



YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING
Intercultural Exchange Programs

Ensuring a Safe Living Environment

YFU USA enforces rigorous standards for host family screening and selection. These include in-home interviews, reference checks, and criminal background checks. YFU conducts participant orientation programs to educate both students and host families about personal safety and ensures monthly contact by trained representatives to supervise and support participants while they are on program. All staff and volunteers are subject to an annual criminal background check and follow a code of conduct.

Talking Points:

- YFU is committed to high standards of program quality and student safety and has been a leader in exchange programming since our founding in 1951.
- YFU provides students with the support, logistics and tools for a safe exchange experience. From helping select a program, to cultural orientations and travel assistance, YFU is with them throughout their entire journey. All students are placed with a carefully screened host family with access to counseling, tutoring and worldwide emergency assistance around the clock.
- YFU USA has rigorous standards for host family screening and selection, including in-home interviews, reference checks, and criminal background checks.
- YFU secures written school enrollment permission, conducts participant orientation programs, and ensures monthly contact by trained representatives to supervise and support students on program.
- Our organizational structure includes numerous safety nets and layers of protection to ensure student welfare. We are supportive of students, and of natural and host families, every step of the way.
- YFU has been recognized in the international education community for its commitment to program quality and student safety.
- More than 96% of YFU exchange participants rate their YFU experience positively.
- YFU has 12,000+ volunteers embedded in communities across the globe who serve as a vital link between students and families and the YFU network worldwide, providing a safety net of support.
- YFU USA is pleased to be a sponsor in good standing with the US Department of State J-1 Visa Designation Office.

Since the inception of the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET), an industry accrediting organization, YFU USA has been fully-listed in all three J-1 visa categories of exchange: Inbound Long-term, Outbound Long-term and Short-term Inbound/Outbound programs.

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