

Attach a recent photograph
Must be:

- Colour
- Good quality:
- Head and shoulders
- Little or no Surround
- Fill this Box

DISTRICT 9423 YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM INITIAL APPLICATION

Read the entire document before completing

Send this form to your local Rotary Club before 31 March, 2023

TO: Youth Exchange Officer

Rotary Club of

Student Name.....

Gender: (Male/Female/Non Binary).....

Address.....

Email..... **Mobile**

Date of Birth..... **Place of Birth**.....

Religion..... **Citizen of (Country)**.....

PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS

Father's Name..... Mother's Name.....

Address..... Address.....

Phone:..... Phone:.....

Email..... Email.....

Occupation..... Occupation.....

Brothers and Sisters (Name)	Gender (M,F/NB)	Age	Living at home? (Yes,No)

Do you have any relatives living overseas? Yes/No If yes, where?.....

Relation (Grandparents, Aunt, Cousin etc).....

PARENTAL OBLIGATION

We the parents of the abovenamed applicant understand that we will be responsible to meet all the obligations of the Youth Exchange Program as outlined within this initial application form.

Signed..... and.....

(Father/Legal guardian)

(Mother/Legal Guardian)

Date:

Date:

APPLICANT'S PERSONAL BACKGROUND

(Use additional sheets where necessary)

Do you smoke? Yes / No

Do you drink alcohol? Yes / No

Have tried illicit Drugs? Yes/No

Do you a serious boy/girlfriend? Yes/No If yes, how often do you go out together?

How much time do you devote to studies? (homework etc.).....

Name and address of your school.....

Number of students at your school?.....Number of grades?.....

When will you finish High school?.....

After how many years in high school?.....

What languages (if any) have you studied and for how long?

.....

How well do you understand; speak & write in these languages

.....

If you are successful in obtaining place in the Youth Exchange Program what are you plans when you return?

What other information can you give to enable a better assessment to be made of your potential as an "Ambassador" for your country (achievements, awards, talents, etc.)

.....

.....

.....

What responsibilities have you had at school and in the community? (clubs, offices, etc)

.....

.....

What recreation/hobbies do you have ?

.....

Sporting and cultural activities (describing degree of ability in each)

.....

.....

.....

.....

List your preferred countries for exchange (in order of preference

1..... 2..... 3.....

4..... 5..... 6.....

Have you travelled overseas? Yes/ No If yes:

Where and when?.....

Do you have any dietary restrictions? Yes/No (If yes, please advise what they are)

.....

What medical treatment have you required in the past year?.....

Why do you want to be an exchange student? What do you expect to get out of it?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Date.....Signature of Applicant.....

The Rotary Youth Exchange Program generally provides for the selection and sponsoring of students in 15-18 age group to travel to another country to spend twelve months attending a secondary school and living with host families in that country.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM

1. To further international goodwill and understanding by enabling students to study at first hand some of the problems and accomplishments of people in lands other than their own.
2. To enable students to advance their education by studying for a year in an environment entirely different from their own and undertaking study courses and subjects not normally available to them in secondary schools of their own country.
3. To broaden their own outlook by learning to live with and meet people of different cultures, creeds and colours from their own, and having to cope with day to day problems in an environment completely different from the one they have experienced at home.
4. To act as Ambassadors for their own country and by addressing 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 problems to the people they meet during their year abroad.
5. To study and observe all facets of the life and culture in the country where they are hosted so that on their return to their home country they can pass on the knowledge they have gained by addressing Rotary Clubs, Youth Groups and Community organisations.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

1. Rotary Youth Exchange students preferably should be between 15 and 18 years at the time of their departure from Australia. We do have the facility to accept some students that will be 18 years of age at the time of departure.
2. Applicants preferably have above average academic ability and must have an outgoing and pleasant personality to fit them for the role as an Ambassador for Australia.
3. They must have the ability to accept discipline and be capable of adjusting to new and strange conditions.
4. Applicants must be of good character and reputation.
5. Sons and daughters of Rotarians are eligible for Youth Exchange, but receive no special preference in selection. All applicants are selected solely on merit.

