

# ROTARY INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

## Guidelines for INBOUND and OUTBOUND Students from District 7470

Welcome to the Youth Exchange Program. We hope that your year as a part of Rotary International Youth Exchange Program will be one of the greatest experiences of your life. To help you gain the maximum benefits and enjoyment from this program, the following guidelines have been established for all students while participating in the program.

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### PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

You and your parents must sign this form. Mail it to us prior to departure. If you have some questions or misunderstandings, you are requested to meet with your counselor to discuss them. Your counselor will contact you periodically during your stay in the foreign country.

### RULES

1. **Airline Tickets** - You must use a round trip ticket, the return should be open, however, NO standby tickets are allowed.

2. **Insurance** - You are required to have medical insurance. A policy especially designed for this program is available. The 2002 cost for this policy starts at \$200.00. If you are an outbound you will need this plus what is required by your host country.

3. **Language** - You are in the program to learn about other countries, it's people, culture and history. For you to be a successful exchange student it is necessary for you to speak, write and read in a foreign language. If you are not fluent now, you should spend time improving your ability. You are required to try hard to learn the language of your host country.

4. **Personal Behavior** - You will become part of the host family and assume household duties that are normal for your age (even when things are not specifically requested). You must respect your host family's wishes and requests, especially at meal times, curfew hours, chores, etc. One family may be more informal or formal, and you will be expected to adjust to each family. Remember that you are an ambassador of your country, your family and Rotary. Accordingly you will be expected to maintain a high standard of behavior. You should bear in mind that the ways you conduct yourself will determine whether your Club, family or school will wish to host another student. You will be expected to always be dressed and groomed in an appropriate manner.

5. **Changing Families** - You will move when requested by your host Club.

6. **School** - You must attend school regularly and maintain passing grades. This is a high school exchange program and not a holiday. Even if you have graduated from high school, you must attend high school each day and maintain a passing grade.

7. **Drugs** - You are not allowed to use any drugs unless prescribed by a doctor.

8. **Alcohol** - You are not allowed to use any alcohol.

9. **Dating** - You will not have any romantic relationships.

10. **Driving /Operation** - You will not be allowed to operate any motor vehicles including motorcycles, boats, planes, snowmobiles, trail bikes, riding mowers etc. In addition you are not allowed to operate any Power Tools unless supervised in school.

11. **Telephones** - We prefer that students not regularly call home. This can lead to homesickness. You will be expected to pay for any personal telephone use. Natural parents should not call on a regular basis. You will be expected to write or e-mail your family at least monthly.

12. **Smoking** - Students are expected to abide by your host family's policy. In the State of it is illegal for a person under 18 to buy cigarettes. If your application says non-smoker you must abide by that while on your exchange.

13. **Independent Travel** - You may travel with your host family, other approved Rotary families or properly approved trips arranged by schools, etc. It is not the responsibility of your Rotary Club or host family to pay for any trips. Travel alone, or with other young people is not allowed. This is a cultural exchange; the Y.E.P. Chairman must be notified in writing **in advance** to approval prior to any trip out of the state of New Jersey.

If your parents wish to visit you during your stay, please limit the visit to the later part of your year and any visit should be for a brief time. Some parents arrange to visit at the end of your year. If you are meeting your parents **they** must notify the Y.E.P. Chairman in writing of your plans to travel alone.

14. **Emergency Funds** - You are asked to bring about \$500 dollars U.S. with you to be used as emergency money.

The host country sets this amount. This money is to be kept in a bank account cosigned by your host family or counselor. Small day to day expenses will be covered by the allowance given to you by your Rotary Club. Your natural parents should replenish this emergency fund when the funds fall below \$350.00. If you are coming to the U.S. we will accept a bank cash card with \$500.00 available on it instead of the money.

15. **Meetings** - You are expected to attend Rotary functions when requested.

16. **Immunization** - You are required to have your record of immunization with the necessary immunization for the country you will be visiting. The US requires month, day and year of each immunization.

17. **Laws** - The student must obey the laws of the host country. If you violate any law, you can expect no assistance from either Rotary or the government

18. **Change** - Things will be different in the foreign country than from the United States and you are expected to adjust to the customs in that country. If you are not willing to adjust to the local customs you should not be an exchange student.

19. **Computers** - Students are expected to be part of the family. If you spend more than one hour per night on the computer it is too much. You are supposed to be making friend in you host country, not spending all your time e-mailing your friends at home.

**All exchange students must follow the rules of the Youth Exchange Program. Students will be sent home for rule infractions.**

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**THE UNDERSIGNED APPLICANT** \_\_\_\_\_, and the undersigned **PARENTS** or **GUARDIANS** of the applicant hereby agree that the applicant be permitted to travel to another country and live in Rotary approved homes as a participant in a Rotary Youth Exchange program for one year.

**IN CONSIDERATION** of the acceptance and participation of the applicant in such program, the undersigned **APPLICANT** and his or her **PARENTS** or **GUARDIANS**, to the full extent permitted by law, hereby release and agree to save, hold harmless and indemnify, all host parents and members of their families, and all members, officers, directors, committee members and employees of the host and sponsoring Rotary clubs and districts, and of Rotary International, of and from all liability for any loss, property damage, personal injury or death, including any such liability which may arise out of the negligence of any such persons or entities, which may be suffered or claimed by such applicant, parent or guardian during, or as a result of, the participation by the applicant in such Youth Exchange Program, including travel to and from the host country.

**WE GIVE PERMISSION** for any operation, administrative of anesthetic or blood transfusion which a medical practitioner may deem necessary or advisable for the treatment of any illness or injury suffered by applicant.

**WE AGREE** that the president of the host Rotary Club or the director of any tour or trip operated by any Rotary Club, district or combination of clubs or districts may sign on behalf of the applicant and his or her parents or guardians any and all medical emergency release documents for such treatments. Having read and understood the above rules, we each agree to abide by these rules and understand that any violations may result in abrupt termination of the exchange, and we further agree that the host Rotary Club and host Rotary district shall have final authority in enforcing these rules and any other rules which may be imposed with due notice.

(Signature on all copies must be original.)

Signed\* \_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant)

Signed\* \_\_\_\_\_ Signed\* \_\_\_\_\_  
(Father/Guardian) (Mother/Guardian)

In the presence of Sponsor Rotary Club Representative\* \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_