



Parent/Student Agreement: Terms and Conditions

Program Purpose

Youth For Understanding (YFU) International Student Exchange (the "program") exists to promote respect for cultural diversity, friendship among nations, and opportunities for personal development through international educational exchange programs.

The program provides the opportunity for all who participate to increase their sensitivity to cultural differences and similarities and develop a deepened awareness of shared human values and interests.

YFU, consistent with its commitment to international understanding, does not discriminate based on race, colour, national origin, religion, or sex in employment or in making its selections and placements.

Student Eligibility

When an applicant submits the Initial Application Form to YFU Student Exchange together with initial application fee of \$100, YFU Student Exchange staff will check general eligibility (age, any health conditions mentioned in initial application) and contact the partner organisation in the applicant's country of choice to ensure a place is available for the applicant.

Should an applicant apply less than 4 months before program departure, the initial fee and deposit are required with initial application form. Note that the deposit will not be refunded should the student cancel.

Acceptance on Program

An applicant is only fully accepted on to the YFU program when YFU has determined that the applicant meets all suitability and eligibility criteria which will be determined by YFU when the fully completed Application for Program Acceptance is received by YFU Student Exchange together with \$750 deposit and interview report.

Program Duration

Program durations vary according to school schedules in host country. A "year" program is normally between 10 and 12 months; a "semester" program varies between 5 and 6 months and a trimester program between 10 and 12 weeks. The short program is less than 10 weeks.

Program Partners

In some countries YFU Student Exchange uses the services of an external organisation that facilitates student exchange programs, these are primarily in countries where there is no YFU International Student Exchange Organisation in operation. These external organisations are thoroughly checked by YFU Global and must adhere and abide by the same program standards as a YFU organisation.

Working with external partners allows students opportunity to go to countries that otherwise would not be available to a YFU Student.

External organisations have their own cancellation fees that apply in addition to the YFU Student Exchange fees applied.

Program Payment Schedule and Cancellation

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

- \$100 Application Fee at time of completion of initial application.
- \$750 Deposit at time of student interview.
- Scheduled payments between first and final payment (advised on invoice).
- Final Payment due minimum 90 days before departure from home country.

Any cancellation of program from the time initial application is received by YFU Student Exchange will only be accepted in writing and will be effective from the date received by YFU Student Exchange. Provided all fees up to the date of cancellation have been paid, refunds will be made in accordance with the following schedule:

CANCELLATION POLICY:

- If YFU is unable to accept the student's Initial Application, or our partners cannot guarantee the student



a place in their country of choice, there will be a full refund of the \$100.00 initial application fee.

- If the student or their parents cancel their application at any time, after payment of the \$100 initial application fee and \$750 deposit there will be no refund of the \$850.00.
- If the student or their parents cancel after student is placed with a host family the cancellation fee will be, at any time, 50% of the program fee.
- If the student or their parents cancel before the student is placed with a host family and less than 90 days before the scheduled departure date, but more than 60 days, the cancellation fee will be 50% of the program fee.
- If the student or their parents cancel before the student is placed with a host family and less than 60 days, but more than 14 days before the scheduled departure date, the cancellation fee will be 75% of the program fee.
- If the student or their parents cancel less than 14 days before the scheduled departure date, there will be no refund of program fee.
- If the student leaves or is dismissed from the program after the scheduled date of departure, there will be no refund of the program fee.

Program Alterations and Extensions

YFU Student Exchange reserves the right to make such alterations or modifications to the program (including travel arrangements) as may be deemed necessary or desirable for the proper management of the program. YFU Student Exchange reserves the right to cancel any program and to decline to accept or retain any student applicant or participant at any time.

YFU does not normally grant extensions of stay except in cases where a student undertakes a semester program and then seeks to extend to a year program. In those cases, approval will only be given where the hosting partner organisation agrees, the visa can be extended and the student's parents or legal guardians are prepared to meet additional costs for visa extension, program fee difference and administrative fees.

