

## Rules for Inbound Rotary Youth Exchange Students

A signed copy of this form must be returned to the Inbound Director **prior** to arrival in Rotary District 7210.

**You** refers to the Inbound Rotary Youth Exchange Student.

1. You and your parents acknowledge that you have read, understand and accept Rotary International's Rules and Conditions of Exchange and these District 7210 Rules regarding your rights and responsibilities, and you agree to abide by all such rules during the term of the exchange whether or not in the company of Rotarians.
2. You are to arrive in late August and leave in late June or the first week of July, unless other arrangements have been approved by your natural family and host family, host club and District 7210. Students who opt for the Discover America Bus Trip July 1-31 must leave by August 5.
3. You are required to pursue a full course of study at an accredited secondary school during the exchange year. Your most recent school transcript, with English translations, must be provided to District 7210 prior to arrival. To be admitted to school in New York State, you must also provide proof of required immunizations, with English translations, prior to arrival. Generally students receive a certificate of attendance, not a diploma. Scholastic credit for study here cannot be assured; in some instances, credits may be transferred, but this will be solely the decision and at the discretion of the school in your home country. Any special requests and arrangements for school credit for your home country must be made at the beginning of the U.S. school year. You authorize the release of all school records, including academic and attendance information, to host families, Youth Exchange Officers and Club Counselors.
4. You are encouraged to participate in extracurricular clubs, activities and school sports, which help integrate you into the school community and facilitate friendships. You are expected to join the Interact Club. Acceptance in school sports programs is at the discretion of the school's Athletic Director and coaches. (*Please Note: New York State prohibits students from playing on interscholastic teams if you have already graduated in your home country.*)
5. You must provide a contingency fund of US\$500 to your host Rotary Club Youth Exchange Officer upon arrival in the U.S. Funds will be deposited in your host Rotary Club and returned to you at the end of your Rotary year. This is an emergency fund that must be immediately replenished by your natural parents if any funds are used; it is not intended to cover day-to-day expenses.
6. You must provide proof of health and liability insurance coverage through District 7210's approved insurance provider prior to arrival. Pre-existing conditions may not be covered by the insurance, and the responsibility for any expense associated with a pre-existing condition, if applicable, shall be solely yours. You certify that there are no allergies, dietary or physical restrictions other than as shown on your application.
7. Passport, visa and transportation costs are to be paid by your natural family. Any costs associated with changes in travel plans are your responsibility, including early return, whether voluntary or involuntary.
8. Travel inside or outside Rotary District 7210 is permitted with host families, host club Rotarians or on Rotary authorized functions with proper adult chaperones and with advance District YEX notification and approval, pursuant to the *Permission to Travel During Exchange Year* form. You may not travel alone or be accompanied only by other students. **Unapproved travel during the exchange year is strictly prohibited and shall result in the immediate termination of your exchange and your immediate return to your home country.**
9. You may not travel in cars with other students without an adult chaperone, except for local travel within your school district in a vehicle driven by a properly licensed host sibling. Your host parent and Youth Exchange Officer may permit local travel with other properly licensed student drivers at their discretion. You must ride with adult drivers for events taking place outside the school district.
10. You are to become an integral member of your host family, assuming duties and responsibilities normal to a student your age and the children of the host family. Your host family is responsible for you socially, emotionally and physically, and you should respect their wishes and requests. For example, you should ask for advice when choosing friends; one society may be more formal or informal than another, and guidance and restrictions are advisable and to be expected. You are expected to abide by the host home rules.

11. You are not permitted to drink alcoholic beverages; the purchase or consumption of alcohol is illegal in New York State for anyone under the age of 21. You are not permitted to smoke, including e-cigarettes; the purchase of cigarettes is illegal in New York for those under the age of 18.
12. You are **required** to attend all official YEX functions as well as many Rotary-sponsored events. **Such events take priority over all other events.**
13. Use of the host parents' telephone and internet is a privilege and must not be abused. You must pay the host family for any phone charges incurred. You may wish to purchase a prepaid international phone card in the United States. Regardless of whose phone is used, you shall be limited to one phone call or Skype call (not to exceed ½ hour) home per week. You are also limited to one hour of internet "chat" time per day, unless in their sole discretion your host family deems it appropriate to limit it further. Excessive communication in your native language is detrimental to progress in English and assimilation into your new community.
14. Body piercing or tattooing in any way is not permitted during the term of the exchange.
15. In accordance with U.S. State Department rules, you may not be employed on a full-time or part-time basis during your stay in the U.S., but may accept sporadic or intermittent employment such as babysitting or yard work.
16. **Friends are NOT** permitted to visit you and any such visit shall automatically result in your return to your home country. District 7210 allows immediate family members to visit you in your host community, provided such visits occur **after March 1<sup>st</sup> and before the end of the exchange year. All family visits should be arranged during school holidays and must be preapproved by the host club and District 7210 Inbound Director.** Students may not travel alone to connect with family members visiting other areas of the country. Students must go directly home and are not permitted to travel at the end of the year, except for approved Rotary or host family activities.
17. Rotary exchange students are expected to demonstrate maturity, good character and scholastic aptitude, and to be good international ambassadors for their countries and Rotary. You may not participate in antisocial behavior or dress. You must exhibit respect for host families, host schools, classmates and fellow YEX students, and Rotary club and district members. You must adhere to the rules to achieve the greatest possible benefit from the exchange program. You must exhibit an attitude and demeanor befitting an Ambassador of Goodwill for your country, Rotary District and Rotary Club. By accepting the offer to serve as a Rotary Youth Exchange Student to the U.S., you agree to use best efforts to promptly learn and use English and to behave in a manner that brings credit to your country and the Rotary YEX program.

Having read and understood the above rules, we each agree to abide by the rules of this program. We understand that any violation may result in the immediate termination of the exchange. We further certify that all questions on the application have been answered completely, honestly and accurately.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature - Youth Exchange Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature - Father

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature - Mother

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date