

Bring the World to Your Home

Host an Exchange Student!



Make a Difference.

Host an international high school student and bring the world into your home! Your AYA student will become a true member of your family, learning your family traditions and sharing their customs and culture with you. The bond that develops between you and your new international son or daughter will last a lifetime. What better way to make a difference in the world than hosting a student and bringing the world together one person at a time!

The AYA Advantage...

- **Over 30 years of experience!**
- **Outstanding students** – AYA students are highly screened, must achieve a minimum GPA, have studied at least 3 years of English as well as pass a comprehensive personal interview in English. They are motivated to become a member of an American family, learn about daily life and to attend and excel at school.
- **Choose your student** – One of the unique benefits of hosting with AYA is that you can choose the student who you feel best fits into your family and lifestyle!
- **Superior Local Support** – You will receive support every step of the way from one of our highly trained Local Coordinators. All our Local Coordinators undergo extensive training and professional development to ensure a high level of support throughout the program.

Who are AYA Host Families?

Host families are united by a desire to know and love a young person from abroad as a “son” or “daughter.” A host family’s commitment is altruistic: to bring a little more understanding to our world. A host family’s responsibility is to provide the student with a bed of his or her own, a place to study and meals, but their commitment to AYA and their new “son” or “daughter” goes well beyond that.



Host Family Benefits

- Welcome a new son or daughter to your family
- The ability to select a student who will be the best match for your family
- Make lifelong friendships
- Foster greater understanding between cultures of the world
- Be a public diplomat
- Experience a rewarding intercultural learning experience in your own home
- Claim a charitable tax deduction for hosting

Who are AYA Students?

AYA students are the best and brightest representatives of their countries and all share a strong desire to become part of an American family.



All AYA Students:

- Are between 15 and 18 years old and come from over 35 different countries
- Demonstrate excellent academic and English ability as well as the emotional stability and maturity necessary for a successful U.S. exchange
- Want to be a true member of their American host family
- Are provided with full medical insurance

AYA students are the best young “ambassadors” of their country. These students seek the opportunity to become part of a new culture and family in a different country in hopes of gaining independence and a global perspective – and they possess the courage to do just that.

AYA Support Network

24/7 Support – 365 days a year

Whether you are just considering becoming a host family or are in your tenth year of hosting, AYA is here to support you, offer you guidance and help you get the most out of your hosting experience.

In Your Community – Your AYA Local Coordinator (LC) lives in your community and serves as your day-to-day support, handling everything from your initial orientation to questions about your yearlong experience.

AYA National Office – Our national office is comprised of a caring, dedicated team of professionals committed to helping you find the perfect student for your family and assisting you throughout the year.



The AIFS Foundation

The AIFS Foundation, an independent, not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) tax exempt public charity, was established in 1967 with the assistance of the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy to help young people from many nations and diverse cultures to understand each other better. The AIFS Foundation, in partnership with corporations and foundations, provides grants and scholarships to students for participation in study abroad programs and provides grants to high schools and institutions to encourage international and educational travel and learning.

The AIFS Foundation Mission

The AIFS Foundation Mission is to provide educational and cultural exchange opportunities to foster greater understanding among the people of the world.

To find more information on the AIFS Foundation please visit: www.aifsfoundation.org



FAQ's

What countries do AYA students come from?

AYA welcomes students from over 35 different countries including: Germany, Spain, Brazil, China, Thailand, Norway, Egypt, Italy, Russia, Turkey, Indonesia and many more!

What kinds of families can host?

Just as there is no "typical" American family, there is no "typical" host family. Retirees, single parents, young couples and couples without children of their own are all able to give an AYA international student a good home. Host families come from many walks of life and represent different generations. They come from all over the United States and live in suburban and rural areas.

Does the student have insurance?

Yes, students have medical and accidental insurance through AYA or their sponsoring agency. Students receive an insurance card and a brochure detailing the policy coverage when they arrive in the U.S.

How long can my student stay with my family?

You can host a student for the Fall semester, Spring semester or for a full academic year.

More FAQ's can be found online at www.academicyear.org.

Apply today!

Our application process is simple. Just go to www.academicyear.org and follow these two easy steps:

1. Register Online

Once you have registered, you can begin to read student profiles and begin your host family application.

2. Complete Your Host Family Application Online

Once you have completed the host family application and vetting process, you will be able to view photos of AYA students along with their profile information.


An AYA Local Coordinator in your area will meet with you and your family to answer any questions you may have about hosting a student. The Local Coordinator will also interview your family, assist you with completing the necessary forms and help you to select your student.

We hope you'll join us in bringing the world together!

AIFS Foundation 
Academic Year in America®

Contact us for more information
or to apply today!

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www.academicyear.org

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