

YOUTH EXCHANGE

An Experience of a Lifetime Making International Friendships

A high-impact cultural immersion experience that enables young people to travel to distant parts of the world each year to live and study in a different environment.



D7390 is a Member of ESSEX

A Rotary Multi-District Student Exchange Consortium

The Eastern States Student Exchange Program organizes both long-term and short-term Rotary student exchanges for 36 Rotary International Districts. The consortium works with districts in 16 states in the eastern U. S., Bermuda and Quebec, Canada and exchanges with over 30 countries worldwide.

Rotary District 7390 Youth Exchange Contacts & Support

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Outbound Chair:	Amber Seidel	Rotex/Denmark (W) 771-4029 (C) 765-532-1051	ajs49@psu.edu
Inbound Chair:	Walt Tilley	York Rotary Club (W) 849-4127 (C) 891-6375	wat@stockandleader.com
Short Term Chair:	Tom Barton	York Rotary Club (W) 771-2420	tbaron@trolaindustries.com
Lead Trainer:	Tom Barton	York Rotary Club (W) 771-2420	tbaron@trolaindustries.com

Key Youth Exchange Resources on District 7390 Website www.rotary7390.org

(Place cursor on District Committee on home page and on drop down box place cursor on Youth Exchange and select from Calendar of Events, Club & District Volunteers, D7390 Statement of Core Values, D7390 Student Protection Policy, D7390 YE Abuse Brochure, Host Families, Inbound Students, Medical Insurance – CISI Bodluc, Outbound Students, STEP (Short Term Exchange), YE General Info for Schools, Students & Parents, and Generation World Newsletter.)

Booklets

A primer booklet for prospective, new and current District/Club Youth Exchange Volunteers: Starting Up Youth Exchange at the Club Level (20 pages): includes purpose, costs, descriptions of each type of exchange, initial steps for clubs in starting up Youth Exchange, type of exchange description, testimonials and list of club participants/countries over past 30+ years.

General Information for Schools, Students and Parents (16 pages) – booklet has same info as in the club PDF minus the steps for clubs and club costs.

Manuals/Documents/Forms/Videos/YE Newsletter

- Manuals for Host Families and Club YEOs/Counselors
- Forms and documents for District/Club YEOS/Counselors volunteers
- Training videos for host families and Club YEOs/Counselors that includes student protection policy.
- YouTube showing highlights of Winter Orientation at Mt. Asbury – click on Applying to be an Outbound.
- NEW in 2015 – Generation World Newsletter – includes articles written by Past/Present District 7390 Youth Exchange participants and event info.

Online Process: (ESSEX new automated system has eliminated over 90% of the paperwork)

- Application Links for District/Club Volunteers and Host Families
Portal for District Chair-Inbound-Outbound & Club YEOs and Counselors

Best Practices: Clubs sharing their best practices that can be tailored to each club's needs.

Tri-Annual District YE Meetings for Club YEOs & Counselors: July 30, 2016, August 27, 2016 and January 28, 2017

District Due Date: October 14, 2016 for Outbound/STEP Applications & Club Commitment to Host Inbound.

INTRODUCTION

The Rotary International Youth Exchange Program is a tremendous adventure which each year enables thousands of young people to travel to distant parts of the world to live and study in a different environment. The prime purpose of the program is to promote international understanding by granting young people a unique opportunity to broaden their knowledge and widen their horizons. The ultimate impact that the program will have on the lives of the students fortunate enough to participate in it is probably incalculable. Many of these young people will be leaders of their communities in the future.

OBJECTIVES OF THE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

- To further international goodwill and understanding by enabling students to study, at first hand, some of the problems and accomplishments of people, in lands other than their own.
- To enable students to advance their education by studying for a year in an environment entirely different to their own and by undertaking study of courses and subjects, not normally available to them in secondary schools of their own country.
- To broaden their own outlook by learning to live and meet people of different cultures, creeds and colors than their own, and by having to cope with day-to-day problems in an environment completely different to the one they have experienced at home.
- To act as Ambassadors for their own country by addressing Rotary Clubs, community organizations and youth groups in their host country and by imparting as much knowledge as they can, of their own country and its problems to the people they meet during their year abroad.
- To study and observe all facets 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 by addressing Rotary Clubs, youth groups and community organizations.

