



## ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

## THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME

FOR YOUNG WESTERN AUSTRALIANS CURRENTLY IN YEAR 10, 11 or 12



## WHAT IS ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

The Rotary Youth Exchange Program (RYE) is arranged by Rotary Clubs to give young people the opportunity of a lifetime to experience other cultures in a wide choice of countries.

Youth Exchange provides many opportunities, both during and after the exchange is completed.

Students attend school and stay with local host families which provides a unique opportunity to experience the culture first hand, learn new ways of life and languages.

Host families are arranged by the hosting Rotary Club and may or may not be Rotarians, but are always Rotary approved.

Rotary Youth Exchange is recognised as the best student exchange program by schools, parents, and students around the world on safety, cost and benefit.

## WHO CAN APPLY

Any WA student currently in Years 10, 11 or 12 who will be 15 - 18 in January 2025.

Applicants should be making sound progress at school and have a general interest in people and places. They should possess a good general knowledge of Australia and be interested in sharing our culture and experiencing others.

Applicants should display high standards of personal conduct. Rotary is looking for young people who can act as personal ambassadors.

## WHAT DOES EXCHANGE COST

A base cost is payable to Rotary of \$9,000. This covers return airfare and visa, as arranged by Rotary, to the country of exchange, insurance, costs associated with administration of the program and the student's preparation for the exchange.

The cost of day to day life aboard varies depending on the country of exchange. Rotary will pay a small monthly allowance to the student. Some financial assistance may be available to families who need some support.

## EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS WITH A YEAR ON ROTARY EXCHANGE

This year, more than 8,000 young people worldwide will venture on the experience of a lifetime – a chance to live in another country and see the world from a new perspective through Rotary Youth Exchange.

## YOU COULD BE ONE OF THEM!

As a Rotary Youth Exchange Student, you'll spend a year living with host families and attending school in a country other than your own. You will learn a new way of living, maybe even a new language, and a great deal about yourself.

As you are learning, you will also be teaching your host community about your country, your culture and your ideas. You'll be a young ambassador, helping to bring the world closer together, seeing amazing places and making some great friends along the way.

Exchange is a demanding yet rewarding experience - it is not always smooth sailing and requires a great strength of character, tolerance and an understanding of the acceptance of personal responsibility.

If you are ready for the challenge and the rewards of living in another country as an exchange student, then you're ready to discover new worlds through the Rotary Youth Exchange

## Learn more about RYE!

<https://exchangestudentwa.org.au/>



## HOW ARE STUDENTS SELECTED

Students can apply via their local Rotary club with a preliminary application and a personal interview with the applicant and their parents. Rotary clubs sponsor students for selection by the RYE District Committee.

Students who do not have a Rotary club nearby may also apply direct to the RYE District Committee, who will assist the student to connect with a sponsor Rotary club. The RYE District Committee then holds a second round of interviews to assess all the applicants before arranging exchanges with overseas clubs.

## ROTARY PREPARES YOU

The RYE District Committee provides training days for a wide range of personal development and other areas, such as public speaking, communication skills, cultural awareness and financial management. This is to prepare the student as much as possible for the exchange. Parents are required to be involved in this training and therefore gain an appreciation of the many issues which will confront the student during the year and how to support them best from home.

## STUDENT OBLIGATIONS

Students are required to adhere to the rules of the program and laws, as applied in the country of exchange and Rotary. These relate to personal behaviour and the expectations of being an ambassador for their country, their family, themselves, and Rotary. In particular, students must adhere to the '4 Ds' while they are away - no drinking, no driving, no drugs and no (serious) dating.

Students must attend school in their host country and are expected to make a significant effort to learn the local language. .



## HOST ROTARY CLUB/DISTRICT PROVIDE

1. Board and lodging with host families
2. A monthly allowance of the equivalent of approx. \$A150
3. A Host Club & District Counsellor to support the student through their exchange year
4. Orientation sessions and some group activities

## STUDENT & FAMILY PROVIDE

1. Base cost payable to Rotary of \$9,000 which includes flights, visas, training, clothing etc.
2. Additional day to day living and entertainment expenses, including mobile phone/data costs, clothing, footwear etc.
3. Emergency fund (repayable if unused)
4. Other OPTIONAL costs for organised tours and trips etc.



## CAN I CHOOSE WHERE I GO?

Applicants have the opportunity to nominate preferences for countries. There are limited places in each country, so students must be ready to accept an exchange in any host country!



**APPLICATIONS CLOSE 31 MARCH  
2024 FOR EXCHANGES LEAVING IN  
JANUARY 2025**

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Rotary is a worldwide organisation of more than 1.2 million business, professional, and community leaders. Members of Rotary Clubs (known as Rotarians) provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

There are over 34,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Clubs are non-political, non-religious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds.

Signified by the motto "Service above Self", Rotary's main objective is service - in the community, in the workplace, & throughout the world.

**Learn more about Rotary  
visit [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)**