, law enforcement, youth protection experts, and State Department specialists is always ready to assist in any unexpected event.

Hosting an exchange student can be a rewarding experience filled with new traditions, friendships, and growth. **Thank you for considering this meaningful role in fostering global understanding and connection!**



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