

# Make your summer fun by sharing it with a new international friend!



## Host a Student from France, Spain, Switzerland

The experience lasts only a few weeks!

The relationships last a lifetime!

### Students

- want to improve their English
- become part of the family
- make American friends
- bring spending money
- have insurance coverage

### Host Families

- provide room, board and warm hospitality
- introduce everyday American life
- share their interests & activities
- contribute to global understanding

**About Language & Friendship:** The L&F staff has more than 30 years of involvement in intercultural experiences for high school students. Program emphasis is immersion through family stay experiences for students both in the U.S. and abroad. This intercultural language-oriented education for both students and host families results in many lasting friendships.

L&F was awarded the 1992 ProLingua Award by the Minnesota Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. The award recognizes outstanding service to and support of linguistic and cultural education.



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**Students arrive in June and July for 3-4 weeks.**  
**Students who host receive \$100 reduction on future L&F program.**  
**See reverse side for Questions & Answers.**  
**Ask your foreign language teacher for more information!!**

# Questions & Answers About Hosting

## **Why Host?**

In all parts of the world, knowledge of languages is increasingly essential to successful careers and to international understanding. By hosting, your family brings home a little bit of another culture while creating new friendships. These experiences help eliminate barriers to understanding and have become crucial to the education of our children.

## **How long do we host?**

L&F students come in June or July for 3 to 4 weeks. If you have always wanted to host but have been reluctant to commit to 5 or 10 months for school-year programs, these shorter experiences offers a great opportunity.

## **Are there group activities?**

No. It is usually better to have none in order to encourage students to concentrate on adapting to their host family and making American friends.

## **What if the host child works?**

Most American teenagers work and may not be home all the time. With prior planning, your child may be able to take some time off. Otherwise you can make arrangements for someone else to be around— another sibling, a friend, an adult. While some downtime is OK, students should not be left alone regularly.

## **Is a separate bedroom required?**

No. A bedroom may be shared with the host brother or sister. It is necessary, however, for the student to have a separate bed. A separate bedroom would be necessary only if the host family's children are very young.

## **Must the host family speak a language?**

Not at all. Because the students are here to improve their English through total immersion, English is the primary language to be used. All students have had some English study.

## **May we take our student out of town?**

Yes, certainly. L&F simply requests knowing where to contact you in case of emergency.

## **What does hosting cost?**

Hosting costs only room and board. The student is treated as a member of the family, participating in the responsibilities as well as the fun of family life. Each student comes with personal spending money to cover normal teenage activities— movies, soda pop, gifts, phone calls, ice cream shops...

## **What about medical insurance?**

All students are covered by insurance. If a medical problem arises, the expenses will be covered.

## **What if a problem arises?**

Based on past experience, L&F is pleased to note that problems are rare. However, should one develop, the host family should contact the local coordinator or L&F to discuss the situation which may simply be a cultural difference. If necessary, the student will be moved.

## **How do we apply?**

Families interested in hosting complete an application form and indicate two references. Then L&F staff will arrange a home visit and make the final match.

## **What information will be provided?**

Once you have been accepted as a host family, and we have found you a student, you will receive the student's application, picture and letter. You will be asked to write a letter of introduction in English to the student. You will also receive a host family guidebook with helpful information and ideas.

## **Who supervises the program?**

Group leaders, experienced L&F staff, and local coordinators will be in contact with you to provide support as needed. Our goal is a meaningful and rewarding experience for each host and student.

## **Think your family is too busy to host?**

Every summer we have students attend camps with their host siblings, go along on family trips, go to weddings, celebrate family events and all the other activities that make summer fun. Even if you are busy, don't miss out on the opportunity to introduce a foreign teenager to a unique, American family - yours!!