



Rotary District 6600
Youth Exchange Program

Application Guidelines and Important Dates
Exchange Year 2008-2009

The members of the District 6600 Youth Exchange Committee congratulate you on your desire to become an Exchange Student, in what we believe is one of the best student exchange programs currently available.

During the coming months, your local Rotary Club and District Youth Exchange Committee will work together to provide you an opportunity to spend a life-changing year abroad. This could be a year that impacts the rest of your life; a year filled with exhilarating experiences; a year that has the potential to provide opportunities that can establish new life-long friendships. It is a chance for you to grow and expand mentally, socially and emotionally.

Your first step toward spending a year abroad begins when you contact your local Rotary club. Your club may require a preliminary application form or parts of the actual application as part of their interview process. In either case, your sponsoring Rotary Club must interview you and your parents, and recommend you for a District 6600 interview.

Your next step is to complete the Rotary long-term application (www.rotarydistrict6600.org) and submit it to your local Rotary Club Chairperson, who then sends it to the District Outbound Chair before the District Interview. This application is extremely important, for in most cases, it is the basis by which families overseas agree to host you in their homes, and it is also used by Country Contacts (both in the US and abroad) to determine where you will be sent.

All questions on this form must be answered completely and factually. Supplying false or inaccurate answers could lead to the termination of the Exchange at a later date. Photographs must be original, clear, in color, and all subject(s) or persons identified. District 6600 requires **four** complete **original** sets of your application

All four applications must contain ORIGINAL signatures in Blue ink! The easiest way to do this is to have your doctor, dentist, and guidance counselor fill out the appropriate section without signing it, make 3 copies, then have the doctor etc. sign all four copies in Blue Ink (bring a pen with you). *Do not skip* the instructions that accompany the application. The care with which you complete **all** the requirements of the application will be the best representation of your maturity level as you move toward and through the Interview process.

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE: On pages Three and Four of the Application are important questions involving the health of your student. **Please remind your doctor that his/her written answers will have to be read by medical personnel overseas not skilled in the English language.** All of these questions require full disclosure and factual answers. If your student has a potentially serious illness, and it was not referenced on the Medical History pages of the application, this problem could possibly reappear and place your child at risk while abroad. The health and safety of our students overseas is one of our main considerations, and to this end we must be made aware of any medical information that is critical to the physical and mental well-being of your student.

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Note: A \$25 non-refundable application fee must accompany your application. (Checks should be made out to: Rotary District 6600). The submission of an application does not automatically assure your participation in the program.

A current, complete transcript of the student's grades and attendance record plus the reference form must be attached to the application before being sent to the District Outbound Chairperson, Connie Klingshirn, 625 Tiedeman Ave, Defiance, OH 43512. You may address questions to cklingshirn@northweststate.edu or call 419-576-7999.

All immunization data must be complete, and current, and attached to the application.

The date of the DISTRICT INTERVIEWS for Outbound Students; for the Exchange Year of 2008-09 is scheduled for December 1, 2007 in Fostoria. This is the **ONLY DATE** the interviews will be held. To be eligible to attend the District Interviews, you must have successfully passed the local sponsoring CLUB Interview, and your **FOUR applications with original BLUE INK signatures** must have been received by the District Outbound Chairperson. Your **ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED** (plus your parents) at the District Interviews if you want to be considered as an Exchange student.

Important Dates

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| September - October | Candidates complete Local Club Interview |
| November 15, 2007 | Outbound Application Deadline for long-term applications |
| December 1, 2007 | District Interview—Fostoria, OH |
| February 2, 2008 | Outbound Orientation #1 - location TBA |
| April 19, 2008 | Outbound Orientation #2 - Ypsilanti, Michigan |
| April 25-27, 2008 | District 6600 Conference - Sandusky, Ohio |
| May 13-15, 2008 | World Community Workshop held at Defiance College, Defiance, OH |
| July 12-13, 2008 | Ohio-Erie final orientation-Otterbein College! |

We suggest you mark your calendar for these events. Do not schedule other activities that could prevent you from attending these meetings. Talk these dates over with your family and school officials so that everyone knows. There will be no alternate dates, and no make-up sessions for these Ohio/Erie and District events.