

NEW GENERATIONS SERVICE EXCHANGE D6930, FLORIDA, USA



New Generations Service Exchange Program: The program will be conducted as a District to District program for either a one-to-one student or equivalent numbers of students. Exchanges vary from several weeks to three months for students aged 18 to 25. They often take place when school is not in session or during a gap semester and do not include an academic program.

- The Host Districts through the sponsor Rotary Club will provide one or more opportunities for the inbound student to learn by experience in an unpaid vocational or social service internship training. The typical experience is an unpaid internship / job at a local employer or Rotarian office in the student's college major of interest. All vocational details will be arranged and provided to the students for their approval prior to departure.
- Students will be provided housing in their host District, either with host families or at no charge.
- The host club or District selects an individual Rotarian counselor for each student to be in regular contact with the student and to serve as a liaison between the student and the District / club and the community at large. The counselor is not a member of the student's host family and has been trained in responding to any problems or concerns which may arise during the exchange, including the prevention of physical, sexual and emotional abuse.
- The exchange of students does not need to be simultaneous, but must take place within 1 year, as agreed upon by the Districts.
- The inbound student is invited to the weekly Rotary Club meetings, activities of the hosting Rotary Club, and provided opportunities to participate with any local Rotaract Club or planned District activities during their stay here. Ideally there would be no charge to the inbound student for Rotary activities.

Outbound Candidates

- Candidates must be a currently enrolled (post-high school) college/university/graduate student between the ages of 18 to 25. They must submit a written application and undergo a selection process including personal interviews at the club level and / or district level.
- Applicants are encouraged from Rotary youth programs alumni – current Rotaractors, former RYE, Interactors and RYLA attendees. Children of Rotarians may participate.
- Candidate residency in District 6930 will be determined by one or more of the following:
 - Student currently reside within D. 6930 while attending college/university/graduate program
 - Student attends a college, university or graduate program located within D. 6930
 - The student graduated high school within D 6930, has a parent currently residing in D 6930, and attends a college or university fulltime outside of the D 6930.

Selection and Placement

- The sending district ensures that each student is accepted and hosted by a partner district.
- All individuals involved in the exchange, including students and Rotarian counselors, agree in writing to all the requirements of the program as determined by the sending and host clubs or districts.
- Student travel itineraries are agreed upon by the Districts.

Student Travel Insurance

- The Sending Districts or the parents / legal guardians of each student provide travel insurance, including medical and dental coverage for accidental injury and illness, death benefits (including repatriation of remains), disability/dismemberment benefit (also known as capital benefits), emergency medical evacuation, emergency visitation expenses (for transportation of parent or guardian to student's location), 24-hour emergency assistance services, and legal liability (covering the student for any of his or her amounts satisfactory to the host club or district in consultation with the sending club or district, with coverage from the time of the student's departure from home until the student's return home.
- Evidence of coverage and level and limits of coverage of all insurance with a responsible insurance company or companies that are satisfactory to the host district shall be submitted to, received by, and accepted by the host district prior to the student's departure from home.

Preparation

- The host and sending club or districts provides students with a list of individuals to contact in the case of a problem or emergency. This list must include the name and contact information for the student's:
 - Rotarian counselor
 - Host club president
 - Host district chair
 - Host governor
 - Sending club president
 - Sending district chair
 - Sending district governor
 - Two non-Rotarian resource persons (one male and one female)

This list must also include local resources in the hosting country for:

- Medical care
- Dental care
- Mental health care
- Law enforcement professionals

Where available, this list should also include:

- Suicide prevention hotlines
- Rape crisis hotlines

- District provides a 24 hour emergency contact number or other means for ensuring that students can contact a district representative by telephone at all times

Student Orientation & Debriefing

- The sending district organizes a mandatory orientation for students prior to departure. Participants are informed about the rules, procedures and expectations associated with the program and includes a briefing about the local Rotary club and its activities.

- The sending district provides a student manual which provided reference documents on language acquisition, Rotary, travel guidelines, living with host families, concerns, safety, and internship guidelines.
- The district provides abuse prevention and awareness training for students

Student Travel

- District 6930 allows travel within Florida on weekends or holidays during the exchange, and encourages the host Rotary Club to provide transportation to Rotary and Rotaract events throughout the District, as well as opportunities on the weekends from Rotarian members and their families.
- Students may travel independently prior to or following the exchange period.

