Sharing Lives... Sharing Worlds

Why Choose ISE and Our Students



- Makes dreams come true for 2,800+ high school students per year since 1982
- Provides local support with a network of 1000+ representatives throughout the country
- Offers 24/7 support from a dedicated students services team based from headquarters



- Recruited and screened by our trusted and longstanding network of international agents in 40+ countries
- Re-screened and interviewed by ISE admissions for academic performance, English ability, adaptability, openness, and medical conditions

Why Participate in Our Exchange Program



"Having exchange students in our school has brought fresh perspectives to classroom discussions and it's enriched our school community. They're always eager to share their way of life with our students and learn about life in America."

- John, Principal, Minnesota



"My exchange program has introduced me to my new friends for life. I know I will keep in touch when I return to my country and would love for them to visit my family so I can show them the same treatment they show me."

- Maria, Exchange Student, Brazil



"We love having international students in our school. Their community service program has had such a positive impact in our town. The work they did to clean up our local waterways has been so inspiring."

- Hellen, Community Activist and Biology Teacher, California



"After being introduced to exchange programs through the international students in the school, many of our students are interested in a study abroad program of their own. It's great that ISE gives them the opportunity to try it."

- Mark, French Teacher, Ohio





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Frequently Asked Questions

How long does a student's program last?

We offer three program durations. 1) 5-month Semester program starting in either January or August 2) 10-month Academic Year program starting in August 3) 12-month Calendar Year program starting in January.

Where do exchange students live while attending school?

Our exchange students live with volunteer host families within the district. We recruit and screen host family applicants by administering background checks, home visits, interviews, and reference checks in accordance with Department of State regulations and ISE best practices formed over the last 35 years.

How is the student's English ability assessed?

Each student admitted into our program has 3-6 years of experience speaking English. Most students have an ELTIS score to let schools know the specific level of English proficiency. If a student doesn't have an ELTIS score and one is required by the school, we will request the test from the student's international agency.

Are students guaranteed the ability to graduate?

Graduation is not guaranteed to our students and they are made aware of this fact during their application process. It is up to the school to determine whether or not graduation will be possible.

Do students expect special treatment and/or guaranteed participation in school sports and activities?

Exchange students are to be treated the same as any other student in the school. While it is encouraged, students are not guaranteed participation in school activities and/or sports. They must audition, apply, or tryout as necessary.

Can students drive?

Our students may not drive any motorized vehicle. They are allowed to register for a school-sponsored driver education class only. If a license is obtained through this program, the license must be immediately given to our organization's local representative. It will be returned to the student on the day of their departure home.

How are student issues handled?

We have a network of local representatives and managers in each state, plus a full-time team of experienced student facilitators who work out of our headquarters to provide support. We also operate a 24/7 emergency hotline in case any issues arise outside of normal working hours.

Our Annually-Renewed Credentials