In all other cases for requests for extension of stay, YFU is not empowered to grant waivers on visa extension, nor will the organisation or its representatives participate in the investigation of an extension or issue a 'no objection' statement unless there is demonstrated evidence of a medical or special emergency requiring such an extension. If a student decides to extend their stay within the existing visa and does not take the flight to Australia/New Zealand that YFU has assigned to them, YFU's responsibility and the insurance arranged for them ends with the scheduled arrival in Australia/New Zealand of the YFU assigned return flight. The student will be considered by YFU in Student Exchange and the host country as having left the program as soon as they act on the decision to not take the assigned flight.

In these cases, we, the parents, or legal guardians agree to sign a waiver accepting all liability and responsibility for the welfare, safety and security of our son/ daughter and pay fees associated with changes of airline bookings insurance and any administrative fees required by YFU Student Exchange.

Program Fees and Price Guarantee

We, the parents, or legal guardians of the applicant agree to pay to YFU Student Exchange all program fees in accordance with the dates established by YFU Student Exchange and accept that unless authorised in writing by YFU Student Exchange we may be liable for additional charges if we are unable to meet the payment schedule. YFU Student Exchange reserves the right to increase program fees at any time but gives a guarantee that once an applicant has submitted an initial application together with the \$100 application fee, they will not be subject to price increases.

Discounts

Potential discounts cannot be used in conjunction with another. Only one discount can be applied to a program fee.

Program Fee Inclusions

The YFU program fees include:

- Personal suitability interview with applicant and parents/guardians.
- Return economy international airfares on quality airlines that provide full service and minimal



connection time in transit during the students journey to and from applicant's nearest capital city airport (Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Brisbane, Adelaide, Hobart, Darwin, Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch)

- Return travel to and from host family in host country.
- Comprehensive medical, accident, travel, and public liability insurance.
- Process of obtaining school enrolment and relevant documents completed in host country.
- Placement including accommodation and food with a carefully screened and selected YFU volunteer host family including selection and preparation of the host family.
- Pre-departure orientation and materials for applicants and parents in Australia/ New Zealand and arrival and pre-departure orientations in host country for the applicant.
- YFU 24-hour emergency phone service in Australia /New Zealand and in host country.
- Airport meet and greet service and assistance with check-in procedures in Australia/ New Zealand and in host country.
- Assistance with visa process including provision of documents.
- Ongoing professional support and supervision by YFU in the host country and support for the applicant's parents in Australia/ New Zealand by YFU Student Exchange staff.

Costs Not Included in Program Fee

The YFU program fee does not include:

- Roundtrip travel to your nearest capital city airport/departure airport in Australia/New Zealand.
- Passport and visa fees
- Any departure taxes not included in airfares and any charges assessed for baggage that exceeds applicable airline limitations.
- All items of a personal nature
- Any expenses for extra-curricular activities or elective subjects
- Compulsory school administrative/enrolment fees (if required), textbooks or uniform at school in host country, any expenses for sporting activities, personal entertainment, or transportation to and from school, school incursions/excursions and additional subject fees.
- COVID-19 vaccination and/or test costs if required by the host country.
- Quarantine costs in either the host country upon arrival, or the home country upon return if required by external factors beyond YFU's control.

Student Personal Expenses During Program

YFU recommends that a student has available approximately a minimum of \$400 to \$500 per month and approximately \$600-\$700 on arrival in the host country to cover expenses not included in program fee.

We, the parents, or legal guardians of the applicant agree that we shall be responsible for and pay all legally enforceable debts incurred by our son or daughter while abroad. If YFU discharges any such debt, whether due to emergency, as a matter of convenience or otherwise, we agree to repay such amount to YFU immediately upon demand.

Passport, Visa, and Vaccination Requirements

A student applicant must have a current Australian/New Zealand passport which is valid for at least six months after the anticipated date of return from exchange.

