



Homestay Expectations Agreement

We believe that the best way to understand another culture is to live as a member of one of its families. To ensure positive outcomes from this experience for you as well as your hosts, we ask that you consider and respect the following expectations. These are essential in creating the best homestay environment, thus avoiding misunderstandings or obstacles to a positive integration in the home.

Please read them carefully and feel free to ask any questions to your Program Director.

- Your homestay family is expected to provide you with a safe environment. You are expected to do your part in maintaining that safe environment.
- Be respectful of host property and personal belongings.
- Participate in home life – as opposed to staying in your room. Your attempts at starting conversations will be welcomed.
- Keep your room/space clean and orderly. The same applies to bathroom facilities.
- Show respect for the rhythm of your new household; be aware of and present at meal times.
- Alert your hosts in advance of your schedule. Find out what their expectations are for curfews.
- In the event of illness, you agree to notify the Program Coordinator immediately.
- Take initiative to create clear communication with your hosts. If you have serious, recurring troubles making yourself understood seek help from your Program Coordinator or other program staff.
- You acknowledge that World Learning has explained its Harassment Policy to you. Your host family has agreed to support you by ensuring that their home remains a safe environment for you and that the home is free from harassment of any kind from any family member or guest in the home.
- Romantic relationships of any kind between homestay family members and students are not allowed.
- Inform your Program Coordinator or other staff member immediately of any incident that affects your personal safety, security, or ability to fully participate in the program, including harassment.
- Talk to your hosts about your role in the family's daily life including meals, setting the table, and cleaning up. Find out what chores you could do around the home to be helpful.
- Check with your host family before inviting anyone into the home, especially a member of the opposite gender. No overnight guests are permitted.
- Find out and respect the expectation for your use of their home phone, computer, Internet, laundry, refrigerator, and other resources.
- Phone use can be a particularly troublesome issue. You should be sensitive to the time you spend on the line regardless of who is paying for the call. Refrain from extended cell phone use when you could be interacting with your hosts.
- Always ask before using the home phone, computer equipment and/or Internet access and be sure not to overuse it. Phone booths, overseas calling shops, and Internet cafes may be better options.
- Expect to take care of your own laundry including any ironing unless advised otherwise.
- Have a conversation with hosts about any personal habits that may impact the household, such as dietary restrictions. The student may need to be flexible because the hosts may not be able to provide special foods.

Signature

Date