ELIGIBILITY

- Participants should be secondary school pupils in good health who will be between the ages of 15 ½ and 18 ½ at the beginning of their year abroad. There are a limited number of countries that will accept gap year students.
- Applicants must be of good character and reputation and should preferably have a history of community involvement.
- Applicants should have above average academic abilities, and must have outgoing and pleasant personalities to fit them for the roles as ambassadors for their countries. They must have the ability to accept discipline and be capable of adjusting to new and strange conditions.
- All applicants are selected solely on merit. Sons and daughters of Rotarians are also eligible to participate in the program but receive no special preference in selection.

The Three Types of Rotary Youth Exchanges

Common Requirements for Rotary Youth Exchange Students

- Age: 15 ½ to 18 ½ as of August 1, 2017
 - Outbounds & STEP students can be recruited from any school: Brick & Mortar, Charter or Home School
- District Dates:
- STEP: Applications due October 14, 2016; District Interviews November 12, 2016
 - INBOUND: Commitments to Host due October 14, 2016
 - OUTBOUND: Applications due October 14, 2016; District Interviews November 12, 2016

Short Term Program (STEP)

- **Direct two-way cross-cultural and homestay exchange for a total of 3-4 weeks each way**
- Choice of approximately 15 countries and match is based upon gender, age and interests
- Once paired, STEP students will spend a total of 6-8 weeks together, typically over the summer.
- Respective parents of the exchange students serve as the host family for each other's child.
- Rotary Club Youth Exchange Counselor is assigned to the 7390 STEP outbound and inbound student.
- Amount of travel or site-seeing in the student's host country will vary by host family.
- **No restriction on number of STEP students participating in the program**

Long Term Outbound Program

- **An educational, cultural and homestay exchange for approximately 10 months in another country.**
- Prefer candidates in the top 1/3 of their class, who are involved in activities and exhibit positive behaviors.
- Student spends 1st year preparing for exchange, 2nd year immersion and student ambassador, 3rd year – re-entry, re-integration and reflection and helping out as a Rotex with District or club events/activities.
- Rotary Club counselor is assigned to the 7390 Outbound and maintains monthly contact.
- Choice of approximately 25 countries and typically no 2 Outbound students assigned to same country/ year.
- **ESSEX will not allow a member District to send out more outbounds than the total number of D7390 Rotary Clubs' Inbound commitments.**

Long Term Inbound Program

- **An educational, cultural and homestay exchange for a student from another country to spend approximately 10 months hosted by a Rotary Club in District 7390.**
- Rotary Club 1) assigns the Inbound a club counselor, 2) recruits & qualifies preferably 3 host families, 3) obtains school placement approval, 4) pays monthly stipend to the student (minimum of \$100/month), 5) invites Inbound at a minimum once a month to Rotary Club meeting and 6) remits \$650 to DYE to cover the ESSEX fee that includes cost of background checks & to help offset costs of youth exchange events throughout the year.
- Inbounds are assisted in assimilating in their new culture through District mandatory events including Inbound Orientation, Holiday Gathering, Winter Orientation in addition to supporting York, Hershey and Harrisburg club socials/overnights during the year for the students. The Inbounds will have available to them a three-day NYC trip in late October, a Washington D.C. trip hosted by D7620 in mid-November and a 30 day USA Bus Trip at the end of their year provided by D7170.
- Rotary Club is responsible for ensuring transportation of Inbound to District Youth Exchange events.
- **No restriction in the number of Inbounds hosted by District 7390.**

Approximate Costs to Rotary Club:

- One Inbound \$2,700 and includes district fee, club meals & monthly stipend
- One Outbound \$200 includes district fee, club meals for student/family, gift and 6 banners
- One STEP Student – Minimal – cost of club meals for STEP Inbound, STEP Outbound/family and a club-banner to give to Inbound and a club banner for Outbound to give to club in other country.