

# ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Visit [www.ye5010.org](http://www.ye5010.org)!

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## Brief Facts on the Rotary Youth Exchange

The Rotary Youth exchange Program provides for the selection and sponsorship of students in the 14-16 year old age group to travel to another country to spend the school year attending a junior or secondary school and to live with host families in that country under sponsorship of the local Rotary Clubs.

## District 5010

[www.ye5010.org](http://www.ye5010.org)

District 5010 is an International Rotary District encompassing the Rotary Clubs of Alaska and the Yukon Territory, Canada.

## Objectives of the Program

1. To further international goodwill and understanding by enabling the students to study first hand some of the accomplishments and social environments of people in lands other than their own.
2. To enable Students to advance their education by studying in an environment entirely different from their own and undertaking study of courses and subjects not normally available to them in the schools of their own country.
3. To broaden their own outlook by learning to live with and meet people of different cultures, creeds, etc. and by coping 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 by addressing Rotary Clubs and other youth or community groups in their host country and by imparting as much knowledge as they can of their own country with its accomplishments and problems to the people they meet.
5. To study and observe all facts of 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.

## Who is Eligible

1. All applicants are selected solely on merit after local and district interviews.
2. Students between the ages of 14 and 16 and attending high school full time.
3. Applicants must be of good character and have good academic ability, a GPA of 3.0 or better, be self-confident, outgoing and pleasant in order to fit in the role of an Ambassador. They must have the flexibility to accept discipline and be capable of adjusting to new environments and living conditions.
4. The District prefers to send students out in their sophomore or junior year.

## ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

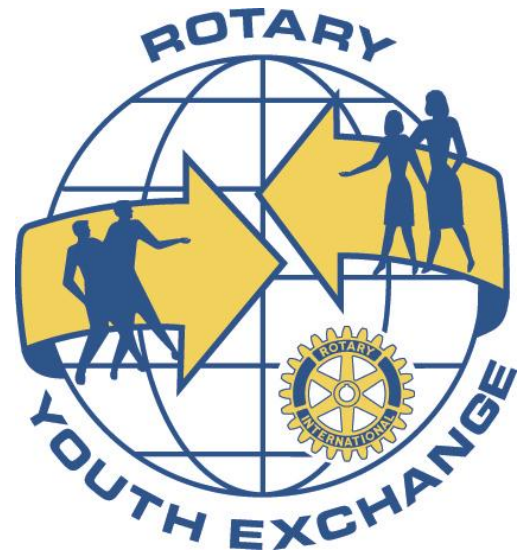
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### Student's Role

1. Students must abide by the decisions and rules of the Rotary youth exchange program. Rotary assigns each student a host country.
2. Students are expected to obey the laws of the host country at all times and accept the discipline of the host school and host families. Students are expected to adapt to the home environment of the host families – the host families are under no obligation to adapt themselves to the student. Students must be of help to

the host family by taking on some duties of the family (i.e. wash dishes, clean room, etc.). Student should be part of the family...not a guest.

3. Students are ambassadors for their home country and must at all times behave in a manner which will reflect credit on his or her family, community, and country. Students will take home those impressions and experiences that will further international understanding, i.e., not being critical of conditions or philosophies uncommon to their native land.



4. Students should learn both conversational and written language of the country where hosted as much as possible prior to departure.

5. Students must return to their home country after the termination of their exchange year. Visitation by parents and other family members during the exchange year is strongly discouraged; this is the student's time.

6. Each student must attend school regularly and maintain passing grades while on exchange. Rotary functions and exceptional educational events approved by the hosting Rotary club should be attended.

### Parents' Role

1. Parents will pay a lump sum amount for the exchange. Since this rate will vary with time, the current figure will be provided by your Rotary representative. The lump sum amount will be paid in three equal payments in December, March, and June.

2. The lump sum will cover expenses for: one round-trip coach airline ticket to the host country, visa expenses, a blazer, personal business cards, patches, pins, basic slide show, medical insurance, and language classes (in the host country).

3. The lump sum does not cover the emergency fund that each student is asked to bring with them when they arrive in their host country. The emergency fund is deposited with Rotary in the host country and is to be used only for emergency purposes. If the emergency fund is not used, Rotary returns the money to the student.

4. The lump sum does not cover the student's personal needs such as clothing, travel expenses in the host country, passport, spending money, gifts, film, etc. These expenditures are the responsibility of the student.

5. If the student cannot continue in the exchange program for some reason the lump sum may be refunded after selection depending on the circumstances. Once the student departs for the exchange and host country, there will be no refunds.

6. Students chosen as alternates will be asked to make a deposit with their long form application. Should they not be selected to participate, their deposit will be refunded.

7. Parents and families of students selected for youth exchange are encouraged to host an incoming student.

There is no obligation, but it is an incredible experience for the whole family.

### Timetables

1. Short Form Applications must be completed in detail and received by Homer Kachemak Bay Rotary Club's Outbound Coordinator Heather Beggs by September 30.

2. Rotary will interview students and their parents, jointly and separately, after the Short Form Applications are received. All applicants will be interviewed. Rotary will select a student to represent Homer Kachemak Bay Rotary Club as the "outbound student" for the upcoming exchange year. Rotary may also select an alternate student. Attendance at the interview session is required for the student and the parents.

3. After a student is selected, he or she will prepare the Long Form Application with the assistance of Rotarians. Payment #1 is due with the Long Form Application.

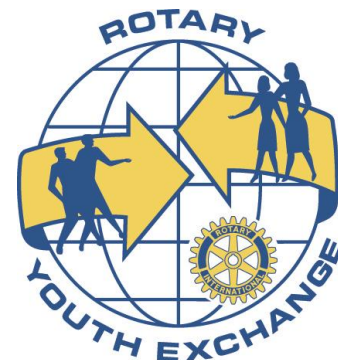
4. All outbound students attend an orientation in January. The outbound student's expenses are paid by Rotary. Orientation covers the many aspects of the youth exchange program. It is also an opportunity for the outbound students to meet the current inbound students from other countries living in Alaska and the Yukon Territory and some of the students who have recently returned home from their exchange year. Host country assignments are made at this orientation.

5. Additional orientations for both parents and students will be held before the student departs, including a meeting with the travel agents.

6. Outbound students will depart for their host countries in July or August following their application year, and stay 10-11 months in their host country.

Please contact Heather Beggs at 299-6543 or [heatherjbeggs@gmail.com](mailto:heatherjbeggs@gmail.com) if you have any questions

or visit [www.ye5010.org](http://www.ye5010.org)



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