

# Become an Exchange Student

## ...Change your Life



Rotary Youth Exchange is for high school aged students who are interested in living and studying abroad for one year. Its goal is to promote the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace at the person to person level throughout the world.

### Benefits of Rotary Youth Exchange:

- Opportunity to learn a new culture and language
- Opportunity to be an ambassador
- Opportunity to make friends for a lifetime
- An education like no other
- College entry and Resume booster
- A year of adventure – experience a new country
- What do returned students say?  
“It was the best year of my life!”

### Quick Overview...

It's not a vacation, it's a cultural and academic exchange that lasts a full school year (11 months). While on exchange you will have the opportunity to learn the language and culture of your host country. While in your host country you will attend school, be hosted by 1-3 families, and be supported by your Rotary club and Rotary counselor (as well as your sponsor club and team of Rotarians in the USA).

### Where can I go?

We exchange with over 40 countries, including: Japan, Thailand, India, France, Brazil, Spain, Germany, Sweden, Belgium, Argentina, Denmark, Poland, Finland, ...and many others. When applying, you indicate which countries interest you the most, and we attempt to place you in one of them. We cannot guarantee that you will be placed in a specific country.

### Why Rotary?

Rotary Youth Exchange is one of the largest, oldest & most respected exchange programs in the world.

Key reasons to consider Rotary:

- Orientation/training process before you leave
- Hosted by a Rotary Club and Host Families
- Activities with Rotary/Rotarians
- Low Cost / Everyone is a volunteer and cares about your safety and well-being.

**For More information:** [studyabroadscholarships.org](http://studyabroadscholarships.org)

### Do I Qualify?

Must be a good student (top half of class) between 16 and 18 1/2 years old at the time of departure.

### Other Important Attributes:

- A willingness to learn the language and culture of the country that you are assigned to
- The initiative to get involved in activities in your host country
- A pleasant personality and ability to adjust to a new and different culture/country
- Willing to live apart from your family for the year, open to new and different experiences

\*A member of your family does NOT need to belong to Rotary for you to be eligible.

### How much does it cost?

It varies:

- Airfare depends on country (and is higher than you might expect because of specific ticket requirements)
- Insurance / orientation / blazer
- Language school/ insurance in your host country
- Passport and visa
- Spending money: trips in your host country/ souvenirs

For students in Rotary District 6460: \$1,500 application/administration fees and \$1,500-\$3000 for the plane ticket.

For most students the cost of the year is between \$6,000-\$8,500, although this depends on country placement and spending habits while on exchange.

This does not include what your parents save while you are gone (food, car insurance, extra curriculars, etc.) Rotary provides room and board and education, monthly allowance, and often lots of extras.

There are scholarships available.

### Interested?

Contact your local Rotary Club or Siri Engstrom, Outbound Coordinator at [siriengstrom4@gmail.com](mailto:siriengstrom4@gmail.com)

# See the World

with Rotary Youth Exchange