Most countries require a special class visa for students to attend school in the host country. YFU Student Exchange will assist your son/daughter with their visa application including assistance with process and provision of any documents YFU is required to provide to support the visa application. The Student Health Certificate, which is part of the Application process, lists vaccinations required for the student's safety and for enrolment in school overseas.

Some host countries may require up-to-date COVID-19 vaccinations before departure from Australia or New Zealand. This will be dependent on host countries requirements and will be advised at time of country selection.

Insurance

All students on a YFU exchange program are provided with personal accident, medical insurance coverage as well as travel and public liability insurance coverage for the duration of their YFU exchange program. YFU Student



Exchange will provide parents or legal guardians with a summary of the insurance coverage including details of any exclusions for pre-existing conditions. Parents should review the coverage to ensure they are satisfied that the coverage is adequate for their son or daughter.

School Placement Overseas

We, the parents, or legal guardians of the applicant accept that schools abroad may impose academic standards or other requirements in determining grade level placement that differ from those imposed in the school our son or daughter now attends. We further acknowledge and accept that participation in the YFU program does not guarantee credit or graduation from the school abroad they will attend while participating in the program. We understand that it is our responsibility to arrange with the school our son or daughter now attends for such credit or graduation upon completion of the program.

Host Family Placement

YFU cannot guarantee placements in specific areas in the host country or with host families of a specific kind. Should a host family change be necessary, we, the parents or legal guardians of the student applicant authorise YFU Student Exchange and its employees and representatives at their sole discretion to change the place of residence or school or school designated for our son or daughter by YFU, where YFU believes such a change to be in the best interest of our son or daughter.

- We understand YFU will notify us of any such changes.
- We understand the YFU families may be of any race, religion, structure, etc.
- We understand that YFU will try to accommodate our preferences regarding host family placement; however, we understand that this cannot be guaranteed.
- We will be open to and accept the host family that YFU selects.

Host Family Placement Agreement	
Student Signature:	Date:
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature:	Date:
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature:	Date:

Responsibility

We, the parents or legal guardians of the applicant, understand that in making travel arrangements for our son or daughter, YFU, its partners, and personnel contract with or use commercial airlines, trains, buses, restaurants, hotels, and other entities whose performance and service cannot be controlled by YFU, its partners, and personnel. Consequently, we agree that YFU Student Exchange, its partners, and personnel are not in any way liable for any injury, damage or loss or delay as a result of the actions or negligence of such commercial entities including, but not limited to, lost baggage, uncomfortable quarters, and travel delays. We the parents or legal guardians of the applicant agree to release and discharge YFU, its partners, personnel, representatives and adult members of host family or families with whom our son/daughter may live overseas from any liability, claims or demands that may be asserted in connection with any cause, event or occurrence beyond the control of YFU, including, but not limited to, natural disasters, war, civil disturbances, and the negligence of parties not subject to the control of YFU Student Exchange, its partners, personnel or representatives (Force Majeure).

Law of Contract

This contract is governed in all respects by the law of the State of New South Wales and any legal action arising under this contract shall be litigated only in the appropriate court having jurisdiction in that State. Notwithstanding the governing law of the Contract, YFU Student Exchange complies with the applicable New



Zealand laws and regulations.

Medical Authorisation and Release

We, the parents or legal guardians of the student applicant agree to and do hereby authorise YFU, its personnel and partner organisations, the schools where our son/daughter may be enrolled and adult members of the host family to act for us in seeking medical treatment for our son or daughter including hospitalization in any emergency or accident or illness and we agree to release and discharge YFU Student Exchange, its partner organisations and the foregoing individuals from any liability, claims, or demands that may be asserted in connection with any emergency, accident, illness, injury or other consequences or event arising from the actions or participation of our son or daughter in the Program.