OBLIGATIONS OF ROTARY

1. The District Youth Exchange Committee has the obligation to select and adequately brief outgoing students, and arrange for Rotary Clubs in another country to host each student for one year.
2. After selection of students, the District Committee will make every endeavour to place them with host Rotary Clubs abroad who will pay a modest monetary allowance and will maintain liaison with the host Clubs

OBLIGATION OF PARENTS

1. The parents are required to provide the cost of transporting of the student (including all costs for visa, passport, briefings and air departure taxes) to and from the host country. This cost varies considerably and depends on the final destination of the student and whether he or she travels singularly or under a group or a student concession. (see Fees & Expenses)
2. The parents are required to cover the cost of Life, medical and travel insurance, as arranged by the District Youth Exchange Committee, to cover the student for the twelve months in the country in which the students is hosted.
3. Parents will provide clothing for the student while abroad, and will also provide and maintain an emergency fund of \$500 which can be drawn on with the consent of the student's mentor or host parents

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Applications must be lodged in writing on the form attached to this circular with the Rotary Club in the town or suburb in which the student's family resides (or close by)
2. Not all Rotary Clubs will participate in the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, in the event a student is unable to locate a participating Rotary Club they should contact the Chait, Rotary District 9423 Youth Exchange for assistance pm ryechaird9423@gmail.com
3. Reciprocal Hosting - If a prospective student's family is in a position to Host or arrange friends or family to Host for the reciprocal exchange students for a period of 3 – 6 months this may assist in obtaining a Rotary Club to Sponsor a prospective student exchange, it also provides a unique experience and understanding of what your student will be experiencing whilst on exchange.
4. Initial applications close with the local Rotary Clubs on 31 March in the year prior to the departure of the student.
5. Local Rotary Clubs Committees will interview students and their parents and will recommend suitable students for further consideration by the District Selection Committee.
6. Recommended students to be interviewed by the District Selection Committee will be required to complete 4 copies of the official application for the Rotary International Youth Exchange Program giving
 - Personal particulars and background
 - General information relating to the applicant
 - Applicants school activities
 - Endorsement of sponsoring Rotary Club
 - Guarantee form by applicant and parent
 - Medical and dental examination
 - Parental/guardian release form
 - Principals report

7. Completed applications for Rotary International; Youth Exchange close with the District Committee on 30th April.
8. District Selection Committee will interview all applicants recommended by individual Rotary Clubs within their District and will make a selection of students to be sent abroad subject to the District Committee being able to secure host agreements from Rotary Clubs abroad. No student is to be regarded as a Rotary Club's Youth Exchange Student until officially accepted as such by a host Rotary Club in another country.
9. District interviews will be completed by 30 June and students advised of the outcome of the application generally within 14 days from the interview.
10. The District Committee will endeavour to arrange for an exchange with the country of the applicants preferences. Where this is not possible to arrange it reserves the right to negotiate a hosting arrangement with a Rotary District in another country.
11. Briefings for outbound students will be held in July and December. Briefings are compulsory and will require participation by both the students and a minimum of one parent/legal guardian. Failure to attend a briefing will result in the removal of the student from the program.
12. Students selected by the District Youth Exchange Committee will depart from Australia in January immediate following their acceptance as an exchange student generally for a period of 50 weeks and return in the January of the following year.
13. Rotary reserves the right to withdraw an offer of exchange prior to departure including but not limited to the following; not meeting the reasonable expectations of the program its rules and conditions; bringing the program into disrepute a student or parents deeds and or actions; acting in a manner deemed inappropriate as a Rotary Exchange Student; failure to maintain equivalent or better academic results subsequent to selection.

FEES AND EXPENSES

Rotary will charge a "Global Fee" to each student which will include:

- Airfares being Departure in the January of the Exchange and return in the following January
- Travel Insurance in accordance with Rotary International Minimum Requirements
- Visas
- Interviews: Briefing & Training Sessions
- Rotary Jacket; Rotary Shirt; Rotary Hoodie; Rotary Back Pack; Rotary Name Badge; Rotary Manuals
- Administration and other Program Expenses
- The fee for 2024 departure is expected to be \$8,000.

Host Clubs will provide:

- a modest allowance generally equivalent to \$150.00 AUD per month (does vary from Country to Country)
- Schooling: - generally excluding transport; uniforms; books and extra-curricular activities and trips which is at the student's expense

Host Family:

- accommodation and lodgings

Students Other Costs

- Cost of living such as personal items; outings; clothing; entertainment; etc
- Tours – Many countries offer "optional tours" providing students an opportunity to travel in a Group

Rules and Conditions of Exchange

As a Youth Exchange student sponsored by a Rotary club or district, you must agree to the following rules and conditions of exchange.

Please note that Overseas districts may edit this document or insert additional rules if needed to account for local conditions.

