



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

YOUTH EXCHANGE



AN OPPORTUNITY TO **STUDY OVERSEAS** AT
A FOREIGN HIGH SCHOOL FOR ONE YEAR

- To further international goodwill and understanding by enabling Students to experience first hand, life in a country different from their own.

OBJECTIVES

The Youth Exchange Programme is a tremendous adventure in the international programme of Rotary.

Each year it provides opportunities for many thousands of students to live and study in distant parts of the world for 12 months, in an entirely different environment to their own.

The impact that this programme will have on international relations in the future is incalculable. But perhaps more important is the impact that the programme is having on the lives of students who participate in it. These young people will be the leaders of their communities in the future, and the breadth of experience, and the widening of their horizons gained through the programme, must play a vital role in the shaping of tomorrow's world.

Objectives of the Rotary Youth Exchange Programme

To further international goodwill and understanding by enabling Students to experience first hand, life in a country different from their own.

To enable Students:

- To advance their education by studying at a Secondary School for a year, in an environment different from their own and in courses not normally available to them in schools in their home country plus to potentially gain / or improve a second language.
- To broaden their outlook by living with and meeting people of different cultures, creeds and backgrounds and by having to cope with day-to-day problems in an environment completely different from their home experience. The Exchange permits them to see the problems of people in other countries from the perspective of those people.
- To act as Ambassadors for their own country by speaking at Rotary Clubs, community organisations and youth groups in their host country and by imparting as much knowledge as they can of their own country and its current issues.
- To study and observe all facets of life and culture in the country where they are hosted and on their return to their home country, to discuss their experiences and knowledge gained with Rotary Clubs, schools, youth groups and community organisations.

**A down-to-earth, broad based experience -
That is what the Student Exchange Programme is all about!**

The Rotary Youth Exchange Programme is NOT:

- Geared to provide an around the world travel experience or holiday.
- Designed for a Student to be a 'VIP' for a whole year.
- In existence to show others how well-to-do a Student may be, to display a fabulous wardrobe, or to display, or continually boast about, financial excesses.

Seriously consider these points and follow the spirit as well as the letter of the Programme. Those who do, benefit highly - we know, because we have seen it in action.

Who is eligible to apply?

Secondary School Students who:

- Have good academic ability, and are in year 11, 12 or 13 at the time of application.
- Are aged at least 16 and are no older than 18 at the date of their exchange departure in January.
- Have an outgoing and pleasant personality, with good character and reputation to fit them for the role as an Ambassador for New Zealand.
- Are NZ citizens (born in NZ or are naturalised).
- Are medically fit, with no serious medical conditions.
- Are able to accept discipline and are capable of adjusting to new and strange conditions. They should be adaptable and capable of comfortably living with as many different host families that happen to host them during their exchange year away.

All Students are selected solely on merit.

Students selected undertake to abide by Rotary International Youth Exchange Rules relating to drugs, driving, drinking and dating and to accept their host parent controls.

Financial Obligations

The parents of an Exchange Student are required to undertake the following financial obligations:

- The cost of transport to and from the host country and town. This varies considerably and depends on destination and form of travel.
- Exchange rules stipulate that the Student must take a Comprehensive Insurance Policy covering accident, hospital and medical, as well as baggage loss, public liability and loss of deposit. This is sourced by District 9930 once a Student is selected into the programme.
- Parents/Students are required to fund their year away on exchange, including spending money, clothing, school uniform (if required) travel, etc.
- Parents/Students are required to fund the cost of their pre exchange Rotary Orientation programme.

The overall cost of the Exchange Year will vary according to the Parents / Students budget. Initial cost before students depart to cover orientation meetings, air fares to and from host country, insurance and related costs will be between \$6,000 and \$7,000. This amount is added to personal spending costs whilst overseas, tours and travel averaging \$5,000 to \$7,000.

Selection and Travel Programme

Applicants should complete the attached Initial Application Form and forward to their local Rotary Club (or Rotary contact shown on the front cover) before the closing date. You should ask the Rotary Club contact of the actual closing date for District 9930 as this can vary from year to year.

Applicants and Parents / Caregivers are required to attend both their local club selection and then District 9930 selection sessions which are held in Rotorua between April and May.

Once selected by Rotary District 9930 successful Students are required to complete a detailed Rotary International Application Form which is then sent to a Rotary District in one of the following countries. Students will be offered an exchange country following district selection interviews (these exchange countries are subject to change).

Argentina	Switzerland	Chile
Denmark	Belgium	France
Germany	Canada	USA
Austria	Sweden	Brazil
The Netherlands		

Students going to countries other than the English speaking ones are expected to learn the language as quickly as possible. Opportunities exist for many languages to be studied before leaving New Zealand. Those who make the effort to learn before they go, settle into a foreign speaking country quicker than those who don't.

Only after acceptance by an overseas Rotary Club does the Student become an official Rotary Youth Exchange Student.

A series of mandatory orientation sessions are held prior to departure, these may include some of the following:

- A one day mini orientation programme which Students and Parents are required to attend.
- An orientation weekend which Students and Parents are required to attend.
- A one day final orientation for Students and Parents. Uniforms, tickets etc are distributed on this day.
- Students depart January and return Jan the following year.
- Following the students return in January all students and parents attend a debriefing session in February.