We accept that limited medical and hospital (for accident and health) insurance is included in the YFU program fee for all YFU program participants. We agree to be responsible for, and pay, all bills for any medical, optical, dental, pharmaceutical, or similar services, (a) which our son or daughter requires while in the host country and (b) which are not covered as benefits payable under the insurance policy. If YFU pays any such bills, whether due to emergency, as a matter of convenience, or otherwise, we agree to repay such amounts to YFU immediately upon demand.

We affirm that the information stated in the Student Health Form (Form L) (which must be submitted before our son or daughter joins the Program) is accurate and contains no material omissions of which we are aware.

We affirm that our son or daughter has no chronic physical, mental, or emotional condition or disability that has not been set forth in the Health Certificate or which would make participation in the program inadvisable or unreasonably risky.

We will immediately inform YFU of any change in this representation. If YFU receives new information, we recognize YFU may use this information to reconsider acceptance of our son or daughter.

Should YFU become aware of any non-disclosed physical, mental, or emotional condition or disability, we understand that YFU may use this information to reconsider acceptance pre departure, or should our son or daughter already be on program, return them to their home country at our expense.

As the applicant's natural parents or legal guardians, we agree and declare that we will pay each and every cost incurred by YFU deemed necessary at the sole discretion of YFU including but not limited to flight costs, ambulance care and medical treatment for our son or daughter in the program as a result of any pre-existing medical condition or any other condition which the program insurers will not insure as at the date of this agreement and we indemnify and keep indemnified YFU, its personnel and representatives and the adult members of the host family from any liability, claims or demands that may be asserted in connection with any such pre-existing medical condition or any other condition which the program insurers will not insure.

Medical Authorisation and Release	
Student Signature:	Date:
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature:	Date:
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature:	Date:

Travel Authorisation and Release

PARENT AUTHORISATION FOR TRAVEL TO AND FROM EXCHANGE

We agree that our son or daughter will travel to and from their host country in strict accordance with the travel plans made by YFU Student Exchange and YFU Student Exchange is authorised to hold all tickets to ensure such travel. We further agree that if we request any variation to the travel arrangements by YFU we will pay YFU any administrative fees associated with arranging such variations.

PARENT AUTHORISATION FOR STUDENT TRAVEL ON EXCHANGE



We, the parents, or legal guardians of the student applicant hereby authorise YFU Student Exchange, its partner organisations, and host families with whom our son/daughter may live in the host country to make decisions on our behalf concerning travel for our son/daughter for the duration of their participation in the YFU exchange program. This authorisation is given for travel by our son or daughter within their host country or to other countries when our son/daughter is travelling:

- under the supervision of their host parents or other responsible adult approved by the host parents and YFU.
- under the supervision of YFU representatives in the host country.
- under the supervision of an authorised teacher on a school trip.

We agree that any travel by our son /daughter outside the host community to visit relatives or friends within the host country or in other countries unaccompanied by his or her host parents(s), authorised schoolteacher or other responsible adult or YFU representative requires our son or daughter to obtain written permission for such travel from YFU Student Exchange, the host country and from us as their natural parents or legal guardians prior to undertaking any such travel.

We agree that we will not arrange for our son or daughter nor encourage our son or daughter to arrange personal travel while abroad, whether to visit friends, family or others who may live or be travelling abroad or for any other purpose, where such personal travel will cause our son or daughter to be absent for any period of time from their designated school or host family.

VISITS BY NATURAL FAMILY OF FRIENDS TO OUR SON OR DAUGHTER WHILE ON THE YFU EXCHANGE PROGRAM

We agree that we will not arrange for us, other family members or friends to visit our son or daughter during their participation in the YFU exchange program without first obtaining approval through YFU Student Exchange from the YFU organisation in the host country and the host family for such a proposed visit.

We accept that such visits must be approved by the host family and the YFU organisation in the host country before any arrangements are made for such visits, which must not interrupt our child’s schooling in the host country.