Volunteer Selection and Screening

- All adults (Rotarian and non-Rotarians) involved in the program, including but not limited to committee members, host families, club counselors, and others, are interviewed to determine suitability to work with youth, and agree to undergo background checks, including law enforcement public record checks and a reference check.
- The host club or district conscientiously screens and selects host families on the basis of a written application, background checks for all adults in the home, including law enforcement public record checks and reference checks, personal interview, and home visits.
- Any participant who does not comply with the requirements of the program will be removed from participation in the program. In the case of adult volunteers (both Rotarian and non-Rotarian), those who have not complied with program requirements will be permanently removed from involvement with youth in a Rotary context.

Volunteer Training

- The district Youth Exchange policy outlines the content and frequency of training, participants who must receive training, who has the responsibility for arranging and conducting training, and how records of participation are maintained.
- All adults (Rotarian and non-Rotarians) involved in the program, including but not limited to committee members, host families, club counselors, and others, receive training that includes information on program administration and rules, and abuse and harassment awareness and prevention.

Early Returns

- Any participant who does not comply with the requirements of the program is removed from participation in the program.
- In the case of students, the host and sending clubs and districts, host families and the student's parents or legal guardians, are fully informed prior to the student being sent home. Such decision requires the agreement of the host and sending districts. The student should be returned home at the earliest practical time by a route agreed upon between the parents or legal guardians and the sending district. In the event of an impasse, districts may appoint an independent Rotarian to serve as a mediator.

Youth Protection

- **The district has adopted the Statement of Conduct for Working with Youth (RCOP 2.110.1).**
- **The district has adopted RI's zero-tolerance policy against abuse and harassment.**
- **The district will conduct an independent and thorough investigation into any claims of sexual abuse or harassment. The district has identified the individuals responsible for this investigation.**
- **The district has developed a procedure for contacting the student's parents or legal guardians as well as the sending district and club once an allegation is brought forth.**
- **The district has established a reporting hierarchy so that only those required by the procedures are informed of the allegation in order to protect the privacy of both the victim and accused during the investigation.**
- **Any adult involved in a Rotary youth program against whom an allegation of sexual abuse or harassment is made must be removed from all contact with youth until the matter is resolved.**
- **The district has a procedure for moving a student into temporary housing if the accused individual is a member of the student's host family.**
- **The district has identified appropriate support services for students who report abuse or harassment, including appointment of non-Rotarian counselors for each student.**
- **Any allegation of abuse must be immediately reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency, in accordance with RI's zero-tolerance policy.**
- **A club must terminate the membership of any Rotarian who admits to, is convicted of or is otherwise found to have engaged in sexual abuse or harassment. A non-Rotarian who admits to, is convicted of, or is otherwise found to have engaged in sexual abuse or harassment must be prohibited from working with youth in a Rotary context. A club may not grant membership to a person who is known to have engaged in sexual abuse or harassment.**
- **If a district investigation into a claim of sexual abuse or harassment is inconclusive, then, for the safety of youth participants and the protection of the accused, additional safeguards must be put in place to assure the protection of any youth with whom the individual may have future contact. If there are subsequent claims of sexual abuse or harassment, the adult shall be permanently prohibited from working with youth in a Rotary context. A person who is accused but later cleared of charges, may apply to be reinstated to participate in youth programs. Reinstatement is not a right, and no guarantee is made that he or she will be reinstated to his or her former position.**

District Governor Authority

- **The district governor is responsible for the supervision and control of the New Generations Service Exchange program within the district. The district officers, or committees, are under the supervision of their respective governors and report to them.**
- **The district complies with the Rotary Code of Policies (RCOP), Sections 2.110 and 41.080.**

Reporting to Rotary International

- The district provides to RI a copy of the Guarantee Form of the standard Youth Exchange applications for each inbound student hosted by the district prior to the beginning of an exchange.
- District submits annual survey to RI.
- All serious incidents, including but not limited to, accidents, death, early returns, and crimes, and any allegations of abuse or harassment will be reported by the district to RI within 72 hours of the time a district officer learns of the incident. District has identified a person within the district who will be responsible for reporting to RI.

Records & Documents

- The district has a retention policy for student, volunteer, and host family applications and materials related to NGS Exchange.
- The district complies with Rotary International's procedures for use of Rotary Marks as detailed in the *2010 Manual of Procedure*, part five, in district Youth Exchange promotional materials, including any email addresses and/or websites.

If you have questions please feel free to contact:

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