

OVERVIEW OF THE OUTBOUND PROCESS APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW PROCESS

1. Student should fill out the Application on-line at <http://yehub.net/S08-obapp> Please note: this is a Preliminary Applications. Student should submit **Application** by October 15.
2. The District Youth Exchange Officer/Chair will review the application and forward it to a local club.
3. The local Club will arrange an interview with the student and both parents/guardians - to make sure everyone understands the program and to determine if the student meets the general qualifications of the program. (Student **WILL** be asked to provide a copy of his/her most current high school transcript and disclose any health conditions.)
4. If it is determined that the student meets the general qualifications, he/she will be recommended to advance to the District interviews.
5. Student will be asked to complete the **FULL APPLICATION** including medical and dental exams, vaccination report, school references, passport or birth certificates, and host family referrals to be completed prior to November District interview.
6. Student will receive instructions from the District Committee about how to prepare for the District Interviews and will be assigned an interview location and time.
7. The District Interviews will be held on 18 November 2023 – Location to be determined. Both the student and parents/guardians are required to attend and will be interviewed separately.
8. After interviewing all applicants, the District Youth Exchange Committee will meet to select the students to participate in the program. ***Because this is a **reciprocal exchange**, the number of students **we can send Outbound depends on the number of Rotary Clubs in the District that are willing to host Inbound students. And this requires Host Families be identified.** ***

NOTIFICATION AND COUNTRY ASSIGNMENTS

1. Students will be notified if they have or have not been accepted into the program within 7 days of the District Interview.
2. The District Youth Exchange Committee will TENTATIVELY assign each selected student to a country. The student may accept or reject the placement. However, if the placement is refused, there is no guarantee that another country will be offered. Exchanges are not confirmed until we receive verification from the hosting country that they are willing to enter into an exchange.

ORIENTATION PROCESS AND STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS

1. The first Orientation will occur during the first weekend of December. The purpose of this Orientation is to make sure that students and parents understand the program, the costs involved and the challenges. All three Orientations are **REQUIRED** for all students. Both parents/guardians must attend the 1st Orientation; only one parent/guardian is required to attend the 2nd and 3rd Orientations.
2. Students will be given an outline and assigned a research paper to do on their host country. This will be due in the spring.
3. Students will be provided language Rosetta Stone online training modules. Students should immediately develop a plan to start learning the language of their host country. (Language learning programs, classes, tutors, etc.) Our exchange partners do NOT want to receive a student who has not made an effort to learn the language. This could result in future exchanges being refused. **Failure to make an effort to learn your host country's language can result in dismissal from the program. Process will be monitored.**
4. The District generally tries to arrange a winter event that includes both the current Inbounds and the Outbound Candidates. We will invite past Outbound Students to meet with the Outbound candidates. It is also an opportunity for the District Youth Exchange Committee to further evaluate the student's suitability

for the program.

5. In addition to the research paper, students will be expected to prepare a 15-minute presentation about him/herself, the community, school, family, friends, hobbies, activities, state, etc. in their host country's language.
6. A final Youth Exchange Orientation/Event is in April or May.
7. No exchange is final until the Committee – after observing the student at various events throughout the orientation process and, evaluating the student's research paper and effort to learn your host country's language - is convinced that the student will be a good ambassador during his/her year abroad.

DEPARTURE FROM THE U.S.

1. Most students will leave for their exchanges in mid to late August. Students going to Brazil may leave at the end of July/beginning of August. Students going to Spain will leave mid-September.

THE EXCHANGE YEAR

1. Students will be expected to complete the full academic year.
2. During the exchange, students will stay with 2-4 families.
3. Each student will have a home Country Coordinator and a host Rotary Counselor who will be available to assist with any issues that may arise.
4. Students will be required to submit monthly reports to both their home District and their host District.
5. Students will be expected to abide by the rules and conditions of the exchange of the host country that they agreed to prior to beginning the exchange.

POST EXCHANGE

1. All students will be required to attend the REBOUND or return debriefing meeting.
2. Students or their parent or guardian will also be expected to participate in at least one other RYE Meeting the year after their exchange.
3. It is hoped that all students will get involved in ROTEX, the organization for former Rotary Youth Exchange Students and will assist in promoting the Rotary Youth Exchange Program to future potential students.