Student Travel Agreement	
I, the applicant have read the above conditions and agree that while participating in the YFU exchange program I will travel only in accordance with these authorised travel arrangements.	
Parent/Student Travel Authorisation	
Student Signature:	Date:
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature:	Date:
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature:	Date:

Program Policies and Procedures

As an applicant accepted by YFU Student Exchange for the YFU exchange program, I agree and accept that I will abide by and uphold all the YFU policies and procedures as detailed below in this Agreement and as detailed in the YFU Document ‘The Guide’.

I also agree that I will obey all the laws of my host country, the rules, and regulations of the school in which I am placed, and the rules established by host family or families for my safety and security even if I have attained the age considered to be an adult in my host country.

As an applicant for a YFU exchange program, I accept that I will be respectful and appreciative in my relationships with teachers and students at my host school, with all members of my host family and with YFU representatives in my host country. I will participate fully in the family life of my host family and make every effort to adjust to



the routines of life with my host family.

We agree that if we violate any provision of these terms and conditions or if our son or daughter, during their stay abroad:

- engages in any unauthorised travel
- is absent without YFU authorisation from the host school or the residence designated for our son or daughter by YFU
- violates any provision of this agreement

YFU may, in its sole discretion, find that our son or daughter has voluntarily withdrawn from the program. If our son or daughter voluntarily withdraws, or is dismissed, from the program at any time after commencement of the program, we accept that we will be liable to pay any additional charges associated with the early return of our son or daughter to Australia or New Zealand.

POLICIES

The policies presented here are the Youth For Understanding (YFU) general policies for all students. Variations regarding specific policies and procedures exist among countries. Such variations are advised during arrival orientation.

ALCOHOL: Students are required to observe national laws which vary regarding the minimum drinking age; within that context, students are also expected to observe host family guidelines. YFU students should not use alcohol in a manner which is excessive or embarrassing to the host family or YFU. Program dismissal may be considered based on the student's overall adjustment and an inability to control his/her continued use.

DANGEROUS ACTIVITIES-STUDENT PARTICIPATION: YFU reserves the right to withhold authorization for any activity if it is deemed hazardous and unacceptable for the student to participate. The following activities are strictly forbidden; hang gliding, hitchhiking, parachute jumping, piloting a private plane, and driving a car or motorcycle. YFU may permit other activities judged to involve an element of danger (e.g., snowmobiling, hunting) providing permission is given by both natural parents (in writing) and host parents to authorise the student to participate. This permission must satisfy the national YFU organisation in the hosting country and must release YFU and the host family from all responsibility during the time the student is engaged in that activity. Further, it will be the sole responsibility of the student and natural parents to ascertain whether the activity is covered under the current insurance policy or to obtain additional insurance.

DRIVING: Exchange students are not permitted to drive cars or motorcycles under any circumstances. Violators of this policy will be considered for program dismissal. YFU does not allow students to participate in driver education classes and obtain driver's licenses or learner's permits. Students violating this policy will be considered from program dismissal. Permission to use farm equipment, trail bikes, and mopeds varies from country to country. When driving any of the above vehicles, the student is expected to observe precautions regarding safety and legal limitations. For example, trail bikes are to be used on trails only.

DRUGS: YFU students may not possess or use drugs which are illegal in his or her home or host country. Violators of this policy will be considered for program dismissal.

EMPLOYMENT: National laws vary regarding exchange student employment. Often, visa regulations restrict working. YFU students may seek non-competitive, part-time, small jobs such as babysitting, yard clean-up, etc., in accordance with specific host country and YFU regulations.

EXTENSION OF STAY: YFU will not grant an extension of stay. YFU is not empowered to grant waivers on visa extension, nor will the organisation or its representatives participate in the investigation of an extension or issue a 'no objection' statement unless there is demonstrated evidence of a medical or special emergency requiring such an extension. In the absence of a medical or special emergency, YFU responsibility ends with the scheduled arrival of the return flight to which the student has been assigned.