Rotary International Arranges

A New Zealand Rotary Club selects their Student to go forward to District 9930 Selection and, after selection by District 9930, arranges for a sponsoring Club Counsellor to maintain regular contact with the Student before they depart and while they are away on exchange.

Rotary District 9930 Youth Exchange Committee arranges District selection, orientation and administration of the programme.

Rotary District 9930 Youth Exchange Committee arranges all travel to and from the overseas Rotary District and organises the appropriate Insurance Policy for the student.

The overseas Rotary District organises a Host Rotary Club for the student.

The Rotary Club that hosts a Student will arrange a School, up to four host families and will appoint a Host club Counsellor for the 12 months of the Students stay abroad. If Students have any problems with a Host Family, or with finances, or anything else, the Counsellor is there to help them should they need assistance together with District 9930's Youth Exchange committee.

The Host Rotary Club pays a nominal monthly allowance to the student of between US\$50 – USD\$100.

The overseas Rotary District may arrange various activities with other Rotary Exchange Students who are being hosted in their District - this often includes an extensive summer tour (at the Student's own cost NZ\$1,000 to \$3,500).

The Host Rotary Club may provide opportunities for numerous activities within the Club and with Club members.

The Host Families may provide opportunities for numerous activities within their family environment.

*Please attach an up-to-date photo (head & Shoulders)

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APPLICATION FORM

Students Surname:

Students First Names:

Address:

Date of Birth: Home Phone: ()

Email: Mobile:

Country of Birth: New Zealand Citizen YES / NO

Parents names:

Name and age of sisters:

Name and age of brothers:

School: Year:

Education:

High Schools attended: From: to

High Schools attended: From: to

School NCEA Results*: Levels 1, 2 & 3 Results (*Please attach NZQA Qualification & Achievement Summary for each year completed)

Subjects taken this year:
.....
.....

School / Other positions of responsibility:
.....
.....

What career have you considered? Have you made a decision?

Hobbies, sports, recreation and leisure activities. Give details of proficiency, awards, certificates, etc.
.....
.....

What do you regard as your most important achievement to date, and why?
.....



What do you consider to be your best characteristic:

What do you consider to be your worst characteristic:

Have you travelled overseas? YES / NO (If Yes give details)

Do you speak any foreign languages? YES / NO (If yes give details)

Medical - Do you suffer from any of the following: (If yes give details)

Have you any allergies? YES / NO

Chronic or recurring ailments? YES / NO

Permanent or temporary mental or physical disability? YES / NO

Religion: Church Attendance:

Have you ever been convicted of any law infringement*? YES / NO
(*If YES, supply details in a separate enveloped marked LEGAL)

Are you comfortable with older people? YES / NO

Are you a good mixer with others of your own age? YES / NO

Are your parents living together? (If NO, please give circumstances) YES / NO

What do you hope to achieve as a Rotary Exchange Student to a foreign country? (Please write on a separate sheet in 100 words)

Give the names and addresses of two persons (other than school staff or immediate family) to whom Rotary can refer (if required) regarding your character or suitability and please indicate their connection to you.

Name: Address:

Name: Address:

Please list your preferences as to the country you would like to go to. (Please write a brief explanation as to why you have chosen these countries on a separate sheet of paper) Please note: It is not always possible to place a Student in one of the countries of their choice.

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We understand the extent of the commitment we have to make to participate in the Rotary International Youth Exchange Programme, and understand and consent, under the Privacy Act, to disclosure of this information for Rotary requirements.

Signed: Date:
(Applicant) (Parent/s or Guardian or Caregiver)

Sponsoring Rotary Club: Contact person:

Address: Phone:

Privacy: Every Student and their parent(s) who complete the attached Initial Application Form consent to the collection of personal information concerning them for the purpose of applying for acceptance as a Rotary International Exchange Student and consent to the disclosure of all the information in the initial and formal application forms to Rotarians, potential host families, Rotary Club and Rotary District Committees, both in New Zealand and overseas.



NOMINATION FORM

SPONSORING ROTARY CLUB NOMINATION FORM

This form is to be completed by the Nominating Rotary Club and is to accompany the completed Initial Application Form for each of their successful nominees to then go forward to District Selection Day held in Rotorua.

Name of Student: Nominated by the Rotary Club of:
Name of Youth Exchange Officer or International Director or Club Officer:
Home Phone: () Mobile: Email:

"We certify that this student nominee has been selected from a selection procedure carried out by our club. This student, we believe meets the criteria required and we nominate the student to go forward and to participate in the District Selection Day for consideration by the District 9930 Rotary International Youth Exchange committee.

We do not know of any reason why this student would not act as a good ambassador for our club, their family and our town / city. The student's parents / caregivers have been interviewed and briefed and we confirm they fully understand the financial commitment required in their child participating in a Rotary International Youth Exchange experience and a year away living in another country.

Attached is our Rotary Club Cheque for \$100-00 per nominee (Payable to "Rotary District 9930 Youth Exchange Committee") and we understand that for any reason our student not be successful or if they withdraw from the programme, this fee remains non-refundable.

Signed: Name: No of candidates interviewed:
For the Rotary Club of: Club President / Club Authorised Officer (Circle one) Date:

Post all completed Application and Club Nomination forms and all supporting information to:

The Chairman, Rotary Youth Exchange D9930
Current Address details may be located at;
www.rotary9930.org/page/youth-rye