1. You must obey the laws of the host country. If found guilty of violating any law, you can expect no assistance from your sponsors or native country. You must return home at your own expense as soon as released by authorities.
2. You are not allowed to possess or use illegal drugs. Medicine prescribed to you by a physician is allowed.
3. The illegal drinking of alcoholic beverages is expressly forbidden. Students who are of legal age should refrain. If your host family offers you an alcoholic drink, it is permissible to accept it under their supervision in the home.
4. You may not operate a motorised vehicle or participate in driver education programs.
5. You will be under the host district's authority while you are an exchange student and must abide by the rules and conditions of exchange provided by the host district. Parents or legal guardians must not authorise any extra activities directly to you. Any relatives you may have in the host country will have no authority over you while you are in the program.
6. You must attend school regularly and make an honest attempt to succeed.
7. You must have travel insurance that provides medical and dental coverage for accidental injury and illness, death benefits (including repatriation of remains), disability / dismemberment benefits, emergency medical evacuation, emergency visitation expenses, 24-hour emergency assistance services, and legal services, in amounts satisfactory to the host Rotary club or district in consultation with the sponsor Rotary club or district, with coverage from the time of your departure from your home country until your return.
8. You should have sufficient financial support to assure your well-being during your exchange. Your host district may require a contingency fund for emergency situations. Unused funds will be returned to your parents or legal guardians at the end of your exchange.
- 9) You must follow the travel rules of your host district. Travel is permitted with host parents or for Rotary club or district functions authorised by the host Rotary club or district with proper adult chaperones. The host district and club, host family, and your parents or legal guardians must approve any other travel in writing, thus exempting Rotary of responsibility and liability.

10) You must return home directly by a route mutually agreeable to your host district and your parents or legal guardians.

11) Any costs related to an early return home or any other unusual costs (language tutoring, tours, etc.) are the responsibility of you and your parents or legal guardians.

12. You should communicate with your first host family prior to leaving your home country. The family's information must be provided to you by your host club or district prior to your departure.

13. Visits by your parents or legal guardians, siblings, or friends while you are on exchange are strongly discouraged. Such visits may only take place with the host club's and district's consent and within their guidelines. Typically, visits may be arranged only in the last quarter of the exchange or during school breaks and are not allowed during major holidays.

14. Talk with your host club counsellor, host parents, or other trusted adult if you encounter any form of abuse or harassment.

Recommendations for a Successful Exchange

1. Smoking is not permitted. If you state in your application that you do not smoke, you will be held to that position throughout your exchange. Your acceptance and host family placement is based on your signed statement. Under no circumstances are you to smoke in your host family's bedrooms.

2. Body piercing or obtaining a tattoo while on your exchange is not allowed, for health reasons.

3. Respect your host's wishes. Become an integral part of the host family, assuming duties and responsibilities normal for a student of your age or for children in the family.

4. Learn the language of your host country. Teachers, host parents, Rotary club members, and others you meet in the

community will appreciate the effort. It will go a long way in your gaining acceptance in the community and with those who will become lifelong friends.

5. Attend Rotary-sponsored events and host family events, and show an interest in these activities. Volunteer to be involved; do not wait to be asked. Lack of interest on your part is detrimental to your exchange and can have a negative impact on future exchanges.

6. Avoid serious romantic activity. Abstain from sexual activity.

7. Get involved in your school and community activities. Plan your recreation and spare-time activities around your school and community friends. Don't spend all your time with other exchange students. If there is a local Interact club, you are encouraged to join it.

8. Choose friends in the community carefully. Ask for and heed the advice of host families, counsellors, and school personnel in choosing friends.

9. Do not borrow money. Pay any bills promptly. Ask permission to use the family phone or computer, keep track of all calls and time on the Internet, and reimburse your host family each month for the costs you incur.

10. Limit your use of the Internet and mobile phones. Excessive or inappropriate use is not acceptable.

11. If you are offered an opportunity to go on a trip or attend an event, make sure you understand any costs you must pay and your responsibilities before you go.

Refund Policy

Deposits and payments are not refundable.

Students are covered under the Travel Insurance Policy from the time the deposit is paid and can make a claim in accordance with the policy conditions should they be prevented from participating due to a claimable event.

CONFIDENTIAL SCHOOL REPORT

If preferred, this Confidential Report can be sent direct to the Applicant’s nominated Rotary Club as noted below.

Applicants Full Name:

Rotary Club of:

(Student to Complete)

SCHOOL REPORT

Please state applicant’s present year at school

Approximate place in year out of a number in year

List Subjects studied with brief comments on ability, application, etc.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Comment briefly on applicant’s suitability for this exchange program and as an “ambassador” for their country

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Name:.....Position:.....

Signature:..... School:.....

Address:.....

Email:.....

Telephone:.....

(TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SPONSORING ROTARY CLUB)

SPONSORING ROTARY CLUB'S ENDORSEMENT

The Rotary Club of.....submits this student's application for consideration of the District Youth Exchange Committee. The Club's selection committee has interviewed the applicant. The application has been carefully checked, and with the Club's Board of Directors gives its unqualified endorsement. This Rotary Club acknowledges it is expected to arrange the hosting of the reciprocal inbound student.

Date.....Name.....Signed.....
.....Indicate position Held within Club (President/Secretary/ Youth Exchange Officer)

Please return to D9423's RYE Chair Jill Hanna by email ryechaird9423@gmail.com by no later than 28 April, 2023