

Rotary



COME ON -
MEET THE WORLD



A year of study overseas as a Rotary Youth

Exchange Student gives you –

- an opportunity to develop your personal self-confidence and maturity
- an opportunity to develop a lifetime of international friendships
- an opportunity to develop a real understanding of many different cultures
- an opportunity to develop new language skills
- an opportunity to develop a base for future education and career goals
- an opportunity to develop in many ways

Rotary Youth Exchange - an opportunity of a lifetime

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM TIMETABLE

- ❖ Applications for an exchange must be lodged in writing on the form attached to this brochure with the Rotary Club generally in the area in which the student resides or attends school before **15 MARCH** in the year prior to departure.
- ❖ A local committee appointed by the Rotary Club will interview students and their parents during March and will select a suitable student for consideration by the District Youth Exchange Committee no later than **31 March**.
- ❖ Successful club applicants will then be required to submit their Rotary International Application for long term exchange to the District Youth Exchange Committee for consideration by **30 April**. Applications received after this date will be rejected.
- ❖ In May, the District Youth Exchange Committee will interview all applicants selected by individual Rotary Clubs within the District.
- ❖ A final endorsement of students to be sent abroad will be made following interview by a District panel in May/June, subject to the District Youth Exchange Committee being able to secure host agreements from Rotary Clubs abroad.
- ❖ The District Youth Exchange Committee will conduct several briefing sessions for parents and students during the time leading up to departure.
- ❖ The District Youth Exchange Committee will endeavour to meet the wishes of applicants by sending them to the country of their first choice. Where this proves impossible to arrange or undesirable due to other factors, the committee reserves the right to arrange placement with a Rotary Club in another country.
- ❖ The overseas Rotary Club arranges board and lodging with approved host families for the duration of the exchange year at no cost to the student.
- ❖ Students endorsed by the District Youth Exchange Committee will, as a general rule, depart from Australia in January. The period of exchange will be between 49 and 52 weeks.
- ❖ **No student is regarded as an Exchange Student until officially accepted by a host Rotary Club in another country.**

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM

To further international goodwill and understanding by enabling students to study at first hand the cultures and accomplishments of people in lands other than their own.

To enable students to advance their education by studying for a year in an environment entirely different to their own and undertaking study of courses and subjects not normally available to them in secondary schools of their own country.

To broaden their own outlook by learning to live with and meet people of different cultures, creeds and races to their own, and by having to cope with day to day problems in an environment completely different to the one they have experienced at home.

To act as Ambassador for Australia by addressing Rotary Clubs, Community organisations and Youth groups in their host country and by imparting as much knowledge as they can of their own country and its culture to the people they meet during their year abroad.

To study and observe all facets of life and culture in the country where they are hosted so that on their return to Australia they can pass on the knowledge they have gained by addressing Rotary Clubs, Community organisations and Youth groups.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

The preferred age of applicants is between 15 and 18 years of age at the time of departure. This is always in January of the year following application.

Applicants must have above average academic ability and must have an outgoing and pleasant personality to fit them for the role as an Ambassador for Australia. They must have the ability to accept discipline and be capable of adjusting to new and strange conditions.

Applicants must be of good character and reputation.

Sons and daughters of Rotarians are eligible for Youth Exchange, but receive no special preference in selection. All applicants are selected solely on merit.

Students must hold a current Australian passport on departure.

OBLIGATIONS

Students are required to obey the laws of the host country at all times and accept the discipline of the host school and the host parents. Students are required to adapt to the home environment of the host families - Host families are under no obligation to adapt themselves to the student.

Students must return to Australia on completion of the exchange by the most direct route as arranged.

The parents are required to pay the participation fee which will include the cost of the student's travel to and from the host country, insurance, uniform, business cards, training seminars and other promotional material as determined by the District YEP Committee. Travel is arranged by the Rotary YEP District Committee.

Parents will provide for day to day personal living expenses including clothing, telephone, postage, and travel on organised tours etc. for the student while abroad.

APPLICATION FOR A ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

Students interested in participating in this program are invited to complete this preliminary application form and lodge it with the Secretary Youth Exchange in District 9630 before 15 March by email

secretary@yep9630.org

(Applications after this date may be accepted)

To: The Secretary,

Have you applied to any clubs directly? Yes/No

I am interested in participating in the Rotary Youth Exchange Program.

My personal details are as follows -

Please attach school reports and other information to support this application.

Given Name:

Surname.....

Address:

.....

Telephone: Email:

Date of Birth: Age at Last Birthday:

School: Year Level:

List Subjects being Studied:

.....

.....

My future ambitions are:

.....

My other interests are:

.....

Countries (Please refer to <http://yep.rotary9630.org/Countries.htm> for long-term exchange countries.)

If selected for Youth Exchange, I would like to go to (1).....

List 2nd & 3rd choices of countries (2)..... (3).....

I wish to go abroad for 12 months for the following reasons:

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Student's Signature:

Parent's Signature: