

OVERVIEW OF THE OUTBOUND PROCESS

APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW PROCESS

1. Student should fill out the Preliminary Application and return it as directed on the application.
2. The Outbound Chair will review the application and forward it to a local club.
3. The local Club will arrange an interview with the student and parents - 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.)
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 receive instructions from the District Committee about how to prepare for the District Interviews and will be assigned an interview location and time.
6. Student should submit **the entire Long Term Application**, including medical history, if possible, at least one week prior to the District Interviews. (FOUR ORIGINAL COPIES REQUIRED.) If student is unable to schedule doctors' appointments prior to submitting the long term application, this information must be provided no later than the first orientation in December.
7. The District Interviews are usually held in mid November in both Columbia and Springfield. Each panel will consist of 3-4 Rotarians. Both the student and one parent are required to attend and will be interviewed separately AND together.
8. After interviewing all applicants, the District Youth Exchange Committee will meet to select the students to participate in the program. ***The number of students we can send Outbound depends on the number of Rotary Clubs in the District that are willing to host Inbounds.***

NOTIFICATION AND COUNTRY ASSIGNMENTS

1. Students will be notified one way or the other of their acceptance into the program.
2. The District Youth Exchange Committee will TENTATIVELY assign each 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 generally occurs in December. The purpose of this Orientation is to make sure that students and parents understand the program, the costs involved and the challenges. This Orientation is **REQUIRED** for all students and at least one parent.
2. If the full Long Term Application has not already been turned in, it must be turned in at the first Orientation.
3. Students will be given an outline and assigned a term paper to do on their host country. This will be due at the second Orientation in the spring.
4. 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.
5. The District generally tries to arrange a winter event that includes both the current Inbounds and the Outbound Candidates. This is an opportunity to possibly meet a student from the student's assigned country. It is also an opportunity for the District Youth Exchange Committee to further evaluate the student's suitability for the program.

6. The second Orientation will be conducted in the spring. Again, this event is **REQUIRED** for all students and at least one parent.
7. Term papers will be due at this meeting.
8. In addition to the term paper, students will be expected to prepare a 15 minute presentation about him/herself, the community, school, family, friends, hobbies, activities, state, etc.
9. Students (only) will be expected to attend the Rotary District Conference (also in the spring).
10. A final Youth Exchange Orientation/Event MAY be planned in June. (This event is under consideration.)
11. No exchange is final until the committee – after observing the student at various events throughout the orientation process and after evaluating the student's term paper - 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 (with the exception of students going to Brazil, who will leave at the end of July/beginning of August.
2. All transportation arrangements will have been made by the District. Insurance will also have been arranged by the District.

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 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 meeting.
2. Students 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 RYE Students and will assist in promoting the Rotary Youth Exchange Program to future potential students.