



Rotary International District 9455 Short Term Exchange Program (S.T.E.P)

**Sponsored by Rotary International Rotary Clubs in District 9455
International Student Exchange Program
Short Term Exchanges
Most economical Student Exchange Program**

What is it all about?

Rotary Short Term Exchange presents opportunities for students to advance their knowledge and world understanding by allowing them to exchange to a different country. Participants will live with host families in their selected land for up to 90 days, normally in the summer, under the sponsorship of their local Rotary Club.

Objective and Purpose

The purpose of Rotary's Short Term Exchange Program is to build bridges of friendship and understanding among the peoples of the World. To foster world peace and goodwill by extending international communication at the personal level through the exchange of students of high school age. It is our hope that these young people will be able to observe, first hand, the problems and accomplishments of other countries by living with and meeting people of cultures, creeds and colours other than their own.

Who is Eligible?

Any student aged 15-18 of good character who possess a warm personality and a desire to live abroad and host in return. Candidates should be adaptable and flexible, well mannered and want to experience life in other countries and cultures. Children of Rotarians and non- Rotarians are equally eligible.

How do you go about participating in the Rotary Short Term Exchange Program?

Applicants must be sponsored by a local Rotary Club. Contact any member of a local club who will put you in touch with the clubs Youth Exchange Officer who will then make necessary arrangements to get application Forms to you. Alternatively you can contact me on the numbers listed and I will mail / email you application forms along with details of Rotary Club near you.

Why is it called an Exchange Program?

We will endeavour to match you with a student of similar interests in a country that D9455 is currently exchanging with, and the two of you will spend up to 90 days in each others homes.

Is proficiency in a foreign language needed?

No! The program is cultural in nature but is also for a short period of time. Many countries throughout the world teach English as a second language. If you have taken a foreign language in school and have a desire to visit a country that speaks that language, we will do our utmost to try and set up an exchange for you.

How does a student benefit from being abroad?

Being away in another country has a broadening and accelerating effect on your maturity process. Managing your own finances and making decisions, influences your independence from what your parents would have done for you as a matter of course. You develop an understanding and tolerance for people, which will benefit you throughout your life.

How much will it cost?

There are two main elements that comprise the cost of the program

First there is the cost of the round trip airfare from your home to your host country.

All travel must be on scheduled airlines

Secondly is the cost of spending money while abroad. Because you will live with your host family, room and board is provided. The amount you take is for you to decide and would largely depend on your time away. We recommend you take small gifts for your host family

Students are covered by Rotary Insurance, but it is advisable your parents take out travel insurance

Some overseas countries may require you take out a internal insurance policy for a minimal cost

General Information

Students both Inbound and Outbound should attend school, where possible

All students must be sponsored by a Rotary Club

All students must undergo a District briefing before departure

The whole program is flexible and can be arranged to suit individual student needs

All Students must obey the guidelines set by Rotary International

Exchanges can be up to 90 days in length.

Norman de Grussa OAM | STEP Coordinator

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