LEAVING THE PROGRAM EARLY: If the student is absent from the host family, school, or other designated place



to which YFU has assigned him or her, without obtaining the approval of the YFU National Office in the host country, YFU may determine that the student left the YFU program through his or her own voluntary action absolving YFU from all obligations to the student or their parents or guardians for the student's current or future well-being.

MARRIAGE: Married students are not permitted on YFU programs. If marriage occurs while the student is a YFU participant or is discovered to have occurred prior to the student becoming a YFU participant, the student will be considered for program dismissal.

MEDICAL TREATMENT OF A STUDENT (including emergencies): Before a student arrives in his or her host country, YFU obtains written permission from natural parents to pursue emergency medical attention if needed. YFU, its representatives, and its host families are not responsible for any medical bills incurred by a student regardless of who signs a hospital admissions form. YFU is also not responsible for any negative results because of medical treatment.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE & PERFORMANCE: All YFU students are expected to attend the designated high school and maintain a normal course of schoolwork. Non-attendance will result in consideration for program dismissal. Allowing for an initial period of linguistic and/or academic adjustment, a student is expected to achieve an adequate academic record. Poor motivation, under-achievement, or inappropriate behaviour in combination with poor family adjustment may be cause for program dismissal. If a student is expelled from school, that student will be considered for program dismissal.

STUDENT EXPENSES: YFU is not responsible for student expense such as laboratory fees, school transportation, books, trips, or expenses incurred during trips, telephone bills, damages to property of either student or host family, or personal spending money. The host family is responsible for three meals a day for the student and must provide either lunch money or a bag lunch if the school does not provide free lunches for the student and the student cannot be home for lunch.

STUDENT TRAVEL: It is the policy of YFU that only authorized student travel is permitted. Further it is the policy that authorised student travel must generally meet these three criteria: 1) The student's safety is assured to the greatest extent possible 2) The organisation has knowledge of the student's location. 3) There is no interference with school attendance. Unauthorised travel may constitute a reason for program dismissal. The YFU National Office in the host country has the final say in determining authorisation for travel.

THEFT/SHOPLIFTING: The nature and severity of the offence will determine the procedure and possible outcome and may constitute the cause for program dismissal.

VIOLATION OF THE LAW: When a student admits to a criminal law violation, is arrested, or charged, the student will be considered for program dismissal.

VISITS FROM NATURAL FAMILY/ HOME COUNTRY FRIENDS OR RELATIVES: Natural families, friends, or relatives from Australia/ New Zealand are strongly discouraged from visiting the exchange student during the program. The interruption breaks the continuity of the relationship with the host family. Normally, travel with the natural family, friends or relatives will only be authorised at the end of the program, and with the agreement of the host parents and YFU in Australia/New Zealand and in the host country.

VISITS TO AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND WHILE ON PROGRAM: Visits by students to Australia/ New Zealand while on the YFU program are prohibited except in the case of the death or imminent death of an immediate family member. An unauthorized visit will result in dismissal from the program.



Acceptance and Agreement

We (the student and their parents or legal guardians) have read, discussed, understood, and accept the terms and conditions imposed on us by this agreement.

We subscribe to the purposes of the YFU exchange program and agree that we will abide by all the policies and procedures set out in this Agreement, the Farewell Pack and The Guide, a summary of which is attached to this Agreement.

I, the applicant agree to abide by all the other rules, regulations and conditions set forth by YFU and its partner organisations concerning the program. I will make every effort to become an integral part of my host family, school and community and will attend the school designated for me on a regular basis and complete all required schoolwork to the best of my ability.

We undertake to disclose in writing any changes to the medical history of the applicant following the submission of the on-line Acceptance Application.

Acceptance and Agreement

Student Name:	
Student Signature:	Date:

Parent/Legal Guardian Name:	
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature:	Date:

Parent/Legal Guardian Name:	
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature:	Date: