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## Who We Are

Forte International Exchange Assn is an independent non-profit organization designated by the State Department as an "Exchange Visitor Program". We bring international high school students from other countries to the United States to participate in an academic and cultural exchange. Our students learn about various aspects of American Culture, society, and customs while living with American host families and attending high school.

Our mission is to promote cultural exchanges between the United States and other nations worldwide. We hope that our work will contribute to building a peaceful worldwide community, a greater understanding and tolerance of other cultures, and global idea exchange.

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*Forte International  
Exchange Association*

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## ***Host Family Information***



If you would like to make an exchange student a part of your family contact us by phone or email.

Also feel free to contact us with any questions.

*Forte International  
Exchange Association*

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National Press Building  
529 14th St. NW, Suite 270  
Washington, DC 20045  
Toll-free: 1-888-89-FORTE  
Phone: 202-628-8226  
Fax: 202-296-8685  
E-mail: [info@forteintl.com](mailto:info@forteintl.com)  
Website: [www.orgsites.com/dc/forte](http://www.orgsites.com/dc/forte)

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**Open your home and  
expand your world!**

# Who Is Eligible to Host Our Students?

Many different types of families are eligible for hosting. Host families may have small children, teenagers, children who have already left home, or no children at all. Host families must have a strong desire to open their home to a young international student. Families should be willing to include the new student into their family life, rather than just treating the student as a guest. The number one priority is that the Host Family is one that will provide a safe and caring home environment for the student and that the family members want to share their lives with a student from another country. Hosting is an extraordinary opportunity for both children and adults to learn about a different culture and make friends for life.

Host families are expected to provide the following:

- ◆ Love
- ◆ Friendship
- ◆ Moral support
- ◆ Basic needs
- ◆ Room and Board
- ◆ Parental Guidance

In addition, Host families are expected to get the student involved in as many social activities as possible. We understand that most families are busy, therefore, host families are only expected to provide the level of assistance (such as transportation to/from social events) that they feel comfortable with. Each FIEA student comes with their own spending money for personal expenses during their stay here in the United States and are also fully covered with medical and accidental insurance.

## Who Qualifies to be an FIEA Student?

Each FIEA student has gone through strict selection and careful screening process to make certain that they are qualified to join our program.

FIEA students must be between 15-18 years old and must not have completed high school or participated previously in a semester or academic year exchange program in the United States. FIEA students must be proficient in English, successful academically, and in good health. FIEA students must also demonstrate mature personalities and leadership potential. FIEA students come from many countries around the globe.

## Open Your Home and Expand Your World!

Most families host our students simply because they enjoy being exposed to new things and new ideas. Some families host because they want to expand their family. Some families host to expose their children to other cultures. Others families host to fill the void that they feel when their own children go away to college or move away from home. By opening their homes to a young student from another country, families have the opportunity to share themselves and their love while gaining broader views of the world and friendships that last a lifetime.



## Process to Becoming a Host Family

1. Complete Host Family Application
2. Contact our Office with any questions
3. Student/Family Match
4. Host Family Interview
5. School Enrollment
6. Host Family Orientation
7. Prepare for Arrival of Student
8. Pick Student up at Airport
9. Welcome the Student Home
10. Make the Student a Part of Your Family!

Forfe International supports every family through each step of the process and for the duration of the program.



## Host Family Comments

“Our new ‘daughter’ has brought a world vision and opened our eyes in ways we could never have expected.”

“I can only tell you it has been one of the very best experiences of our lives.”

“We know that our student will take with her memories of a time in America that will guide her throughout her life. We only hope we gave her 10% of what she gave us this past year.”

We encourage all families to look into opening their home to an exchange student, and in doing so create a lifelong friend in another part of the world!