



STUDENT EXCHANGE

Experience: Your World

✓ *Live like a local* ✓ *Attend high school overseas* ✓ *Become part of your host family*



STUDENT EXCHANGE

Challenge Yourself:



If you are between 15-18 years, a YFU Student Exchange program offers a unique opportunity to explore the world in a safe and supported way. You can choose from programs lasting 3-12 months to over 25 destinations worldwide. You get to:

- ✓ *Learn another language*
- ✓ *Gain confidence and independence*
- ✓ *Attend school overseas*
- ✓ *Make friends for life*

YFU Student Exchange

YFU was originally established in the United States in 1951 to build friendship between young people of the United States and Germany after World War II. It grew rapidly and in 1977 became established in Australia and in 1985 in New Zealand.

We observe strict child safety protocols at every stage of your exchange including the selection of host families. You are supported throughout your program by a network of professional YFU staff and volunteers. You always have someone to turn to for advice and support.

YFU Student Exchange is approved as a student exchange organisation by Education Departments in every State and Territory in Australia and with the Ministry of Education in New Zealand.



Discovery Sessions

YFU Student Exchange holds regular live online Discovery Sessions.

You can register on our website and learn about:

What's involved in going on exchange

All the eligibility requirements

The support you have whilst on exchange

All prices and inclusions

The process of applying

Departure dates & application deadlines

GET \$100 OFF YOUR PROGRAM

Simply register and attend one of our live online Information Evenings and you will automatically get \$100 off your program fee.

Conditions Apply.



YFU Student Exchange offers students a variety of academic and cultural based programs of different lengths to over 25 destinations worldwide.

Programs:

YEAR (departing Jan-Mar or July-Aug)
SEMESTER (departing Jan-Mar or July-Aug)
3 MONTHS (departing Nov-Dec)
YFU Student Exchange is the only exchange organisation offering students the chance to expand their skills and talents in:
Creative Arts (Belgium Flanders, Estonia, Latvia, Sweden)
Performing Arts (Belgium,Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Sweden)
Fashion (Belgium Flanders)
Sports (Belgium, Argentina, Hungary)
Dance - Ballet specific (Latvia)
Hospitality (Hungary, Italy, Belgium Flanders)
Environmental education (Estonia)
Tourism (Belgium)
Visual Art - Film & Media (Estonia)

Specialist programs are subject to availability and may incur additional costs. Programs may change - please contact our team for more information.



Destinations:

- Argentina
- Australia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Brazil
- Chile
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Latvia
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Hungary
- Germany
- Italy
- New Zealand
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- USA
- Uruguay
- and more!

Eligibility

You are eligible to apply for a YFU Student Exchange program if you are:

Between 15 and 18 years old (students who are slightly younger or older may still be able to apply).

In good physical and mental health.

Have average C (on an A to E scale) or better school grades over last two years.

Be still at school when you apply.

Mature, flexible, adaptable, responsible and willing to be challenged.



How to apply:



STEP 1

Attend a Discovery Session

Attend an on-line Discovery Session to ensure you and your parents are well informed about what's involved in becoming a YFU exchange student.



STEP 2

Complete an Initial Application

This will take just a few minutes and get the process underway. We will review your Initial Application and let you know if we have any further questions. An application fee of \$100 is due at this stage.



STEP 3

Interview

When your conditional approval is confirmed your YFU Program Manager will contact you to arrange an interview via Zoom . The interview is designed to find out more about you, the reasons you want to go on exchange & your ability to handle the ups and downs of exchange.



STEP 4

Complete the Full Application

When your interview has been successfully completed we will invite you to submit a Full Application. \$750 is due at that stage and the balance is payable in installments thereafter.



STEP 5

Acceptance

Congratulations are in order! When your Full Application is received we will write to you to confirm you have a guaranteed placement.



STEP 6

Prepare to Depart!

We will arrange your pre-departure orientation and make sure you're organised for the adventure ahead.



Money Matters:

Payment Process

An application fee of \$100 with the initial application which is fully refundable if you are not accepted. (this fee is not part of the program fee)

\$750 when you receive your guarantee of placement letter.

Monthly payments until the program fee is paid in full 60 days before departure.

