

LONG TERM

ROTARY DISTRICT 9270 LONG TERM YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

The Long Term Youth Exchange Programme is a twelve month educational exchange, arranged by Rotary, to overseas countries.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Students of all races and creeds, who are not older than 18 years and 6 months at their date of departure from South Africa, are eligible.

IS THIS PROGRAMME SIMILAR TO OTHER FIELD SERVICE EXCHANGES?

No, the Rotary Long Term Exchange Programme is directly linked to schools and attendance at school is compulsory. The student is accepted by a Rotary Club overseas who will arrange up to four host families and suitable schooling.

WHAT IS THE OBJECT OF THE LONG TERM PROGRAMME?

It offers the student the opportunity to study overseas; to follow school programmes and subjects not offered here; to possibly learn a new language; to act as an ambassador for South Africa while overseas; to experience a new culture and the traditions of the host country; and to travel in the host country. Students need to become a "member" of the hosting family and not expect to be treated as a guest.

ARE STUDENTS FREE TO TRAVEL WHILE ON EXCHANGE OVERSEAS?

Each Rotary District hosting Long Term Exchange students has their own set of rules on this subject and participants will abide by these rules. The hosting Rotary Club carries the ultimate responsibility for the student. There will be many opportunities for organised travel with host parents and District arranged tours with other exchange students. Unaccompanied travel is not permitted.

HOW IS THE HOSTING OF STUDENTS ARRANGED?

The exchange programme can only operate if suitable hosts are found, who are prepared to offer young people from other countries similar opportunities which our South African students will enjoy. This will be arranged through the Rotary Club sending out a student.

HOW DOES ONE GO ABOUT JOINING THE ROTARY LONG TERM YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMME?

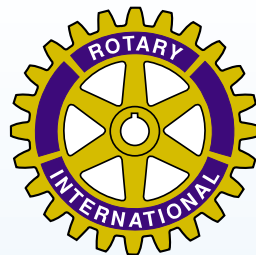
Briefly, District 9270 Youth Exchange Committee advertises the programme throughout the region. Interested students need to contact their local Rotary Club where an interview will be arranged to ascertain suitability for the programme. This should take place before the end of the calendar year. The District Committee then interviews selected candidates for a second time with their parents, and a final choice is made. This takes place in March. Rotary Districts throughout the world then match their candidates according to choice of destination. It must be stressed that while every effort is made to get participants to their preferred country, this cannot be guaranteed. Participants are urged to accept the country which is offered. All South African participants depart on exchange in January for their twelve months.

ADAPTATION AND TOLERANCE

These words need to be continually stressed. Rotary believes that the Long Term Exchange Programme is the ideal medium for broadening the outlook of young people at an age when they are most receptive to new ideas. The programme requires adaptation when living in the homes of others, and tolerance of inbound students when hosting in return. If this philosophy is supported by all parties, it should provide the basis for a broader understanding of goodwill towards others.

WHAT COUNTRIES CAN ONE TRAVEL TO?

The list of countries participating in exchange is expanding all the time. Currently the following countries are offered: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and United States of America.



Rotary International District 9270 South Africa Youth Exchange Programme



For more details visit
www.rotary9270.org.za

or write to:
Rotary District 9270 Youth Exchange
PO Box 20209
Durban North 4016



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LONG TERM

SHORT TERM

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