

# LONG-TERM EXCHANGES

usually last one year, during which you attend school and live with families in your host country. To gain a greater understanding of the culture, you will live with at least two, preferably three, host families during your stay. To ensure your safety, the host Rotary club conscientiously screens and selects all host families.

## WHAT IS ROTARY?

Rotary is a global network of community volunteers. Rotary club members are business, professional, and community leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. More than 33,000 clubs conduct projects to address today's challenges, including illiteracy, disease, hunger, poverty, lack of clean water, and environmental concerns. For more information, contact Rotary International staff at [youthexchange@rotary.org](mailto:youthexchange@rotary.org).



# LONG-TERM YOUTH EXCHANGE



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL<sup>®</sup>

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## ELIGIBILITY

Rotary Youth Exchange programs are open to students ages 15-19. To qualify, applicants should be above-average students who have demonstrated leadership in their community. Candidates should also possess qualities such as flexibility and a willingness to try new things that will enable them to fully experience life in another country and become excellent cultural ambassadors.

## MEET NEW FRIENDS AND FORM INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIPS

All applicants must be sponsored by a local Rotary club and complete a written application and in-person interview.

## PROGRAM COST

The program is completely administered by Rotary club members, keeping program expenses low. Costs vary depending on the district and country where the exchange occurs, so contact your local club or district for specific information. Typically, students and their parents or guardians are expected to cover the following expenses:

- Round-trip airfare
- Travel insurance that includes medical, accident, and illness coverage and meets the requirements of the host and sponsor clubs and districts
- All travel documents, such as passports and visas
- Spending money, ancillary travel, and tours
- Language camp or other cultural orientation session
- Emergency fund for unexpected expenses during the year

## HOW TO APPLY

Rotary Youth Exchanges are administered locally, and all applicants must be sponsored by a local Rotary club and district.

Rotary clubs exist in more than 200 countries and geographical areas, and Youth Exchanges take place in nearly all of them. Check with your local Rotary club about whether it participates in the program.

To find the club closest to you, use the Club Locator at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).

## BE AN AMBASSADOR FOR YOUR OWN COUNTRY

After you've spoken with your local Rotary club or your district Youth Exchange chair, Rotary club members from your area will ask you to complete a preliminary application. Your district chair and local club will help guide you through the application and interview process.

## EMBRACE NEW EXPERIENCES AND CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

### 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, Rotarians' spouses and partners, and other volunteers must safeguard the children and young people they come into contact with and protect them from physical, sexual, and emotional abuse.