What is included in your program fee

Return economy international airfare on quality airlines to and from your nearest international airport unless otherwise stated in the program inclusions

Return travel to and from your host family

Comprehensive medical, accident, travel and public liability insurance

School enrolment in the host country

Placement with a carefully screened and selected YFU Student Exchange volunteer host family (including selection and preparation of the host family)

Pre-departure orientation and materials for students and parents and arrival and re-entry (before returning home) orientations in the host country

24/7 emergency number for use in the case of genuine emergencies

Application and selection process including selection interview and discussion with your parents in your home if possible

Assistance with visa process including provisions of documents (visa application fee not included)

Welcome and Farewell Pack (YFU Student Exchange T-shirt, "The Guide" handbook about being a YFU Exchange student and other documentation)

Professional individual support for you and your host family and your natural parents by staff and trained volunteers and in your host country

Professional counselling (if required)

YFU Student Exchange Welcome Home Pack

What is not included

Your personal spending money

Visa processing costs

Passport costs if you do not have a valid passport

Excess luggage fees (if required)

Intensive language camps or courses if needed and required by specific countries

Domestic travel to and from your international departure airport



FAQs:

Will my country of choice be guaranteed?

Yes. YFU Student Exchange guarantees your country of choice provided you meet the criteria for placement in that country and we have places available for that country.

Are there any language requirements to go on exchange?

In most countries there is not a language requirement but check the destination pages on our website for specific requirements.

Will I have to repeat a year when I return from exchange?

The answer to this question depends on the year you are in at school, the school system requirements and the length of your exchange. You should speak to your school as soon as possible about how your exchange may affect your school enrolment. YFU Student Exchange cannot guarantee that you will be able to access all subjects your current school requires while you are on exchange.

Can I talk to someone who has been on exchange?

Yes you can. When you apply and have been accepted for exchange we can put you in touch with a returned exchange student who has been on exchange to your country of choice. They can give you advice and answer any questions you may have about being an exchange student.

Do you have any suggestions on how to talk to my parents about going on exchange?

Invite them to come along to a Discovery Session - you can register via our website. This will help them understand more about YFU Student Exchange and what's involved in being an exchange student. Our staff are very happy to talk to your parents about the benefits of going on exchange. Ask them to call us on 1800 654 947 (free call Australia) or 0800 833 624 (free call New Zealand).

I have a pre-existing health condition. Can I go on exchange?

It depends on the pre-existing health condition. Minor health conditions such as allergies will not generally stop you from going on exchange but can restrict where you are placed. More serious health conditions (eg diabetes) if they are controlled by medication will not stop you from going on exchange but you would need to discuss your condition with us and we would need to make sure our partner in your country of choice would accept you. Please talk to our staff about your circumstances.

How does YFU Student Exchange choose a family for me?

Host families come in different shapes and sizes including two parent families with children, single parent families with children or couples without children. YFU Student Exchange works hard to match you with a family with similar interests but the primary requirement is that they are willing to open their home and hearts to you. All host families are interviewed in their homes and are subject to a screening process, criminal and background checks, in accordance with the regulatory requirements of the host country



Hosting:

A Rewarding Experience for Everyone

YFU Student Exchange is always on the lookout for great Aussie and Kiwi families that are willing to open their homes and their hearts to an exchange student.

The most important requirements are to:

Make their exchange student feel genuinely welcome

Help the student become part of their family

Support the student through the ups and downs of their exchange

Immediately inform YFU Student Exchange of any issues affecting the safety and wellbeing of the student.

All host families are required to have Working with Children checks and sign a Code of Conduct.

Students arrive with a basic level of English and are expected to participate in daily chores around the house. They have travel insurance and medical insurance and bring spending money for incidentals like toiletries and outings, etc.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO TO MAKE A NO OBLIGATION ENQUIRY.



Volunteer:

Become a Local Coordinator

YFU Student Exchange Local Coordinators are volunteers who help students and host families through their exchange experience. They are part of a global network of community-minded people who contribute to international understanding through student exchange programs.

YFU Local Coordinators make a difference in the world. The role is always interesting, at times challenging and frequently fun!

As a YFU Student Exchange Local Coordinator you are required to have a valid Working With Children Check, provide three referees and accept the YFU Code of Conduct.

You'll receive training at the outset of your involvement and ongoing support plus you will have access to an online portal where useful resources and materials are available.

Our professional staff are there to assist and advise at all times including 24/7 in the event of an emergency.

The role is voluntary but you are reimbursed for expenses.

TO FIND OUT MORE OR TO APPLY TO BECOME A LOCAL COORDINATOR PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE.



Why Choose YFU Student Exchange?

Over 60 years of experience

250,000 exchanges worldwide

A global network of caring,
professional staff and volunteers

Guaranteed country of choice

Your safety and wellbeing is our priority

Working with Children Checks for all
staff, volunteers and host families

A commitment to high-quality service
and support

24/7 emergency phone support



STUDENT EXCHANGE

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